

DARTON COLLEGE

16th December 2016
Issue 14

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY!



**TODAY WE RAISED
A GRAND TOTAL OF
£962.60**



A HUGE THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR DONATIONS!



SUCCEED

ENJOY

INSPIRE

INNOVATE

ASPIRE

LEARN

News from the Principal

Another term has flown by! It has been an incredibly busy one and September now seems like a distant memory!

Our school continues to make positive improvements, which was recognised as part of our external review in November. This was led by an experienced Ofsted Inspector. The leadership of the school, safeguarding and the behaviour of learners were identified as key strengths as was the leadership of teaching and learning. Our data systems and reports to parents are regularly flagged up by you as an area that we need to explain better. We are currently working on this. We also continue to develop our class practice and curriculum offer to

ensure that all learners are stretched and challenged appropriately.

The term has of course been tinged with sadness with the death of our much loved colleague, Gill Dobson. Staff and learners have already begun to raise funds to donate to Wakefield Hospice in Gill's memory. I will also be meeting with Gill's family in the New Year to discuss a lasting memorial. As a school, we have been touched by the many messages of support that we have received from you and the wider school community.

We say farewell to a number of members of staff this term - Mrs Fyfe-Jones, Miss Jones and Mr Wood. We wish them well as they start their new adventures. We also say goodbye to Miss Vickers, who gets

married over Christmas and will return as Mrs Stephenson! I am sure you will join us in wishing her every happiness for her wonderful day!

Huge thanks to the whole staff team at Darton, who have continued to work relentlessly to ensure that we give our learners the best possible opportunities throughout their school years. The job of a teacher can be unrelenting, but equally brings tremendous rewards! Finally, thank you to you all. Your support, ensuring your children arrives at school on time, wearing the correct uniform and being ready to learn is hugely appreciated.

I hope that you are able to have a restful Christmas and you will enjoy the holidays with family and friends. I am certainly looking forward to spending time with my own three boys, less so the mess and washing that they bring home with them!

See you back at school on Tuesday 3rd January!

Best wishes

Kate Davies
Principal

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Year 11 Mock Examinations - Mr Cairns

After a manic two weeks of Mock Exams Year 11 finally collected their ever anticipated results! For many it was eye opening and an extremely useful two weeks, where learners experienced the stress, pressure and excitement of what the Summer exams will bring! It was really pleasing to see so many learners dedicating themselves even more in lessons, this is where the magic happens and hard work in lessons really pays off! Learners also attended a plethora of revision classes and worked closely with teachers to really plug any subject gap knowledge. Of course, with these being the first round of mock exams this year some learners may be a little disappointed with their results. Together we will work hard to identify any areas of weakness and will ensure that the correct measures are in place to support learners to achieve success.

Darton Voice In The Community

Darton Voice learners performed a Christmas sing along at the Darton Afternoon Club on Monday. The cross generational collaboration is going from strength to strength and we look forward to working with them again in the New Year.

Creativity In Year 7

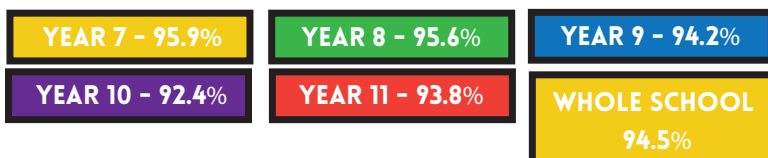


Artist, teacher and Author Jane Hewitt visited our Creative Department this week. Year 7 took part in some real life learning. The learners were asked to produce a design for Jane and the winning designs would be created using free hand motion embroidery. Here are images of the winning entries. A superb effort!

Highest Achieving Forms In Attendance This Term



Year Group Attendance This Term



Great Christmas Reads

- 1. An eagle in the snow**
Michael Morpurgo
- 2. May be a fox**
A.McGhee, K. Applet
- 3. Murder in midwinter**
Fleur Hitchcock
- 4. Mistletoe and murder a murder most unladylike mystery**
Robin Stevens
- 5. The midnight gang**
David Walliams
- 6. The road to ever after**
Moira Young
- 7. The song from somewhere else**
AF Harrold
- 8. Dear Charlie**
N.D Gomes
- 9. The sun is also a star**
Nicola Yoon
- 10. And A Happy New Year**
Holly Bourne



Key Dates

Return to Darton College:
Tuesday 3rd January 2017

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**OPTION CHOICES
EVENING**

**WEDNESDAY 4TH JANUARY
5.00PM - 6.30PM**

DARTON COLLEGE

Musical Theatre Production:
Monday 16th / Tuesday 17th January 2017
Year 11 Parents' Evening:
Wednesday 18th January 2017