



## DISS HIGH SCHOOL

### END OF TERM NEWSLETTER - JULY 2021

*"It is not the strongest or the most intelligent who will survive but those who can best manage change." (Leon C. Megginson from Charles Darwin)*

We would certainly all agree that the last 18 months have forced all of us to manage change. The great thing is that we have survived, and our youngsters have shown amazing resilience and fortitude. What a tribute this is to the great parental support and encouragement coming from home!

#### The Papillon Project

Without a doubt, the most significant achievement and enhancement experience in recent months has been the creation of the school allotment with the Papillon Project. We are grateful to Mrs Glaister for arranging this initiative.

The Papillon Project is an educational charity that promotes sustainable living and environmental awareness for young people.



It is their very dedicated mission to help rehearse the next generation to know how to grow their own food so we can all start to live in a world that is greener and far more sustainable.

This mission is achieved by creating and developing school allotments using mainly recycled, reclaimed and up cyclable (creative reuse) materials. They believe a school allotment should be a 'permanent place of inspirational learning' and all secondary schools and sixth-form colleges should have one! They passionately believe that a school allotment provides the most *incredible* opportunities for crucial and highly valuable life skills to be taught and imparted to young people. In many respects, they see a school allotment as a learning facility just as a sports hall or a drama studio is!

Our youngsters at Diss High School have thoroughly enjoyed this project and some have tasted personal success for the first time. Do come and see it – behind the grass tennis courts. The local allotment association are going to help us keep it going.

#### Goodbyes

We are saying goodbye to some valued staff: Mrs Nunn is to be the new Head of Science at Stradbroke School, Ms Harnett is joining the research department of British Telecom, and Mrs Barnes, Mrs Bailey and Mr Berger are moving to new positions. Two long term members of the administrative support staff are retiring this term – Mrs Aiken Sixth Form Administrator and Mrs Critchley, Head's PA. We thank them all for their input and service to the school and wish them every future happiness.

## Arrangements for next term

The pandemic is still with us, sadly, so once again we are required to conduct lateral flow tests for pupils twice at the beginning of term. In order to prevent a staggered start to the term, we are inviting pupils to take their first test before term begins, if they are able to get to school and home again as below:

### Pre-term Covid testing in the Vocational Centre

Pupils attend for the test only and go home immediately. NB No school transport is provided. Pupils must make their own way to school and home again. Uniform is not required.

**Thursday 2nd September** - Year 8 – at 9.00am in the Vocational Centre  
Year 9 – at 11.00am in the Vocational Centre

**Friday 3rd September** - Year 10 – at 9.00am  
Year 11 – at 11.00am  
Year 13 – at 1.00pm

### Monday 6th September

**Only Year 7 and Year 12** will be attending on the first Monday back for their induction days. Their Covid tests will be organised during the day and school uniform should be worn by Year 7 students. School buses will be running on this day and the canteen will be open.

### Tuesday 7th September

**All Year groups return to school** in full school uniform

We will conduct the second Covid tests over the subsequent five days.

***All parents are strongly encouraged to continue testing at home twice a week throughout the summer. Free test kits are easily available from any local pharmacy.***

Should there be any change in arrangements before next September, we will contact you via In Touch.

In the meantime, I wish you a happy and safe summer.

Kind regards

Dr J Hunt  
Headteacher