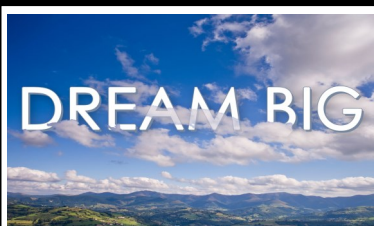




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## Message from the Principal

*“Year 11 have been exemplary... I wish each and every one of them every success in their future endeavours and remind them that only their imagination can limit their dreams.”*



Firstly I'd like to say thank you to Year 11 and their parents for all their support during the exam season. This year, Year 11 have been exemplary in the way they have behaved and performed throughout the exams. With only a couple of exams left, can I wish each and every one of them every success in their future endeavours and remind them that only their imaginations can limit their dreams.

We are very much in exam season as I write this, for all students in all years. As a mother of three, I know this can be a very stressful time for children and parents. Please remember that there is a study skills guide that can be found from the quick links section of the homepage on the website. Fundamentally, the phrase “if you fail to prepare, prepare to fail” springs to mind, so please support your child to actively revise each night, by making notes, watching relevant videos, doing practise questions or using relevant apps and websites. Equally, I cannot stress enough the importance of sleep and food to successful study. This has been one of my biggest battles as a parent; the development of social media and chat apps means that our children do not switch off their minds, which is essential for good rest. I know I've had to be really firm about “go to sleep now!” conversations and for the good of the children, I would ask you to do the same.



The remainder of the term is incredibly busy, filled with some fantastic opportunities, including: the end of year concert, Sports Day, Transition day and evening for Year 6, Transition week for Year 6, the Careers Fair for Year 10 and the reward trip to Flamingo Land! These are great rewards for the many efforts of staff, parents and pupils in a hugely successful year— thank you. Finally, in the last newsletter at the end of term still to come, keep an eye out for all the details for the start of the new year.

Please look out for our new Vale of York leaflets that provide key information on the pastoral support offered in school, our anti-bullying policy and our top tips for E-safety. These leaflets will be available soon and can be picked up at Parents' Evening or reception.



## Physical Education brings great success!

**ATHLETICS**, A great start to the term in the annual athletics championships. Ten Year 7 and 8 students qualified for the semi-finals last week.

From Year 7: - Harrison Booth, Matthew Dawes, Riley Bates  
From Year 8 : - Danny Western, Lucy Jones, Alfie Jones, Drew Sullivan, Kaitlyn Booth, Lily Stancliffe, Libby Watson.

We now take these students and a further twenty-three Year 9 and six Year 10 students to the semi—finals next Tuesday!

### **Individual Sporting Success**

Lily Stancliffe represented North Yorkshire at an athletics event on Saturday against Harrogate, Scarborough and Richmond. She came 7th in the junior girls 800m. The Junior girls is Year 8 and 9 so she was competing against girls in the year above. Excellent Lily, well done!



**Year 10 Bronze D of E** – Thirty-five students completed their assessed expedition in Castle Howard during the weekend of 10-11th June. All students walked for 2 days, camped for 1 night and carried everything they needed for the 2 days!

An excellent performance which we are very proud of!



## AMAZING HAPPENS ALL THE TIME...

Year 10 GCSE students completed their practical performance of 'The Crucible' this term in preparation for their exam. The students worked hard on such a difficult text, getting to grips with the various characters and emotions. We are very proud of their work this year and we look forward to seeing what they can do in Year 11!

*Miss Nicholson (Subject Leader: Drama)*



## Key Stage focus

### Key stage 3

Revision, Revision, Revision! This month students are in the run-up to their end of year exams. The first real exams since the KS2 SATS for both Year 7 and Year 8. Our staff have been working hard with students to develop revision techniques, and strategies for coping with the demands of completing exams in a wide range of subjects.

### Key Stage 4

Year 11 have now completed their examinations, and we said our goodbyes in their leavers' assembly on Friday 16th June. This has been an intensive year, but all their hard work will pay off with a good set of results in August. We wish them all the best for their future and we will look forward to hearing about how well they are getting on.

Year 10 have started their mock exams and this experience will be invaluable to them, not only to test their knowledge but to allow them to practise time planning and get used to the environment of examination settings. Our Year 10s are now the oldest student role models in the school and will be taking on the roles of school prefects and generally supporting the younger students in school. This is an important term for Year 10. Before they move in to their final year, they have a careers fair coming up in school on the 12th July which will help them decide on their post 16 pathways. We have also organised a Stock Market Challenge on the 12th July which is a fun way to show Year 10 how the world of global finance (with stocks and shares) works.

## Partnership News Bringing the community together

The positive updates just keep coming from Vale of York and it's partnership links! We were very proud to be part of the York Pride celebrations that took place on Saturday 10th June. The event, to support the LGBT Community in the city, was the first Pride in the world to have all of its mainstream secondary schools represented. It is fantastic that Vale of York Academy contributed to that and as you can see, those that went had a great day enjoying the music, bright colours and entertainment! We are already looking forward to next year.



