



Manorfield Road,
Driffield,
East Yorkshire
YO25 5HR

23 April 2018

School Round Up and Newsletter

Foreword from the Executive Principal

Welcome

As I write, I am reflecting on my first few days at Driffield School and Sixth Form, during which time I have really appreciated the warm welcome from students, parents and staff.

Over the coming weeks I will be ensuring that I get to know the school as quickly as possible, looking and listening, as we establish our priorities for the coming months. To help this there are two key areas of the school where we will be seeking your views during the summer term.

The first area is the overarching vision for Driffield School and Sixth Form. Mr Andrews (Assistant Headteacher) will be leading this work and will be consulting widely with students (including our feeder primary schools), parents, staff, governors and other members of the Driffield community, to re-establish a shared vision for the coming years. He will be in contact with details on how you can contribute later in the term.

The second area is the school's Behaviour for Learning Policy. Mr Fisher (Assistant Headteacher) has been leading a review since January, visiting outstanding schools across the country to ensure that there is a strong evidence base for the next steps at Driffield. The key emphasis of this work is ensuring that students are rewarded consistently for their good behaviour and to eradicate low level disruption. Mr Fisher will be providing parents/carers with opportunities to find out more information and to take part in further consultation later in the term, before the policy is finalised for September. Your contributions and feedback are very much welcome and valued.

I am delighted to announce that Vicky Marsh will be joining the school as an Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for Curriculum and Standards from 4 June 2018. Vicky is a highly experienced leader who currently works as a Trust Director of English for the Education Alliance. For over two years she has been working with students in the classroom at Driffield one day a week, ensuring they all have a positive experience in English. Vicky is very much looking forward to joining the Driffield team on a full time basis.

Providing remarkable experiences for our students, both inside and outside the classroom, remains a key focus of Driffield School and I have really enjoyed hearing about the revision sessions and trips which took place over the Easter period. To have three trips abroad at this time of year is exceptional in any school and reflects how staff continue to freely give their time to ensure students have access to such memorable experiences. My thanks go to the staff who have given their time to plan these events. I hope you enjoy reading about them in this publication.

Best wishes

Scott Ratheram
Executive Principal

School Trips

Over the Easter period there were three trips from Driffield School, below are reports and pictures from each one.

Ski Trip Bormio, Italy, 2018

At 7.30am on 23rd March 2018 four staff and 32 students embarked on a 27 hour journey across Europe to the picturesque town of Bormio, high in the Italian Alps, in search of snow, pizza and fun. The journey down was a pleasant one, spent laughing, watching DVD's, eating copious amounts of sweets and of course sleeping. At 1.00pm the following day we arrived at the hotel Nazionale in Bormio, welcomed by our fantastic rep Elena and the eccentric resort manager Geovanni. Once the bus was unloaded, we headed off to enjoy the best pizza Italy has to offer and then to get our skis and boots fitted ready for skiing on Sunday. The rest of the evening was spent unpacking in the hotel, having tea and getting an early night ready for the next day.

We awoke the next day refreshed and after a hearty breakfast we were ready to hit the slopes. For a large number of the group this was to be their first experience of being on a mountain, skis and snow and so inevitably there were a few falls – one spectacular front flip over the boards which fortunately did not result in any injury! The more experienced skiers headed out with their instructor to explore all the runs the mountain had to offer including the new fun park which allowed for jumps, tunnels and of course spectacular falls.

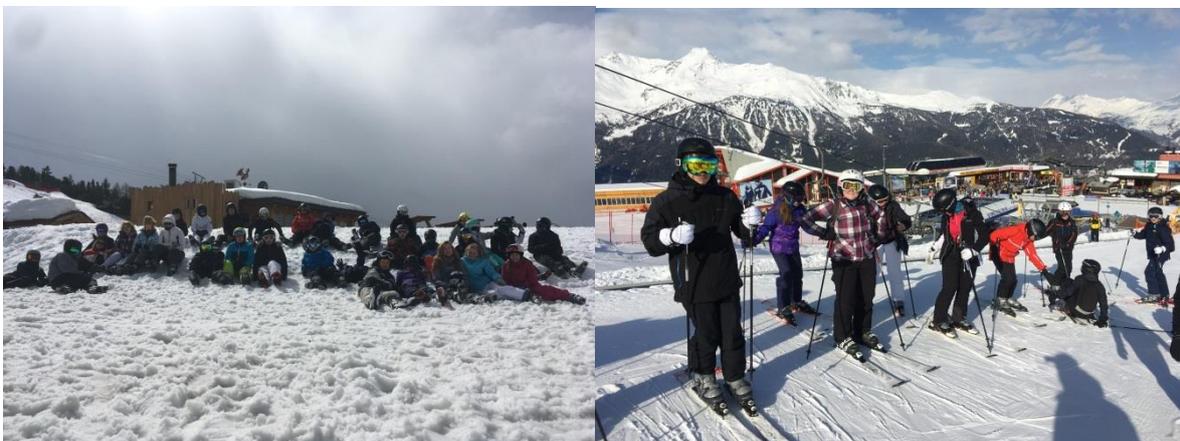
The next five days were spent skiing three hours each morning, enjoying a delicious lunch followed by two hours skiing in the afternoon. The conditions were incredible with bountiful snow, perfect piste conditions and endless empty runs to explore.

