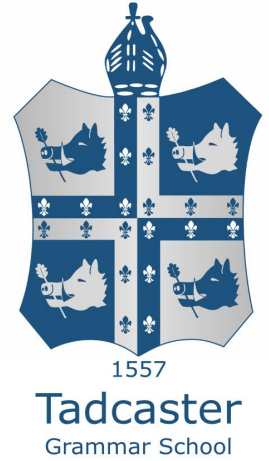


Be Your Best Self



Thursday 16th March 2023

Dear parents, carers and students,

I am very much hoping I do not have to open another letter to you this way, but thank you again for your forbearance and understanding this week with the national 2-day teachers' strike.

Thank you also for your understanding during the school closure last Friday when snow prohibited us from being able to open safely with all staff in situ. At the least, I hope you found the communication from school timely.

I also wanted to give a mention to our superb Year 11 students who have just completed their second round of mock examinations. Well done Year 11, we have been so impressed with your responsibility and resilience.

As usual, please find a number of updates on the following pages.

Regards

Andrew Parkinson
Headteacher



Headteacher: Mr A Parkinson B.Sc (Hons) M.Ed M.Sc
Toulston, Tadcaster, North Yorkshire. LS24 9NB
(01937) 833466 | www.tgs.starmat.uk

Communication home using the ClassCharts App

We know that over almost all parents and carers have downloaded and are using the **Class Charts** App. This allows you to see live behaviour for learning data as well as attendance summaries.



We are increasingly using this as our main way to communicate with parents and as such, please do ensure your notifications are turned on for the app, otherwise you may miss relevant information such as parents' evening announcements, trip letters or other events in school.

If you have any issues with logging in to the app, please do contact your child's pastoral leader, who will be able to assist you.

Year 7	Pastoral Leader Mr D Bass d.bass@tgs.starmat.uk
	Phone number: 01937 833466 Extension number: 232 / 218

Year 8	Pastoral Leader Ms T.Bull t.bull@tgs.starmat.uk
	Phone number: 01937 833466 Extension number: 702 / 300

Year 9	Pastoral Leader Ms E Proctor e.proctor@tgs.starmat.uk
	Phone number: 01937 833466 Extension number: 239/277

Year 10	Pastoral Leader Mr B Evans b.evans@tgs.starmat.uk
	Phone number: 01937 833466 Extension number: 316/315

Year 11	Pastoral Leader Mr M. Prentice m.prentice@tgs.starmat.uk
	Year 11 Phone number: 01937 833466 Extension number: 256 / 293

Sixth Form	Pastoral Leader Ms J Gadsby j.gadsby@tgs.starmat.uk 01937833466 extension: 235
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We are also soon planning to trial allowing students and parents/carers real-time access to the POSITIVE comments staff add when a student has been recognised for showing any behaviours related to our 4 Core Student Values (Responsibility, Respect, Resilience & Ambition). More details to follow.

Kind regards,

Mr P Betts

Assistant Headteacher p.betts@tgs.starmat.uk

School Uniform - A reminder

We are seeking the views of parents and carers on the following proposed amendments to the School Uniform Policy.

Trousers

- We are aware that at times families have found it difficult to source appropriately styled and comfortable dark grey trousers.
- The proposal is to allow students the choice to wear *either* dark grey *or* black trousers [no additional cost].
- As is the case now, all trousers must be plain, straight-leg - no flare, drainpipe, skinny, cargo, 'leggings-style' or other 'fashion' style.

Please note there is no proposal to allow black skirts to be worn at this time; skirts should continue to be dark grey, pleated only.

Ties

- The proposal is for the phased introduction of clip-on, ready-tied ties.
- If the proposal goes ahead, it would be the intention of the school to only expect incoming year 7 students (September 2023) to purchase and wear clip-on ties [no additional cost to existing students].
- Note that APC uniform suppliers would phase out their stock of normal ties over the next 12-18 months at which point only clip-on ties will be available to buy.
- Current year 7-11 students will be able to see out their school years with a choice of clip-on tie or existing tie (while stocks last).

Summer Uniform

We appreciate that during the final half term of the school year, the temperatures of the school building can at times become uncomfortable when wearing the full school uniform, including ties. With this in mind we would like to propose a 'summer uniform' for the students during the final half term (exact dates will be published by the school). The summer uniform would include the following:

- School skirt or school trousers [no additional cost].
- Plain white polo shirt (no logos of any kind) OR white polo shirt with TGS logo on it (school PE uniform) [no additional cost].
- School shoes and socks or tights [no additional cost].

Please note there is no proposal to bring in school shorts at this time.

Your views and feedback would be greatly appreciated. Please could I ask you to [complete this google form](#) in order to record your views on these proposals. **The deadline for feedback is TOMORROW, Friday 17th March 2023.** We will report back to you soon and **publicise a launch date if appropriate.**

Mr R Vernon

Deputy Headteacher r.vernon@tgs.starmat.uk

Uniform Standards: Jewellery

Some of our students are choosing to wear jewellery that is not permitted in school. Ideally no jewellery should be worn.

