

25th October 2024



Dear Parents and Carers

We are at the end of the first half term of the school year already! Time seems to have flown by since the summer break, with school being busy and productive.

As we look back over the past few weeks, I am reminded not only of the excellent learning that has been taking place in lessons, but also about the broad range of opportunities students have enjoyed. Our extra-curricular programme has been very popular, with plenty of sporting opportunities on offer including badminton, dodgeball, hockey and ... darts. Students have also been able to enjoy comic book club, art club and karaoke.

Mrs Bedford has been working with East Coast College as part of the Scholars Programme. This has involved Year 10 students working with a PhD tutor to go on to produce a mini thesis. They will be graduating in the new year at a top University, a fantastic opportunity for our students.

Miss Simons and Mr Wilson now have rehearsals underway for Sister Act with a cast of over 50 students. Miss Simons told me that the standard was very high this year and decisions were not easy to come by, and that we also had some new students put themselves forward which was awesome to see.

Homework has been our focus this half term, and across the school we have been setting around 150 pieces of homework per week. We have been listening to students about how we can better support them to complete homework if they are struggling. We offer a homework club every Monday after school where staff are on hand to support our young learners. We have also looked at the sanctions we put in place for when homework is not complete. After half term, students will be set 'homework reflections' after school on a Monday and Friday if they fail to complete pieces of homework. These sessions will take place in an IT room so the thirty minutes can be spent focusing on completing this essential learning. I will write to you again after half term to provide further details on this.

For now, I wish you well for the half term break, and look forward to seeing students when they return to school on Tuesday 5th November.

Mr Dan Bagshaw

Head of School