

As we reach the end of the first half of the Autumn term, I would like to let you know what a busy and exciting start to the new academic year we have had! Our new Y7 students are settling in well, I am nothing but impressed by their positive attitudes to learning, their uniform and their behaviour. Thank you to all families, feeder schools and staff involved in transition for making the start of the new term run so smoothly for them. All other students have also made a good start, thank you once again to all those parents/carers who continue to support the school by sending your children in the correct uniform and well equipped for a day of learning!

Over the last 7 weeks, we have had a whole host of events, including our well known transition disco, Y5&6 taster day, Y6 Open evening, my Meet & Greet evening, our family meal, Y7 form tutor evening and celebrating attendance assemblies. Other highlights of the half term have been:

## Summer 2016 Results

Our summer 2016 results were again very pleasing with students making very good progress from their starting points. The school is ranked second in Wakefield for this progress measure, we are delighted!

Students also performed particularly well in the sixth form, with results above national averages across the board. We look forward to welcoming all of these students back on the 24th November for our presentation evening. This is always a lovely event and we look forward to seeing you there.

## IN SCIENCE

Y7 students in Mr Gardner's class made some excellent models of plant and animal cells as part of their homework. They were fantastic!

Y9 students have been making and launching model rockets with Mr Miller in Science club. These really did go with a bang!



## In History;

Year 9 students have enjoyed starting their new GCSE topic, Medicine through time. The course started with a fantastic workshop from Wakefield museums. Students were given a detailed talk on causes of illness during the Medieval times and different treatments that were used. To end the session, students were then able to make their own medieval remedies. This included medieval toothpaste made of sage and salt. Well done to all students involved who showed a high level of maturity and respect during this session."



## In PE:

We have seen some real successes on the rugby and football pitches. Here are some staff match reports as well as one written by our very own Jordan Worth!

### Y8 Rugby Airedale v St Thomas Becketts

After starting the game in excellent fashion with tries from Taylor Francis and Kurt Moore (2), Airedale went into the half time with an 18-6 lead. However, with a minimal squad and only one replacement available, Airedale ran out of steam towards the end of a tough game conceding late tries and unfortunately losing the game 36-18. However, it was brave performance by Airedale which isn't replicated in the final score. Airedales man of the match was Kurt Moor for his pure determination and effort overall.

### Y7 Football Outwood v Airedale

A great first game for the Y7 football team as they drew 3-3 away at Outwood Grange. Goals by Bailey Healey and Danny Rutisto put Airedale into a 2 nil lead before conceding late in the first half bringing the score at half time to 2-1. Airedale played some great football and was always a threat going forwards whilst looking solid in defence. A further goal by Bailey Healey looked to have wrapped the game up; however, with only 2 minutes to spare, Outwood scored two late goals to tie the game at 3-3. It was a great display by all involved with Bailey Healey being nominated Man of the Match.



**Airedale Academy**  
Striving for excellence

# PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

**October  
2016**

## Match report-Jordan Worth Y10

Coming back from our last win against St Thomas Becketts we were feeling confident and excited for the game ahead. We travelled to their home ground at Delacy Academy. We had good concentration during our warm up which made us all very focused and ready for the match. The whistle blew, it was their kick to us; the first 5 minutes were just typical rugby 5 drives and a kick. It all changed when Luke Ordish charged to the try line, barging through their solid defence and scoring a well-deserved try. Unfortunately, De Lacy Academy bounced back and scored a try from our mistakes resulting in the score being 18-10 at half time to De Lacy. At half time we were left feeling frustrated but not defeated. Mr Dean gave us a motivational pep talk which left us all fired up and ready to get back out there. Within the first few minutes of the second half one of our key players, Taylor Anderson, took an injury to the neck, which led to De lacy scoring a try making the gap between us even bigger. We made a few positional changes with Taylor coming off. Jordan, Callum and Kieran M were all on the field, raring to go. Airedale made an amazing comeback levelling out the score. This was all down to an amazing debut try from Jamie Greaves and a long and coming 2nd try for Mason Wagstaff. At this point the game was close; both teams were left feeling anxious about what the final result would be. It looked like the result was about to go in De Lacy's favour when they picked up another try, this all changed when De Lacy kicked and missed. Airedale's hope was back. All of the team's hard work paid off when Mason Wagstaff scored his 3rd try and the last of the game. Our fate rested with Luke, as always he didn't disappoint and kicked the conversion successfully to win us the game. A fantastic result of 42-18 for Airedale Academy, meaning our legacy continues in the Wakefield Cup.