The main issue is earrings. In several subject areas hoop earrings or similar can cause a safety risk. We also do not want students to lose their jewellery in school. Please could I ask for your support to ensure your child follows the school guidance:

A watch, single plain, flat ring (1 max) and a single pair of plain ear studs (not hoops/rings/flesh tunnels) can be worn, one in each ear lobe. No other items must be visible.
Ideally no facial make-up; where this is worn, it should be very light and discreet.
Bracelets are not to be worn.
Nose piercings should not be worn. If students do have this piercing, then it must be removed for the school day.
Tongue piercings, facial jewellery or similar body piercings must never be worn. Any new piercings/flesh tunnel procedures that require a 'healing period' should only take place during school holidays that are long enough to accommodate this healing process. All piercings (other than ear piercing as stated above) must be removed and not simply covered up with plasters during school time.
No jewellery should be worn during physical education or other practical activities. This includes all earrings.

Clear nail varnish is permitted. Coloured nail varnish and false nails* are not allowed.

(* this includes acrylic/gel nails, nail extensions, nail art and similar)

Mr Paul Betts
Assistant Headteacher
p.betts@tgs.starmat.uk

Social Media

Tadcaster Grammar School



Over the last month or so you may have noticed that we have been developing our SOCIAL MEDIA presence on our existing whole school Facebook and Twitter accounts, as well as our Sixth Form Instagram account.

However, we are excited to share that we now have a whole school INSTAGRAM account!



@tadcastergrammar

Our social media will help keep our families up to date with any news students may not hear about. We aim to use our social media platforms to share good news, student successes and celebrations as well general updates and important reminders.

So, please like and follow our pages... like, share and comment on our posts... and keep in touch!



Sixth Form @ TGS
<https://www.instagram.com/sixthformtgs/>



Tadcaster Grammar School
<https://www.facebook.com/TadcasterGrammarSchool>



@Tgs Tadcaster
<https://twitter.com/TgsTadcaster>



Tadcaster Grammar
<https://www.instagram.com/tadcastergrammar/>

#beyourbestself #beambitious #beresilient #berespectful #beresponsible

End of year arrangements - Year 11

As year 11 students enter the final stages of their Key Stage 4 courses, we would like to make you aware of the end of term arrangements.

- The main series of Key Stage 4 exams start on the **15th May 2023**.
- **Up to and including 26th May:** Students will be required to be in school, attending lessons or exams.
- **26th May:** Lesson or exam in the morning. Leavers' Assembly and celebrations in the afternoon.
- **27th May-4th June:** Half Term break
- **5th June to end of exam series:** Students are only required to attend school for exams; year 11 lessons will continue, and students are encouraged to attend these for subjects in which they still have exams, but attendance is not compulsory.
- **Wednesday 21st June:** The final Key Stage 4 exams (Graphics; Further Maths).
- **Wednesday 28th June:** Exam contingency day (students should be available should this day be needed).

Mr A Sykes

Assistant Headteacher a.sykes@tgs.starmat.uk

End of year arrangements - Year 13

As year 13 students enter the final stages of their Key Stage 5 courses, we would like to make you aware of the end of term arrangements.

- The main series of Key Stage 4 exams start the week beginning **15th May 2023**.
- **Up to and including 26th May:** Students will be required to be in school, attending lessons or exams. If a student has an exam in the afternoon they will not be expected to attend any am lessons. It is the student's responsibility to let their am teacher know
- **26th May:** Leavers assembly at 11.30am in Main Hall followed by celebration goodbyes. students will leave at 1.30pm (unless they need to remain in school for buses)
- **27th May-4th June:** Half Term break
- **5th June to end of exam series:** Students are only required to attend school for exams; year 13 lessons will continue, and students are encouraged to attend these for subjects in which they still have exams, but attendance is not compulsory.
- **Friday 23rd June:** The final Key Stage 5 exams (Chemistry).
- **Wednesday 28th June:** Exam contingency day (students should be available should this day be needed).
- **Thursday 29th June:** Year 13 Prom at Malmaison York

Mrs R Knapton

Assistant Headteacher r.knapton@tgs.starmat.uk

Tadcaster Grammar School Sixth Form

We are currently blocking our Sixth Form provision to start timetabling and will soon send offer letters to students who have applied.

It is not too late if you would like to apply please contact me for further assistance, we would be delighted to welcome you back.

Ms R Knapton
Assistant Headteacher
e.knapton@tgs.starat.uk

World Autism Acceptance Week & Non-Uniform Day Friday 31st March 2023.

World Autism Acceptance Week is back from 27th March to 31st March 2023. The theme for 2023 is bright colours.

We will be delivering a virtual assembly, tutor time activities and discussions about Autism during the week, culminating in a non-uniform day on Friday 31st March when we will be encouraging students to come to school dressed colourfully. There will be a voluntary contribution to raise money for the National Autistic Society. Details of the wonderful work they do can be found [here](#).

Ms D Naylor
SENCo
d.naylor@tgs.starmat.uk

Dinner Money Accounts

Please be aware that we are unable to alert parents/carers when a student's lunch account on Parentpay has a low balance or is in debit. However, this can be set up by parents/carers, following the instructions in the link below. This will hopefully prevent any student going without lunch.

[How to set alerts – Parent Support \(parentpaygroup.com\)](#)

Mrs A Hotchkiss
Office Manager
a.hotchkiss@tgs.starmat.uk