



Specialist Schools  
and Academies Trust  
EXCELLENCE AND DIVERSITY



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## MILLTHORPE SCHOOL

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Dear Parent/Carer

On Friday 21 October we are having an 'Extended Learning' day where students will be off timetable accessing a range of activities, some led by the school and some led by external providers. I have outlined the activities taking place in school. Please note that all students should wear their normal school uniform.

**Year 7** - All students will be completing a Fibonacci challenge in maths. Students will discover for themselves the Fibonacci Sequence and then learn all about the man himself and how Fibonacci numbers appear in the world all around us.

All students will also be completing a 'Let's Love Where We Live' Activity as part of the Change Champion campaign run by the council. Recent findings from the Council's consultation with York's young people suggest they are keen to make a positive difference to the appearance of areas in York.

Some students will be in the music department where they will experiment with a range of African musical instruments, ultimately creating a short piece of music, whilst others will be taking part in some sport-based activities with the PE department.

**Year 8** - The Geography department are running an Eco-day and students will access 4 sessions over the course of the day: One will look at bio-diversity, which will include students going outside to conduct a worm survey and they therefore need a waterproof coat in case of inclement weather. They will also be looking at their carbon footprint. Students will be carrying out an environmental audit of the school and the day will finish with a fashion show based on clothes made from recycled materials.

**Year 9** - Students have been invited to apply for one of the trips listed below:

The Imperial War Museum highlights 20<sup>th</sup> Century conflict and explores testimonies of those who lived to tell the tale. It also allows students to lose themselves in the camouflage exhibit and watch The Big Picture Show to transport themselves back in time. The trip will use one session to focus on the way the architect (Libeskind) has designed the building to replicate the trauma of conflict.

The Royal Armouries is an exciting chance to examine First and Second World War artefacts. Students will explore mass production of shells and the mobilisation of women workers. In the afternoon students will use the displays to create a historically accurate 'voice' for one of the display dummies or create a piece of historical fiction using the battle scenes as inspiration.

The Castle Museum and York Dungeons trip will explore how crime and punishment has changed over time. Talks will be given by the police and an ex-prison officer in order to explore the contrast with the Victorian prison in the Castle Museum. Students will also be taken on a tour of York by the York Dungeon guides.

**Year 10** students will be accessing a day of languages and science:

Asset French students (Mr Winston's and Mrs McNulty's groups) and Asset German students (Miss Bell's group) will be doing some focussed work on the Asset 'Can Do' statements before completing some Asset assessments.

GCSE French and German students will begin preparation for their first Controlled Writing Assessment. The assessment accounts for 15% of students' final GCSE grade. Early Bird German students will take their assessment during their French lesson on Tuesday 1 November; German-on-timetable students will take their assessment in their German lesson on Friday 4 November and all French students will take their assessment in their French lesson on Monday 7 November. Between the start of the preparation period (21 October) and the assessment date, students spend lesson and homework time planning, writing, re-drafting and learning a piece of writing of between 200 and 300 words. The assessment is on the current topic: French-Leisure, German-School. Students can use their exercise books, textbooks and dictionaries during the preparation period but during the assessment itself, they only have access to a 40 word planning sheet and a dictionary.

Science have organised a careers fair where people who have jobs which involve science have been invited to come to discuss their role with the students in an informal question and answer session.

**Year 11** - Some students will be using the time to complete an English controlled assessment and these students have been identified by the Head of English whilst others will be using the time effectively to work on their ICT coursework, these students having been identified by the Head of ICT. Students studying Triple Science (classes 3 & 4) will be spending the day with their science teachers to complete work on their syllabus. Please note that Triple Science 1 & 2 will have the same opportunity on the next Extended Learning Day. Those students not involved in the above activities will be working with the Senior Leadership Team who will be offering an insight into effective revision techniques.

I would again like to remind parents that students must attend school in full school uniform. The school day will start and finish at its normal time.

Yours faithfully

Miss S Watts  
Head PSHCE and Extended Learning