



## DISS HIGH SCHOOL

### HALF TERM NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2022

*Our school motto – ‘Carpe Diem – Seize the Day’, means make the most of the present moment and use every opportunity. It is good to see so many youngsters doing just that in our wider curriculum.*

#### NEWS FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Most of the school community will know by now that Dr Hunt is retiring at the end of the Summer Term 2023. I am pleased to inform parents that governors have been proactive this term, in securing a new Headteacher well ahead of time. Mr Sam Stopps will be taking up the post in September 2023. We will introduce him more fully nearer the time. Mr S Drake

#### SCHOOL JUMPERS AFTER HALF TERM

It is the school policy that all pupils in years 7 – 11 MUST wear a school jumper after the October half term.

#### AN INTERNATIONAL THEMED CAKE

The Language department set Y7 a challenge to bake an international themed cake or something using a traditional recipe from another country. We had some fantastic entries but we left it up to the Y6 pupils and their families to judge the best ones when they toured the school on Open Evening. These were the top 3 and we are sure that you will agree that we have some creative bakers amongst the year group and we should be looking out for them in future series of "The Great British Bake Off"!

Well done to Seren, Savannah and Raisya! !



#### THE SCHOOL ALLOTMENT

The school allotment has had a great late harvest. Lots of runner beans and tomatoes being produced and eaten by the pupils. Despite the heat wave over the summer, thanks to the tireless effort of our community volunteer Bernard, the pupils managed to grow 4 fabulous pumpkins. We are hoping to carve some for Halloween and make soup out of the rest for the pupils to try.



As the weather cools the group is starting to ready the beds for winter with a healthy dose of pig manure to replace lost nutrients. They are also working hard filling our new soft fruit beds so they can be up and running next spring. Thanks to a generous donation of seeds from our local garden centre we'll have plenty to plant next year.

## GEOGRAPHY NEWS

The geography department were visited by Eleanor Luxton, an undergraduate from Oxford University. She spoke to pupils in years 10-12 about studying geography at university, what makes a good university application and a range of geography related career paths such as town planning, development work and journalism. Many of these pupils will have the opportunity to visit the geography department at Oxford University later in the year and gain first-hand experience in using state of the art equipment in their laboratories and take part in other geography-based activities.



Pupils in Year 9-12 are currently involved in a micro-lecture event organised by the Royal Geographical Society and Norwich School. Pupils have up to 7 minutes to present on a geographical topic of their choice to other pupils from Norfolk schools. Topics so far include: the challenges we face as the global population reaches 8 billion, the impacts of political corruption in Venezuela, the impacts of the national housing crisis for Norfolk, how and why life expectancy varies on the London tube map, the environmental benefits of rewilding and how gender can affect your vulnerability to natural hazard events. We're really looking forward to seeing the final presentations later next month!

## HOSPITALITY AND CATERING



Students in year 10 have made an excellent start to Hospitality and Catering this year. We have been investigating nutrition and diets, as well as learning how to style foods. Year 11 have started their written assessment, worth 60% of their final grade and have made a super start!



## NOT JUST MATHS BUT FURTHER MATHS !

Teachers in the Maths Department are very proud to have begun offering year 10 and 11 students the opportunity to study Further Mathematics this term. GCSE Further Maths is an extremely popular subject which allows students to extend their knowledge of topics studied in GCSE Maths, as well as introducing new topics including calculus and matrices. The course further develops students' algebraic manipulation and problem-solving skills which, as a result, provides the perfect platform towards achieving a grade 8/9 in GCSE Mathematics as well as smoothing the transition between GCSE and A Level maths, and A Level Further Maths.



## **GOODBYES**

We say goodbye this month to Mrs Baranowska who has worked with us in Reception since 2011. We will all miss her good humour and efficient hard work but we are thrilled she is moving on to a promoted post with the local authority. Mrs Ward in Finance and Ms Groombridge in the Sixth Form Office are also moving on in November. We thank them all for their contribution to the life of the school.

## **KEY DATES**

The last day of this term is Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### **Term Dates:**

**Spring:** 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

*Half-term: 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023*

**Summer:** 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023 to 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

*Half-term: 29<sup>th</sup> May – 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023*

May we wish you a restful half term break.

Dr J Hunt