In the evenings we took part in numerous après ski activities including a general knowledge quiz and a presentation evening; however the highlight of the trip as always, was a night at the local disco. We headed to "Shangri La", Bormio's premier nightclub to celebrate one of the student's birthdays and a great night was had by all dancing the night away. There were some interesting shapes thrown and in the words of the students - some very dodgy "dad dancing" from both the male staff on the trip.

As always the students on the trip represented Driffield School in the best possible manner. All were extremely polite and well behaved throughout the trip and all were a true credit to their school and themselves, so much so the hotel and bus drivers, as they have in previous years, both commented that "Driffield School was the best behaved group they had ever come across".

As trip leader I would personally like to express my sincere thanks to the three members of staff that made the trip possible –Mrs S Ramsay, Mr M Evans and Miss J Yates. The trip was a huge success and everyone had a fantastic time, and we are already planning and looking forward to next year's trip

Mr A McDonald Trip Leader



Naples

The A level geography field visit to Naples in Italy took place over the Easter break and proved to be a huge success, with students having the opportunity to put their studies into context whilst participating in a great experience. The students enjoyed visiting the sites of Herculaneum and Pompeii to witness the impacts of volcanic eruptions, before hiking to the top of the dormant volcano, Mount Vesuvius. Other highlights included a visit to the stunning island of Capri where the Italian sun finally made a significant appearance. Of course the students took every opportunity to indulge themselves with the Italian cuisine on offer. As usual the students were a credit to the school, Sixth Form and community and were a pleasure to be with on the visit.

Mr Darren Andrews – Head Sixth Form



Driffield School Big Ensemble Music Tour, Salzburg, Austria

The Austria Music Tour is the fourth music tour since 2014. Our previous tours have taken students to Holland, Germany, and Lake Garda in Italy.

This tour to Salzburg was an incredible 6 days for those who were involved, but many don't realise what goes on behind the scenes. Months of preparation are the baseline for what forms three two hour concerts, but it's worth every minute. Every minute is filled with great enthusiasm for everyone involved, and what makes up this great enthusiasm is heavily reliant on the staff. No matter who you are, what you play, you will always be given an equal chance, and for me that's what establishes confidence within those who join the band.

A special thanks to Mr Couper is in order for these trips because without them we wouldn't be able to achieve what we have done musically. These trips have given me personally confidence that I never thought possible before and let me conquer my fears of performing in front of people. I wouldn't have been able to perform in front of my parents previous to Italy and Austria let alone over 100 people so thank you to the staff for helping us all become the people that we know we can be.

Sean Shanahan Year 10 GCSE Music



A huge thanks to Mr Couper, Mrs Barron, Miss Farrell, Miss Dean, and Mr Nicholls for running and supporting students on a fantastic tour



Student Leadership

In the last week of term 4, students from Years 9 & 10 took part in leadership and public speaking training. This was delivered by Talk the Talk a charitable organisation and gave our students the skills required to be our leaders in the future.

Students were trained in how to speak publicly in the hope they will deliver future assemblies. It was fantastic to see their skills develop throughout the day and I look forward to seeing many of them flourish as our future school leaders.

Mr T Fisher Assistant Head Teacher



School Attendance Update

Good school attendance is 96% or above and this is our overall school attendance target for 2017-18. When attendance drops below 95% evidence demonstrates this starts to impact on progress in school.

If a child's attendance drops below 90%, it means that the child has missed the equivalent of;

- ½ day per week
- 4 weeks per year
- 1 whole year in the child's time in school from Year 7 to Year 11

Research indicates that a child with attendance below 90% may achieve on average, a grade lower in each GCSE subject.

Attendance below 90% is termed Persistent Absence (PA) and the school will offer help and guidance to support the student and the family to improve their attendance to school

Attendance over one school year	Days absent	Weeks Absent	Number of lessons missed
95%	9	2	50
90%	19	4	100
85%	29	6	150
80%	38	8	200
75%	48	10	250
70%	57	11.5	290
65%	67	13.5	340

Calendar of Events

Year 7 Progress Evening (Y Half)	Wednesday 2 May 2018
Bank Holiday	Monday 7 May 2018
Year 7 Progress Evening (X Half)	Thursday 10 May 2018
Half Term Starts	Monday 28 May 2018
Return to School	Monday 4 June 2018
Year 6 ADT Transition Day	Friday 15 June 2018
Art Exhibition Day	Wednesday 20 June 2018
Art Exhibition Day and Evening	Thursday 21 June 2018
Summer Concert	Monday 25 June 2018
Year 11 Prom	Friday 29 June 2018
Sports Day	Tuesday 3 July 2018
Driffield Show	Wednesday 18 July 2018
Term Ends	Friday 20 July 2018
Staff Training Day	Monday 23 July 2018
A Level results Day	Thursday 16 August 2018
GCSE Results Day	Thursday 23 August 2018
Return to School	Tuesday 4 September 2018