

Filey School Newsletter



L.E.A.R.N

2nd May 2025

Issue 2

Highlights in this issue!

*Cyber Blue Line.
Working with the Police*



*Further interactions
with our Therapy Dog*



*Year 8 University
Visit*



*Future Sports
Leaders*



*Bradford Theatre
Trip - 30th April*



Science News

**Sparx
Science**



An introduction from the Headteacher

It's been a busy and positive start to the new term. Again, the range of experiences our students have taken part in in the last couple of weeks is impressive. To see so many young people getting involved in so many things, and really enjoying themselves, has been a privilege.

As you will see, students are working hard and being successful in their lessons. Being present in school all day, every day offers the best chance of success, so thank you for your support in encouraging your child to achieve 100% attendance.

Thank you, too, to those of you who attended Year 7 Parents' Evening. It was a lovely event and colleagues were very appreciative of the many positive comments they received during the evening and that were sent in the following day. Thank you.

Before our next newsletter is out, the full cohort of our Year 11 students will have started their GCSE exams. They have been working hard in lessons, attending intervention sessions and revising diligently at home. I'm sure you'll join me in wishing them all the very best.

Miss Pegg

Interim Head

Year 11 Masterclass dates

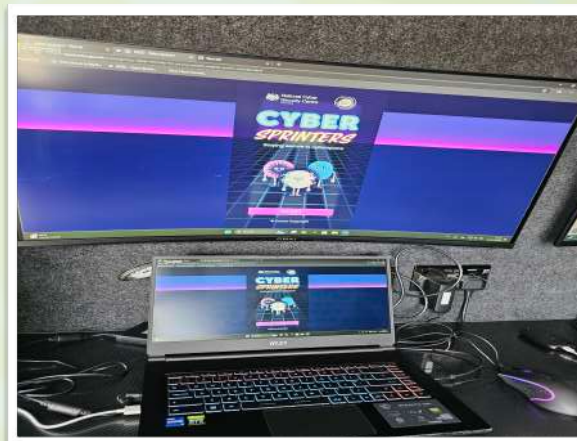
Date	Examination Masterclass - subject	Examination Masterclass - time	Exams AM	Exams PM
Friday 9 th May	Biology	8.40-10.40	English Literature	
	English Lit	13.10-15.10		
Monday 12 th May	English Lit.	8.10-8.40		
	RS	11.20-12.20		
Tuesday 13 th May	Spanish/History	14.10-15.10	Religious Studies	Biology
	RS	8.10-8.40		
	Geog	8.40-10.40	Geography	PE
	History	11.20-12.20		
Wednesday 14 th May	Geog	8.10-8.40	Maths	
	Sport	11:20-12.20		
	Maths	13.10-15.10	History	
Thursday 15 th May	Maths	8.10-8.40		
	History	13.10-15.10		
Friday 16 th May	History	8.10-8.40		
	Chemistry	13.10-15.10		

Students are introduced to the 'Cyber Blue Line'.

On Friday 25th April PC Olivia Jackson organised a fun educational afternoon at the school, bringing smiles to students faces! PC Olivia Jackson and PCSO Natalie Hayes from our Filey Neighbourhood Policing Team, joined forces with Cyber Blue Line to bring a unique learning experience right to our doorstep! Their high-tech van, fully equipped with computers, rolled onto school grounds and transformed into a mobile cyber education hub.

Students had the chance to hop inside and explore the digital world in a safe, fun, and educational way. Through interactive games and activities, they learned valuable lessons about cyber safety, including how to protect personal information, recognise online dangers, and use the internet responsibly.

It was a brilliant mix of fun and education—and a great opportunity for kids to engage with police officers in a positive, supportive setting. Huge thanks to Cyber Blue Line and our local police for helping to empower the next generation of digital citizens!



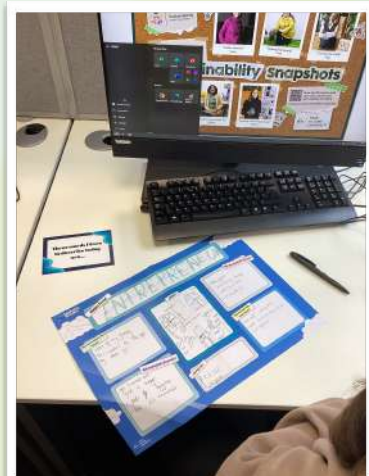
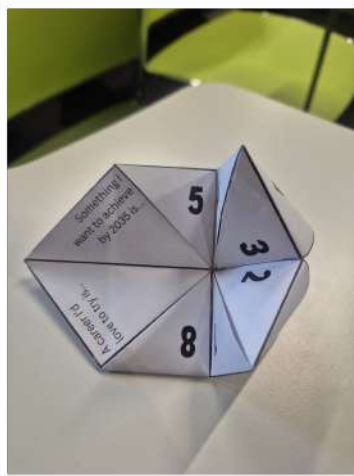
Year 8 visit to York St John University



Thursday 24th April

Our thanks to York St John University who welcomed a group of our Year 8 students for a campus visit this week. Students got to have a tour of the campus, research future career choices and learn about budgeting for adult life.

The trip was led by Mrs Rowland and accompanied by Mr Oakley. Students left school at the start of the day and had an amazing opportunity to spend time in this wonderful further education establishment!





Key Stage Four Sports Leaders



This week in Cambridge National Sport Studies, several students have been completing their leadership element. This involves creating a lesson plan for a selected sporting activity. The plan must take into account the organisation, safety and objectives of the activity. Then students must complete an effective risk assessment that takes into account safety considerations.

They must then lead a 40 minute session to their peers followed by an evaluation stating the strengths and weaknesses of the session.

