



Ewood Lane
Todmorden
West Yorkshire
OL14 7DG
Tel: 01706813558
www.todhigh.co.uk

Headteacher: Miss G Shirt

Up & coming dates

Barmoor Trip – Friday 3rd – Sunday 4th March
Careers Week – W/C 6th March
Year 8 Progress Evening – 9th March 4.30-7pm
Strike days – 15th and 16th March
Food practical exam – 21st – 23rd March
Year 10 Progress Evening – 23rd March
Ski trip departs – 31st March

March 3rd, 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

In order to improve some of our school routines, we have made some operational changes to the way students arrive in school and are dismissed to their first lesson of the day. As I'm sure you'll be aware students are expected on site from 8:35; by this time each day they should be standing on their year group yard ready to be sent into school. From Monday we'll be locking the gates onto site from 8:40. Any students arriving after this point should use the pedestrian gate on Ewood Lane which has a video link to reception. By undertaking this approach, we will be better able to monitor late students and be able to safeguard the site more effectively. In addition to this change we are also using line-ups with Y7 to support entry routines and effective silent retrievals. Please ensure your child sets off for school in plenty of time to get here on time (8.35am).

As part of our continuous efforts to support our wonderful Todmorden community through the Cost-of-Living Crisis, I am happy to announce that we will be hosting a 'Good as New' stall as part of our summer celebration after school on Friday 23rd June 2023. One person's rubbish is someone else's treasure; therefore we would like to ask for donations of any unwanted possessions (such as clothing, baby gear, toys, or anything other donatable items) from all our staff and members of our community. All objects donated should be in good condition, so that they will be useful to their new owners, and we are unable to accept used underwear, of course. You can drop off any donations at our school reception on Wednesdays and Fridays between 3-4pm. Please contact Mrs Kontogiannopoulou on demik@todhigh.co.uk for any queries. As the event gets nearer, we will give more information as to the stall itself, and other elements to be enjoyed. Thankyou in anticipation of your generous support.

In student news, I would like to make specific mention to a fantastic student Hannah Wilkinson (11MAS). She is an exceptionally talented mathematician. Mr Smith, Hannah's maths teacher, emailed me earlier this week stating;

'I fully expect Hannah to achieve Grade 9 in maths, and unlike many others, she is choosing the STEM subjects at a brand new sixth form college in the centre of Leeds, The Leeds Mathematics School. The first cohort of 80 students are starting this September and Hannah had to pass an initial interview as well as an entrance exam before being offered a place. It has a very specialised choice of six A-levels; maths, further maths, computer science, physics and chemistry and its aims are to provide world class tuition at A-level and beyond to prepare the best students for careers in the STEM subjects. We have a lot of excellent female mathematicians at THS and too many do not pursue the subject into A-levels, so Hannah is a bit of a trailblazer for me. She sets a phenomenal example for some of the



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THS has recently switched to using buff paper for printing services. Our paper is 100% recycled.

other top female mathematicians in this school to seriously consider choosing maths or further maths at A-level, especially those that achieve 7, 8 or 9 in maths. We have many students in this current cohort who fit this mould, and Hannah is a shining example, hopefully for others to follow.'

We are extremely proud of Hannah and her ambitions for the future. She is a model student who does indeed set a fantastic example for her peers. Well done, Hannah, keep up the fantastic work.

Other notices:

- The Brunswick Centre in Calderdale is providing a confidential advice service for students in the LGBTQ+ community or for students who are feeling confused or anxious and want to talk to someone. If you feel this service would benefit your child, please have a look at the attached poster at the rear of the letter.
- On the 30/03/23 the Calderdale immunisation team are in school to deliver the HPV vaccine to our Y8 students. An announcement has been sent out on Class Charts to all parents/carers containing some information on the vaccine and a link to complete the consent form. If you don't want your child to have the vaccine, please still complete the consent form as there is a non-consent option.
- For World Book Day I had the pleasure of cutting the ribbon on our new vending machine full of literature for our students to enjoy. Moving forward the vending machine will act as an extension to our current rewards system, and students in receipt of tokens will be our absolute super stars! You will see our vending machine if you visit as it's in reception. Isabelle and Harry (Year 7) were our first superstar students to use the vending machine. All our KS3 year groups and staff read a book in a day yesterday to celebrate World Book Day. The book, chosen by the English department, was the Carnegie Medal-winning 'Lark' by Anthony McGowan. Feedback from staff was overwhelmingly positive and it is fantastic that hundreds of our students had the memorable experience of reading a book in a day.
- We strongly advise that children are not let out at night to go to the centre of Todmorden.
- We also advise that you monitor your child's use of their mobile phone and **NOT** allow it to be in their bedrooms overnight.
- Please do not pick up your child from Ewood Lane, please wait on the Hare and Hounds car park instead.
- As you will be aware there are two more scheduled strike days due to happen in two weeks' time. I will be writing to parents next week regarding what we will be doing as a school to manage these strike days and will send an accompanying text message to alert you to this information once released.



As always, if you have a query or concern, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

Yours sincerely,

Gill Shirt
Headteacher

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LGBTQ+ YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES
AT THE BRUNSWICK CENTRE

Lesbian? Gay? Bisexual? Trans? Unsure?

**We offer a safe and confidential service for
13-19 year olds in Calderdale**

- Regular informal group drop-in sessions
- Meet new people, make new friends who understand what you are going through
- Additional support, advice, and guidance



To make a referral/refer yourself use this QR code




Call us on 01422 341 764 or Kate (LGBTQ+ Youth Worker) on 07534 075 388

Email: info@thebrunswickcentre.org.uk

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 The Brunswick Centre - Kirklees Calderdale

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