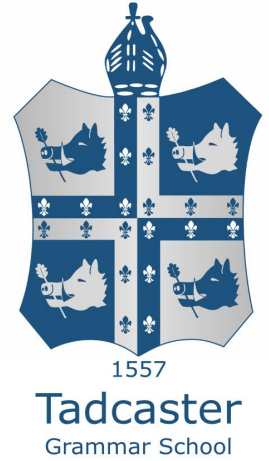


Be Your Best Self



Wednesday 3rd May 2023

Dear parents, carers and students,

I hope this finds you well?

As we start the summer examination season I'd like to firstly recognise the superb responsibility and resilience our fantastic Year 11 and Year 13 students have been showing. They have been working so incredibly hard to prepare, and we are grateful for the support you offer them at home - it can be a challenging time for all.

Also, thank you again for your understanding and forbearance during the recent teacher strike days. I do hope this matter can be addressed at a national level as swiftly as possible.

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

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

Sixth Form

We have been delighted with the number of Year 11 students who applied to Tadcaster Grammar School Sixth Form for this September. We are currently contacting students to confirm places and option choices. Please confirm your place via the link on your Sixth Form offer letter

It's not too late to apply for a September 2023 entry [click here](#)

Mrs R Knapton

Assistant Headteacher

r.knapton@tgs.starmat.uk

Head Students

We are delighted to announce the successful appointment of our two new Head Students for 2023-24; Emily Halstead and Emma Perry (Year 12).

All those who applied for the post were outstanding and the calibre of students during the selection day was phenomenal.

Our thanks to Gabriel Owens and Harriet Gibson for their work as Head Students this year. They have been fantastic ambassadors and leaders within and beyond School.

Mrs R Knapton

Assistant Headteacher

r.knapton@tgs.starmat.uk



Year 8 and 10 information evenings

Thank you to all of those parents and carers who recently attended the Year 8 and 10 information evenings. Working in partnership with our parents and careers is absolutely vital in providing the best possible support for all of our students throughout their journey at TGS. For those that could not attend, please find the slides shared on the evenings below:

[Year 8](#)

[Year 10](#)

Mr M Gill

Deputy Headteacher

m.gill@tgs.starmat.uk

Year 7 Bushcraft Residential- Mon 26th - Tues 27th June 2023

We are really looking forward to our year 7 Residential (Bushcraft at Castle Howard). We would like to invite parents and carers into school on **Thursday 11th May 6.30-7pm, in the main hall**, for the trip information evening.

Please could we ask all year 7 parents and carers with students attending the residential to complete the medical form by **Friday 5th May 2023**. [Click here](#)

Best wishes,

Miss C Hodgson

Year 7 leader

c.hodgson@tgs.starmat.uk

Mr P Betts

Assistant Headteacher

p.betts@tgs.starmat.uk

Ms N Clarke

Transition Lead

n.clarke@tgs.starmat.uk

Mr D Bass

Pastoral Leader

d.bass@tgs.starmat.uk

School Uniform

Further to my message to you on the 1st of March, I am writing to make you aware of an update on our uniform supplier as well as some amendments we will be making to the school uniform policy. These amendments were agreed after consulting with parents, staff, students and school governors over the past few months. The parent/carer survey concerning uniform last term gave us less than a 10% return rate.

School uniform supplier

You may be aware that we recently went out to tender in order to secure a uniform supplier for the next 3 years, with the potential to extend this for a further 2 years. The tender process was done in

accordance with government guidance in order to secure a supplier that would provide the best quality of uniform, at the most reasonable price, while providing an outstanding service.

Suppliers were invited to present to the school how they would meet the requirements. After a thorough process, the decision was made to remain with [APC Clothing Ltd](#). I hope you will agree that they have served the school and community well since taking over as our main supplier and we look forward to working with them over the coming years.

Trousers

The proposal was to allow students the choice to wear *either* dark grey *or* black trousers.

The decision has been made to retain grey trousers only. APC have also committed to ensuring that they stock grey trousers all year round. Please note there is no specific shade of mid-grey trousers that the school expects students to wear. Indeed, students can wear a dark shade of grey. Please remember that students can wear either socks or tights when wearing a skirt, and both the socks and the tights can be either plain black or navy.

Ties

The proposal was for the phased introduction of clip-on, ready-tied ties.

The decision has been made to go ahead with this proposal. This will apply to incoming year 7 students (September 2023) only who will be expected to purchase and wear clip-on ties. Year groups 8-11 (September 2023) can wear a clip on tie if they wish.

Please note that APC uniform suppliers will phase out their stock of normal ties over the next 18-24 months at which point only clip-on ties will be available to buy.

Summer Uniform

The proposal was to introduce a 'summer uniform' for the students during the final half term (exact dates will be published by the school). We appreciate that during the summer months, the temperatures of the school building can at times become uncomfortable when wearing the full school uniform, including ties.

The summer uniform that was proposed included the wearing of a white polo shirt. However, based on strong feedback, we have made the decision to introduce a summer uniform, but will now consist of the following:

- School skirt or school trousers (no extra cost)
- Plain white shirt - short or long sleeved (no extra cost)
- School shoes and socks or tights (no extra cost)

This means that students do not need to wear their tie or blazer during the summer uniform period. However, they can do so if they wish. Please note that students must wear their blazer or grey jumper if they want to add another layer of clothing to their uniform. Summer uniform does not mean that students can start to wear hoodies or sweatshirts if they are cold.

Additional feedback

Thank you to all parents, staff and students who provided additional feedback during the consultation process. There were some really helpful comments and suggestions which we will consider.

One of the main suggestions that came back was around grey shorts and the request to allow them as part of the summer uniform. Unfortunately we cannot reliably source these in older child and adult sizes, in time for this summer. In addition, high street and internet retailers appear not to offer grey shorts for children over 12-14 years of age in a style appropriate for school uniform.

We will now work closely with APC to find a suitable supplier that will be able to provide us with this option at a reasonable price and in a style suitable for school. We will continue to work on this and update if we are able to. However, we will not be implementing this change during this academic year.

Once again, please can I take this opportunity to thank you for your support and feedback regarding our school uniform policy. We will always commit to working with parents, carers and students to make our uniform as cheap as we possibly can and as easily accessible to buy from mainstream retail outlets.

Kind regards,

Mr R Vernon

Deputy Headteacher

r.vernon@tgs.starmat.uk

School Menu Change

New healthy eating standards for school meals and fluctuating food costs have resulted in the school needing to amend the school menu from Tuesday 9th May 2023. The standard Sausage or Bacon Baguette will no longer be available every break time, but we will be selling a new portion of Breakfast Muffin and Egg & Hash Brown wraps for students to enjoy. We will also only be selling pre-packaged cookies, flapjacks and muffins. As soon as North Yorkshire's Catering has printed out new menus these will be put on our website and advertised in the dining rooms.

The main meal cost will remain the same. However, the meal deal will be increasing by 5p to £2.75, otherwise the deal will cost the school money. The cookies, flapjacks and muffins will also be reduced in price to £1.00. These will be included as part of the meal deal which we will be extending to include sandwiches.

Mr I Webb

Business Manager

i.webb@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!



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#beyourbestself #beambitious #beresilient #berespectful #beresponsible