



19 January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

As you know we are continuing to experience some IT problems. For the most part we are managing well, and have been able to adapt our working days to cope with the situation. However, we do not, currently, have any way to access ParentPay and as a consequence, whilst your children are still eating dinner every day, you will not see the cost going out of your account. Please continue to top up your account to allow for your child's lunchtime spending and please be aware that all costs will be added to your account once the system is up and running again. If your child chooses a meal deal each day the cost will be close to £12 a week.

Student leaders at school, supported by Mrs Laxton, are currently organising a road safety campaign. Their concern is the busy traffic and the large number of students outside school at the end of the school day. They are worried about students being able to cross the road safely due to the large volume of traffic with some vehicles travelling very fast. To date, we have had visits from the Scarborough Mayor, Eric Broadbent, a member of the Borough Council, John Ritchie and also the NYCC road safety officer. The students have also gathered signatures for a petition which they hope to present to the Council in due course. The students feel strongly that it is important to seek support for the benefit of the whole community. They are particularly mindful of the hospital, Woodlands Academy and those people visiting the cemetery. We will keep you updated about our campaign. In the meantime, we would ask that you consider your speed when approaching the school or driving onto the school site. In addition, please be considerate when parking near the school and a polite reminder that waiting space is limited on the school site.

We would also like to remind parents/carers of students who cycle to school of the importance of lights on bicycles whilst the mornings and afternoons are still dark. We would also request that you encourage your children to wear a helmet when riding their bicycle.

Last week, as parents/carers of Year 11 students will know, we held our Year 11 subject parents' evening. It was a successful evening and very positive to be able to welcome you to school after having to 'meet you' online through the pandemic. All parents' evenings will now be in school and we would urge you to come along for a progress update. It is also a great opportunity to meet your child's teachers and ask about their overall development both academic and socially. As teachers, we value the opportunity to engage with you. Dates for the remaining evenings are as follows:

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Year 7 Subject Parents' Evening: Thursday 15 June 2023  
Year 8 Subject Parents' Evening: Thursday 27 April 2023  
Year 9 Subject Parents' Evening: Thursday 16 March 2023

Year 8 Form Tutor Evening: Thursday 9 February 2023  
Year 10 Form Tutor Evening: Thursday 18 May 2023

Year 9 Options Evening: Thursday 9 March 2023

Our review of uniform for next year is still ongoing. As mentioned before the holidays, we will be making changes in order to reduce cost but also to maintain our school identity and to ensure an inclusive environment. Changes will be introduced from September 2023. Following a few queries from parents/carers, I would like to confirm that all current uniform will remain acceptable from September 2023 onwards. It will not be necessary to purchase different uniform if you have items in the correct size for your child to wear into next year. The purpose of any changes will be to make the uniform cheaper and easier to source.

Next Wednesday 25 January the School Age Immunisation Service will be in school to provide the flu immunisation programme to students in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9. This will only be for students whose parents/carers have completed the online consent form which has already been sent to you. If you would like your child to be involved please complete the form.

The start to the new term has been very positive so far. This week we have enjoyed our pantomime production of 'Robinson Crusoe and the Pirates'. Why not come along tonight (Friday 20 January) - tickets will be available on the door. The performance starts at 6pm - it's an excellent show!

Thank you again for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact us if necessary,

Yours faithfully

**Emma Robins**  
Principal | Graham School