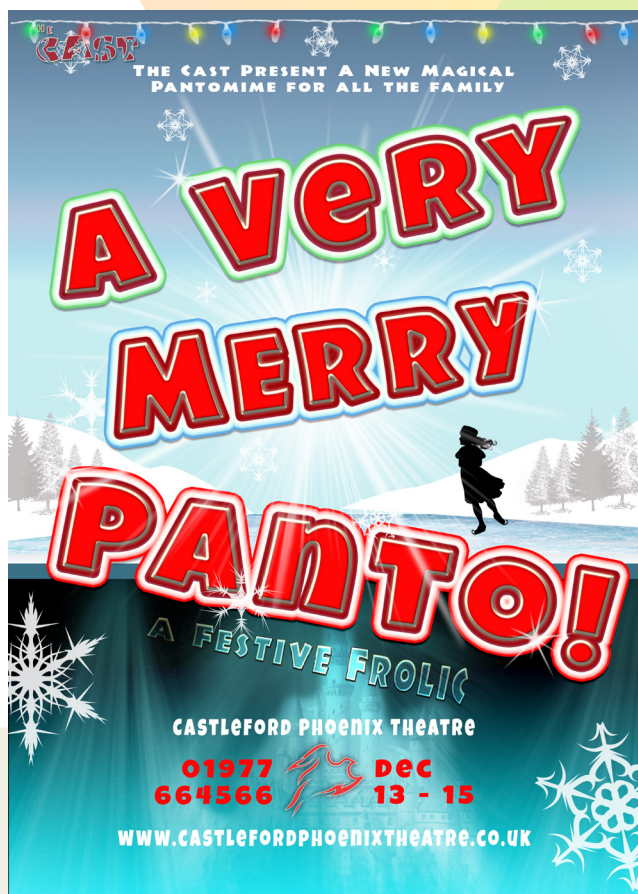
**On Friday 7th October staff, governors and staff from some of our feeder schools enjoyed the best morning break of the year. It was our contribution to the 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. The event, organised by Pamela Gale, offered lovely cakes, scones, buns, pre-ordered afternoon tea and chocolates, along with speciality coffees, hot chocolate and a variety of teas in return for a donation to the Macmillan Cancer Support Fund. The event was extremely well organised in our Café Zest Area of school, and supported by staff and visitors to the school. The final total raised was £422.90 (more than we managed the previous year) a fantastic amount for this well worthy cause. We are already looking forward to next year's event.**

## School Developments 16-17

As the new Principal, I am in the privileged position of being able to carefully review policy and practice at Airedale Academy to ensure we are operating effectively. I am thoroughly enjoying my time here and am tackling the challenges presented to me head on! It is a time of change as you heard at the Meet & Greet the Principal evening. There will be some changes to come but I want to reassure you that all changes and decisions made are not taken lightly and have all students and staff at the heart of them.

## SCHOOL SITE IMPROVEMENTS

If you have visited the school recently, you will have noticed the large amount of scaffolding and building repair work which is going on. We are very much looking forward to this finishing shortly after the half term break. Over the course of this academic year, we will continue to make improvements to different areas of the school. We will keep you up to date!



**Energy Drinks – a reminder to all students and parents/carers that energy drinks are banned from the school site. They are unhealthy and unnecessary whilst at school.**



### Safety both in and out of school

Please may I remind all visitors to the school to book an appointment in advance (wherever possible) and to sign in immediately at the main reception. You will then be issued a badge which you must wear at all times whilst on the school site. Safety of our students and staff is of the utmost importance, we must ensure that everyone on school premises can be accounted for. Our sixth form students will shortly be issued with coloured lanyards/ID badges to wear as all staff do, these should also be worn at all times whilst at school.



**Road Safety –** we are currently looking in to a pedestrian crossing being put on the road outside of the school to improve the safety of our students. In the meantime, can I please ask that you do not park directly outside our student entrances/exits or on the pavements as it is posing a significant risk to student safety. Many thanks.

### Attendance & Punctuality

Whole school attendance is currently at 93.9% and remains a priority area for the school. Good attendance and punctuality equals good achievement; please ensure your child attends school every day and is here on time. I would like to congratulate all students with 100% attendance and punctuality this term, well done. These students are being rewarded by being able to leave school an hour early on the last Friday, what a treat!

### Uniform

Although the vast majority of our students arrive in school looking very smart, we are unfortunately continuing to have several issues with some who are not complying with our school uniform policy. May I please remind you that trainers cannot be worn, and discrete jewellery only is currently allowed. Students must wear their blazers unless given permission to remove them. Students not in uniform will be offered spare uniform to borrow for the day. This allows for a prompt start to their day and no lost learning hours. If a student refuses to borrow our school uniform, they will remain in inclusion until they are in full uniform. We are working really hard with students to address this matter and would like to thank you for your ongoing support.

