



SUCCEED ENJOY INSPIRE INNOVATE ASPIRE LEARN

News from the Principal

Many thanks for all of your patience and understanding over the last week. I sincerely hope that is the last we will see of the snow. Deciding whether to open or close the school is always a difficult decision and there are a number of key things that must be considered, including the safety of the site and the local area, buses, staff availability and of course, the safety of our learners. We endeavoured to communicate closures in a timely manner, using the Darton College and BMBC websites, Dearne FM and our social media feeds. Ultimately, you as parents and carers may always use your own discretion as to whether or not your child is able to attend and as a school, we recognise and respect your decision. Despite the weather

yesterday, virtually all staff made it into school and the attendance from learners was better than we could have hoped for- we thank you for your support. A special mention goes to our Year 11 learners, who arrived at school to take their English and Science mock examinations. Any learners who were unable to take these due to the weather, have an opportunity to do so on the rearranged dates. I was lucky enough to attend a trip to the European Space Agency (ESA) Centre for Earth Observation (also known as ESRIN) in Frascati, Rome last week. At ESRIN, some of our DC learners participated in a range of informative and practical activities relating to earth observation and climate change. They also learned about ESA's scientific satellites in orbit

and future missions in space. The learners had the opportunity to visit the data archives which look at the technologies used to explore the solar system and they also had fun operating the Rover models similar to the ones used for planetary exploration. We too encountered snow in Rome, only for the second time in 26 years! It was fantastic to see so many parents and carers at our Year 9 Options Evening earlier this week. A huge thanks to everyone who attended, and to Miss Gill, Mr Bond and Mr Woodcock for their hard work in organising and hosting the event. Options interviews will continue over to next week. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you or your child require any additional support. Have a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Ms Kate Davies

Principal



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A SURPRISE VISITOR



We had a surprise visitor at Darton College on Thursday morning. Meet Edwina, Leah in Year 8's pet tortoise! Upon arriving at school, Leah opened her PE bag to discover this little creature hiding in there! Unbeknown to her, she had climbed into her bag for a nap the night before. Leah was completely surprised to see her at Darton College. Our staff and learners loved him!

YEAR 8 AND 9 GIRLS VACCINATIONS

We can confirm that the HPV vaccinations for girls in Year groups 8 and 9 will now take place on:

Thursday 15th March - Year 8

Tuesday 20th March - Year 9

BUSHCRAFT TRIP MEETING

The Bushcraft Residential Information Meeting has now been scheduled to run on **Thursday 15th March**. Places will be confirmed the following week via letter.

HALLAM FM YOYO SHOWCASE VISIT POSTPONED

Mr Gardner has been notified that the trip to Hallam FM for the YOYO showcase, scheduled to run on Thursday 15th March, has been postponed. We will share the new date with learners, parents and carers as soon as it has been announced.

ONCE UPON A PROM

We have been informed that a group has recently been set up in Barnsley, who are collecting dresses, suits, shoes, bags and accessories that will be displayed at an event for disadvantaged Year 11 learners. Learners will have the opportunity to view these items and choose the things they may need to ensure that they can go to their school prom in style. Should anyone have any suitable prom-wear in perfect condition, all donations will be gratefully received and we will pass them on for the event. In addition, if any of our current Year 11 learners require support to attend the DC prom, please contact Mrs Gregory or Mrs Ellis.

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO DRESSED UP FOR WORLD BOOK DAY!

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WK ENDING 2ND MARCH - 94.20%

KEY DATES

23RD MARCH 2018
INSET Day / Break up for Easter

9TH APRIL 2018
Return to School

18th APRIL 2018
YEAR 10 PARENTS EVENING

2ND MAY 2018
YEAR 7 PARENTS EVENING

7TH MAY 2018
Bank Holiday

For additional key dates, please see the calendar shown on our school website.

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PARENTS EVENING
WEDNESDAY 18TH APRIL
4.30PM - 7.30PM

Booking for teacher appointments opens online on Wednesday 4th April at 8.00pm.

<https://dartoncollege.parentseveningsystem.co.uk>



DARTON COLLEGE



DARTON SKI TRIP MEETING

Thank you to all the learners, parents and carers who attended the Austria Ski Trip Information Evening on Thursday-we really appreciate all of you giving up your time. Only 2 weeks to go, how exciting!

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR THE 'STARS OF DARTON' AWARDS UPDATE!

