



Dear Parents and Carers

30 January 2019

I would like to start this newsletter by repeating my invitation to all year 7 and 8 parents and carers to attend a brief consultation evening, on Tuesday 5th February, to discuss the possible options we are looking at to take our curriculum forward. You should have also received a text but I thought I would seize this opportunity to remind you all. Parents and carers in other year groups are also very welcome to attend although it will not impact on your sons in the same way.

All Year 11 students should have received their written report this week. I hope you find it informative and that it helps you and your son to plan his preparation as he builds up to the second set of mocks next month and the summer exams. Bring any concerns or questions you may have to Thursday's intervention evening.

Please find attached to this newsletter our newly revised form for holidays in term time requests. It has been devised in collaboration with Greenbank so that joint parents have a more consistent experience. Attendance is a crucial factor in any child's academic success and I encourage all parents to read the document carefully. A copy of the full updated policy will be emailed to you and available on our website next Tuesday.

Merseyside Police have informed us that they have arrested 2 suspects, who were caught on camera stealing a bike from the school before Christmas. The arrest was facilitated by the additional CCTV cameras installed in the bike shed with the financial support of the BPA. As a further measure, we have increased the height of the perimeter fencing, and applied anti climb paint to the top of the fence, with warning signs in place to deter trespassers. Can I also just reinforce our request for boys to still secure their bikes with a suitable lock when leaving them on site? We have also had, in the icy weather, a few instances of boys coming off their bikes. Can you please remind the boys to wear helmets or consider where appropriate using a different method of getting to school in extreme conditions.

I would like to finish by congratulating all our Year 8s on their amazing behaviour and attitude during their exams last week. They were an absolute credit to you and their teachers.

### YEAR 11 MATHS REVISION SESSIONS

Revision sessions for Year 11 Mathematics GCSE start next Wednesday (6 February 2019) for an hour 3.10pm -4.10pm. All students are invited to attend and to choose the session that day which they feel would benefit them the most. Please see below the timetable for the sessions being run.

Mrs McGarry

DATE	Class 1 – U1 – grade 7+	Class 2 – U3 – grade 5	Class 3 – U2 – grade 4
6 Feb	algebraic fractions	trigonometry	Pythagorus
13 Feb	indices & surds	$Y = mx+c$	area and volume
27Feb	locating turning points of quadratics	simultaneous equations	charts & diagrams
13 March	trigonometry	factorising/solving	averages
20 March	histograms and stratified sample	congruence and similarity	transformations
27 March	expanding products of more than 2 binomials	cumulative frequency	ratio
3 April	iteration	transformations & vectors	probability
24 April	vectors	fractions	algebra
1 May	rates of change	worded questions	percentages
8 May	area under a graph	proportionality	fractions

Registered office address:

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## SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

A big thank you to everyone who came along to our Scholastic Book Fair last week! We sold an incredible £600 worth of books, which means we will get over £100 to spend on new books for our school library. It was also great to see both students and staff showing such an interest in reading for pleasure. Thank you to everyone who supported the book fair and we look forward to hosting more in the future. Happy reading!

Dr Deeks

## SAFER INTERNET DAY - 5 FEBRUARY 2019 – TOGETHER FOR A BETTER INTERNET

You may be tempted to ban your child from using any social media apps you feel could put them at risk online but they can sign up for Facebook and Messenger from the age of 13 without your permission. If they think you don't approve of them using it, they're more likely to do so behind your back – and, therefore, less likely to come to you for help if something goes wrong.

Instead, talk to your child, tell them about your worries and what you would like them to do if they see something harmful. Make sure they know how to block and report users who might upset or try to harm them, and that they feel comfortable talking to you or another trusted adult about any bad experiences they may have.

On Safer Internet Day we will be discussing the consent and sharing of your data. Please look out for our twitter photographs on the day.

Mr Moss

## BPA NEWS

### 200 Club

Following the introduction of new GDPR rules, we have sent out forms out to all those members of the 200 Club who have yet to complete the new form. The forms have been sent via email if we have your email address or via your son, so please be on the look out for it.