### Some upcoming Events 2016:

The Science department will be launching a weekly observatory trip to visit the West Yorkshire Astronomical Society. This will be aimed at Y11 primarily but lower years will have an opportunity to go later on in the year. Students in Y10 will begin work on the CREST Award: Silver. Currently, we have students who will be investigating a crime scene and other students will be designing an automatic lawnmower using Raspberry Pis. Exciting stuff!

## Diary Dates

24th November - Our Y11 Presentation evening  
29th November - Y9 Parents Evening  
6th December - Y9-Y12 Careers Convention  
13th, 14th & 15th December Sixth Form Performing Arts Pantomime

### Sporting Events:

Year 7 Football  
Away V Minsthorpe 4/11/2016  
V Crofton 9/11/2016  
5 a side tournament at Minsthorpe 10/11/2016  
V Hemsworth 16/3/2017  
Year 8 Football  
Home V Freeston 1/11/2016  
5 a side Tournament 17/11/2016  
Away V Outwood 23/11/2016  
Away V Minsthorpe 9/12/2016  
V Carleton 29/3/2017  
Year 9 Football  
5 a side tournament at Minsthorpe 24/11/2016  
V Kettlethorpe 30/11/2016  
V Hemsworth 16/3/2016  
Home V Outwood 20/3/2017  
Year 10 Football  
5 a side at Minsthorpe 1/12/2016  
V Carleton 22/2/2017  
V Hemsworth 16/3/2017  
Year 11 Football  
5 a side tournament at Minsthorpe 8/12/2016

### A VERY MERRY PANTO

13 - 15 December, 7.15pm  
Tickets from £6

Following the success of their amazing previous season which featured two Kabarets, White Christmas, Miss Saigon and Billy Elliot, The Cast continue the nw season just 6 weeks after performing Kabaret Premier with a special new pantomime. When Alice falls through the ice whilst skating on a frozen lake, on a cold crisp winters morning, she finds herself in Pantoland. As she battles to find her way back to the surface, she discovers good verses evil with some well known characters providing some unexpected twists.....A festive frolic not to be missd!



Many thanks for taking the time to read this newsletter. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all students, staff and parents/carers a relaxing half term break. We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Monday 31st October.

*E Fairhurst* – Principal

**Why Choose Us?**

72% of students progressed to Higher Education in 2016

97% Pass Rate in 2015/2016



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PRESENT

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Live show including performances of the great love songs from the 50's, 60's & more



**2 ACTS - PAST MASTERS AND THE SWEET TONES**

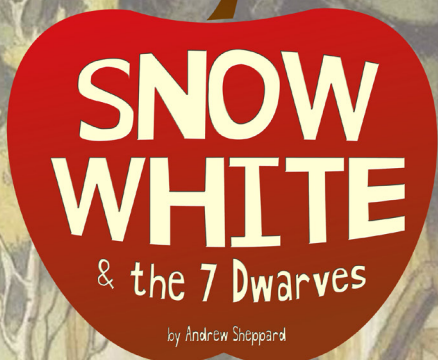
Tuesday 14th February 2017 **18:45**

Tickets £17.00 booking office 01977 664566

Book on-line [www.castlefordphoenixtheatre.co.uk](http://www.castlefordphoenixtheatre.co.uk)

More info [www.pastmastersmusic.co.uk](http://www.pastmastersmusic.co.uk)

Our Brand New Family Pantomime!



Castleford Phoenix Theatre

Thursday 1st December 7:15pm Friday 2nd December 7:15pm  
& Saturday 3rd December 1.30pm & 5.30pm

**ADULTS £12 CONCESSIONS £10**  
**FAMILY TICKET (2 ADULTS, 2 CONCS) £36**  
(GROUP CONCESSIONS FOR PARTIES OF 10+)

Tickets: 01977 518194 [www.etconline.org.uk](http://www.etconline.org.uk)

**ALADDIN**



10th - 15th January 2017  
Castleford Phoenix Theatre

WF10 3JU

**Ticket Prices**

Full Ticket - £12.50

Concessions - £10.50

Family Ticket - £42.00

(Over 60 Concessions Thurs Only)

**Evening Shows**

7:15 pm

**Matinee (Sat+Sun)**

2:15pm

**BOOKING TICKETS**

Phone : 0113 2869653

Email : [kaosjo@fsmail.net](mailto:kaosjo@fsmail.net)



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Online: <https://castlefordphoenixtheatre.ticketsolve.com>