We were delighted to congratulate our Year 10 Mentor Team on completing and passing their Peer Mentoring training. A



scheme that was initiated by Student Council member Phoebe Kilvington, was supported by Jill Langdale from York Council who has countless years of experience in this field. The mentors are now eager to get on with their work and will start by welcoming the Year 6 to Transition Day in July. Well done everybody!

In our penultimate primary sports competition of the year, we welcomed teams from Clifton With Rawcliffe and Clifton Green for the 7-a-side Hockey Tournament. On what was the hottest day of the year, all the players worked incredibly hard and there were some fantastic individual and team performances on display. A great effort from everyone who participated!



Our Sports Leaders from Year 8 and 9 have been out and about in the community again supporting both Clifton Green and Clifton

With Rawcliffe's sports days. They supported the events in a friendly and professional way, with staff and parents from both the primary schools commenting on how impressive they were...but let's be honest, they always are!

Finally, the school hosted a community quiz where families across the whole area were invited by the Vale of York Society to test their wits against each other, with the prize being a £75 Frankie and Benny's voucher! It was a well attended and fun filled night. Look out for more family events in the near future!

## Dates for the Diary

Flamingoland Trip

Friday 14th July

Summer Holidays

School closes - Friday 21st July at 1pm

Reopens - Tuesday 5th September—detail to follow in the next newsletter

### UPDATE:

## A Night at the Musicals

Rehearsals are in full swing for our 'Night at the Musicals' show in July. With extracts from Annie, Beauty and the Beast, Oliver, Matilda, Grease and The Lion King, it is definitely going to be a night to remember! Tickets are available now from reception. We hope to see you there!



Share the successes of the school on a daily basis and keep up to date with the latest news:

@ValeYorkAcademy



### Contacting school:

The quickest way to contact school is through reception:

Call: 01904 560000 or

Email:

reception@valeofyorkacademy.org

## TAKE A LOOK AT... OUR YEAR 11 ART SHOWCASE!

Embarking on any GCSE course is a huge undertaking; it requires dedication, hard work and commitment. However, there is nothing more rewarding (for students and teaching staff) than to see the fruition of all these efforts transform into outstanding work and exceptional grades. We are delighted to be able to showcase the work of our Year 11 students who over the past two years have worked extremely hard in the development of their ideas, techniques and outcomes. I think you will agree that the standard that has been achieved is impressive and exemplary. Not only do these pieces demonstrate the progress and talent of our students here at the Vale of York, they also illustrate the imaginative creativity that has been fostered across two years. We hope that you enjoy looking at a sample of our Art Showcase as much as the students themselves took pleasure in creating these pieces. I am extremely proud of the achievements that the students have made and I wish them every success in their new ventures as they leave the academy and move on to new challenges and adventures.

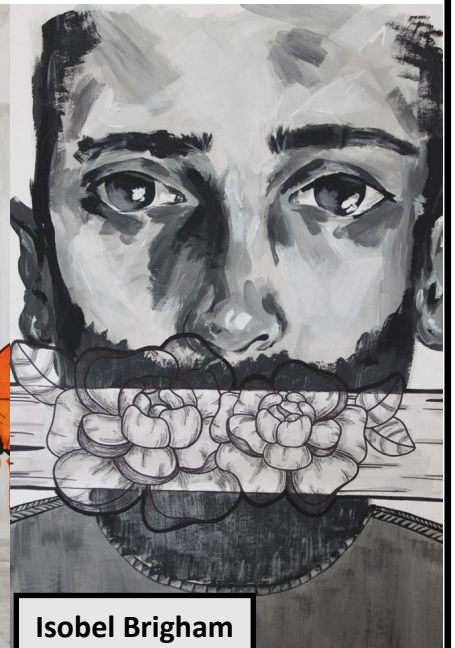
Mr Wilson (Subject Leader: Art)



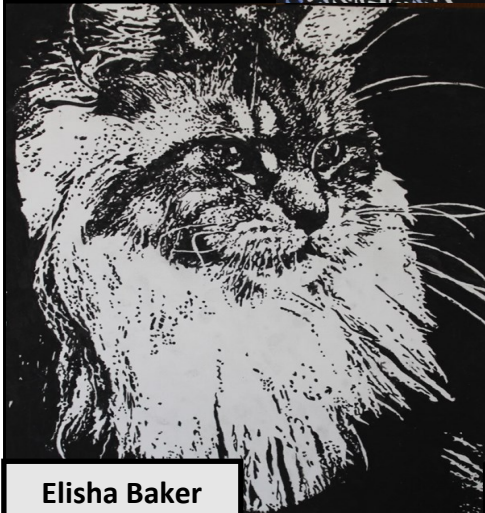
Gabriella Barnes



Bethany Alcock



Isobel Brigham



Elisha Baker



Geoff Bovingdon



Kieran Billsborough