

October Newsletter 2019



Hello, well we have well and truly slipped into Autumn this week with dark mornings and miserable weather. That doesn't stop us here at school as we have been doing some great things and have already had a range of super assemblies which have included: Keeping safe online, Job interviews and Bullying.

The pupils themselves choose what the assemblies are about and deliver them alongside their form tutor. It is fantastic to see some of our pupils presenting assemblies and gaining confidence in public speaking.

Coffee Morning

We would like to invite all parents to a coffee morning on Wednesday 13th November at 10.00am here at school. You might even get to taste our new cook's fabulous cakes! Although your donations will be equally well received.

At the coffee morning parents will also have the opportunity to meet with Laura Miller who represents Operation Encompass. Laura came into school back in the summer to work with Key stage 3 and 4 pupils on relationships. The Aim of Operation Encompass is an early information sharing partnership enabling schools to offer support for children and young people experiencing domestic abuse.

The coffee morning will be followed by a year 11 parents meeting to discuss the viability of Nunnykirk offering post 16 provision.

Don't worry if you are the parent/carer of a year 10 pupil we will be having a further meeting early in 2020 to share your opinions.

Escape day.

On Tuesday 5th November we have a special treat planned for pupils and staff!!

A one-hour programme incorporating problem solving and teamwork

Escape is an entertaining puzzle-based game designed for groups of six people. The aim is simple: using logic, teamwork and the power of lateral thinking, solve all the puzzles and mysteries to earn your freedom within a 60 minute time frame. The clock is ticking!

Our Game Masters lock you and your team in a custom built, challenging and entertaining scenario. After a swift introduction, you're left to discover the right combination of codes, puzzle solutions and codices that lead to the final Escape key. Success Chips are collected as you go and a grand total is recorded at the end of the session to be added to the Nationwide Scoreboard. But do you choose to barter them for extra clues? Do you speculate to accumulate? What will be your strategy?

Organise your team quickly, assign roles and responsibilities and ensure your initiative and common-sense levels are at maximum. Physical force and strength are of no use to you. You won't have time to dig a tunnel! To successfully escape you'll only have the room contents, your wits and the power of collaboration to assist you.

The session can be run multiple times in a day depending on your numbers. Have fun, make memories, stretch yourself... all the time sharpening your communication, collaboration and logical-thinking skills.

I hope this will be a fun activity that will engage and challenge the pupils.

Teaching and learning

As part of our school development plan and consultation with parents I am pleased to say that Teachers planning outlines have now gone live on the website (www.nunnykirk.school)

Anyone wishing to take a look will find them under the "Curriculum" tab. The planning will tell you about topics that your young person is working on.

As part of the GCSE Art course Miss Ward will be taking S4/S3 artists out on Monday 14th October 2019 to Northern Print in Newcastle and then on to the Baltic. Please return your consent form as soon as possible.

Homework

All pupils have homework diaries to record homework. Please can you encourage your young person to check on an evening to see if they have homework.

Half term Holidays

Please remember that Nunnykirk October half term will start close of school 18th October and re-open Monday 4th of November 2019.

A word from the Chair

When a new school year begins I always have lots of plans for the first term but time seems to fly by and before I realise it, we are approaching half-term!

The School Development Plan is on the school website (www.nunnykirk.school) and if you have any ideas or want to help with anything please let us know.

We are still looking for new governors to join the board and Alex or I would be happy to tell you more about the role if you are interested. Charlotte Webb is a parent governor and I am sure she would also be happy to tell you how she has contributed to the development of the school.

Thanks

Andy Roberts