If you would prefer a paper copy of the form, please email [BPA@birkdalehigh.co.uk](mailto:BPA@birkdalehigh.co.uk) and one will be printed and sent home with your son.

PLEASE, PLEASE return the completed form, we cannot contact you if you are a lucky winner without it.

### Donations to BPA

As you are hopefully already aware, Birkdale Parents Association run a number of fund raising activities such as Cake Sales, Comedy Bingo Nights, 200 club, etc...

We do appreciate, however, that everyone is very busy and school events are not the only demand on your time and may be low on your list of priorities. A few parents have contacted us, however, to tell us that although they are unable to attend or support us with their time, they would be more than happy to make small (or maybe even big?) donations to help our efforts and ultimately the boys. We have therefore set up a section on ParentPay for you to do just that, should you be interested. You can make a donation at any time during the year or in support of a particular event.

In the past the Parents Association has been able to supply the school with basketball hoops on the yards, CCTV equipment, Maths e-learning packages, books for the new library and sports equipment as well as many other "extras" for ALL boys at Birkdale High.

Please feel free to make a donation through ParentPay or attend our next event. Please follow this link for the parentPay page <https://www.parentpay.com/>

Yours faithfully

**Mr G Bourgade**  
**Headteacher**

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## THE WEEK IN TWEETS



**Birkdale High Art**  
@BirkdaleHS\_Art

Follow

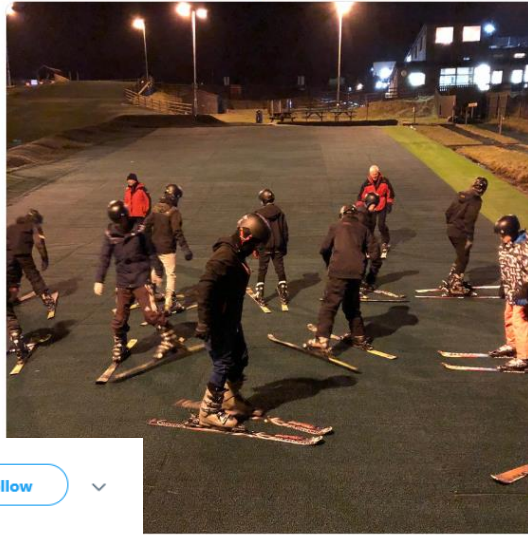
Looking forward to seeing this beautiful piece finished by Year 9 Jay Taylor Greensmith.  
#colourpencil #gcseart



**BirkdaleHS PE**  
@BirkdaleHS\_PE

Follow

Ski warm up in full flow 🏂 @Pendleskiclub  
@BirkdaleHS #gettingreadyforthesnow



**Birkdale High School**  
@BirkdaleHS

Follow

Thin layer of mushy snow everywhere today. School is open but do take care on your way to school! Wear sensible shoes and coats.  
#safetravel 🌨️

11:50 pm - 29 Jan 2019 From Southport, England

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**Section 1 - Parent/Carer:** Please complete and return to the school office at least 4 weeks in advance of requested absence.

I wish my son: (Name)..... (Form).....

To be given authorised leave from: ...../...../..... to: ...../...../..... **(Inclusive)**

He will be back in school on ...../...../.....

**Reason:** (Please tick as appropriate and provide a full explanation in the space provided below)

- Exceptional Circumstances
- Club/Sporting Activity (A letter from the club/organisation must be provided)

**FAMILY HOLIDAYS WILL NOT BE AUTHORISED**

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**Section 2 – To be completed by School Attendance Office:**

Current % attendance: ..... %    Unauthorised absence: Y/N    If Y, no. of sessions? .....

**Section 3 – To be completed by Examinations Officer:**

Is the above named scheduled to take any examinations during the above period?    Y/N

If Y above, is it possible to re-sit?    Y/N    Is there a charge?    Y/N    If Y, how much? £

**Section 4 – To be completed by School Attendance Office**

Letter issued to parent(s)/carer(s) on: ..... /..... /.....

Attached to pupil's file by: ..... (Please sign)