Cambridge National Sport Studies is currently an option for our year 9 students who are looking to possibly follow a career in the sporting environment. Ask in the PE department for extra information if needed.



Leaders for the future!

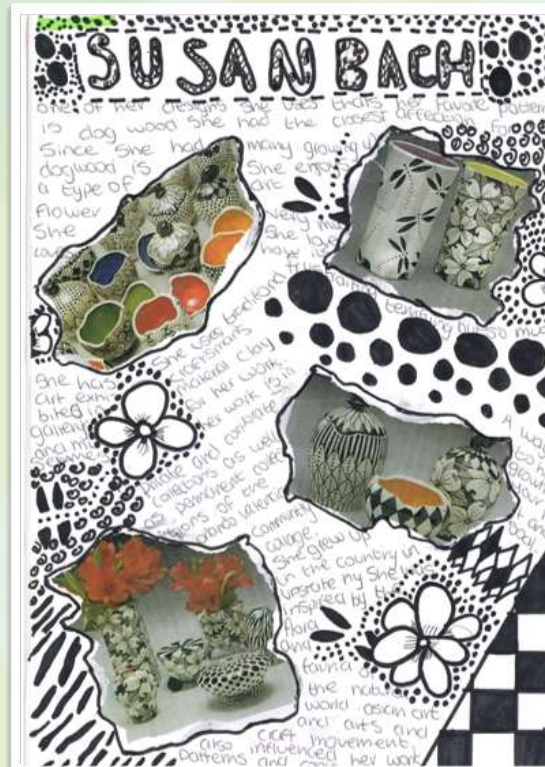
Fantastic Art Work from our Year 9 students.



Year Nine

Inspired by the artist Susan Bach, students have been developing their ceramic skills and learning about the coiling technique.

Amazing Art continued...



Key Stage Four Theatre Trip Bradford - 30th April



Key Stage Four students travelled today to the Bradford Alhambra Theatre to watch a touring production of 'An Inspector Calls'.

J B Priestly's play is one of the examination texts at GCSE. It was a fantastic production and was enjoyed by all. The students were a credit to the school and thoroughly enjoyed the day.

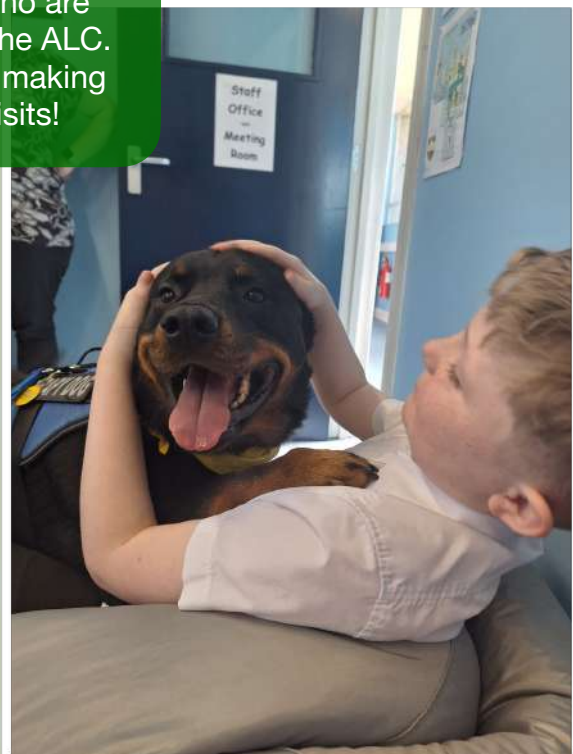
Many thanks to the staff that helped organise the trip and those that came with us today, to help support our students.



Another visit from Dempsey, our therapy dog.



As you can see from the pictures, Dempsey, our Therapy dog, is having a big impact on our students who are currently in the ALC. Dempsey is making weekly visits!



News from the Science Department



It has been fantastic to return to our Science laboratories for lessons. Over the first two weeks back, we've delivered approximately 30 practical or demonstration-based sessions, which is brilliant to see. I strongly believe in making Science real and hands-on — it's not just about learning facts but about experiencing scientific phenomena, developing practical skills, and learning how to present and interpret data. A big thank you to all the students who have been engaging enthusiastically, and to the team for organising and delivering these exciting lessons.



**Sparx
Science**

One area we are keen to further develop is home learning. In Science, we use an online tool called Sparx, which was introduced this academic year alongside Maths Sparx. Currently, only around 37% of students are completing their Science Sparx homework on a weekly basis.

Sparx homework is set every Wednesday at 9:00am and is due by 10:00pm the following Tuesday, giving students nearly a full week to complete it. Tasks typically take 15–20 minutes to complete.

Over the coming weeks, we will be placing a renewed focus on Sparx. We will be encouraging all students to complete their weekly assignments, and this may include messages home where students are not engaging.

Sparx is incredibly beneficial for students. It provides valuable recall and retrieval practice, which supports long-term memory development. This complements our in-class learning and can significantly impact final grades in Year 11. From experience, students who engage regularly with Sparx tend to be more involved in their learning and achieve better outcomes by the time they reach their GCSEs.

Please encourage your child to complete their Sparx homework each week. If there are any access issues or concerns about difficulty, don't hesitate to contact me directly or ask your child to speak with their Science teacher — we're here to help.

Starting on the 9th of May are our year 11 Masterclass lessons, these are 2 hour tailored focus lessons to help prepare our year 11 students just prior to their exam. Please encourage all year 11's to attend as they have proven to be very impactful in previous years.

Finally, it was a pleasure to meet so many Year 7 parents last week at Parents' Evening. Your enthusiasm and support were truly appreciated, and I look forward to meeting more of you at future events.

Mr M Young
Head of Science

Attendance Information for Parents / Carers - You can help!

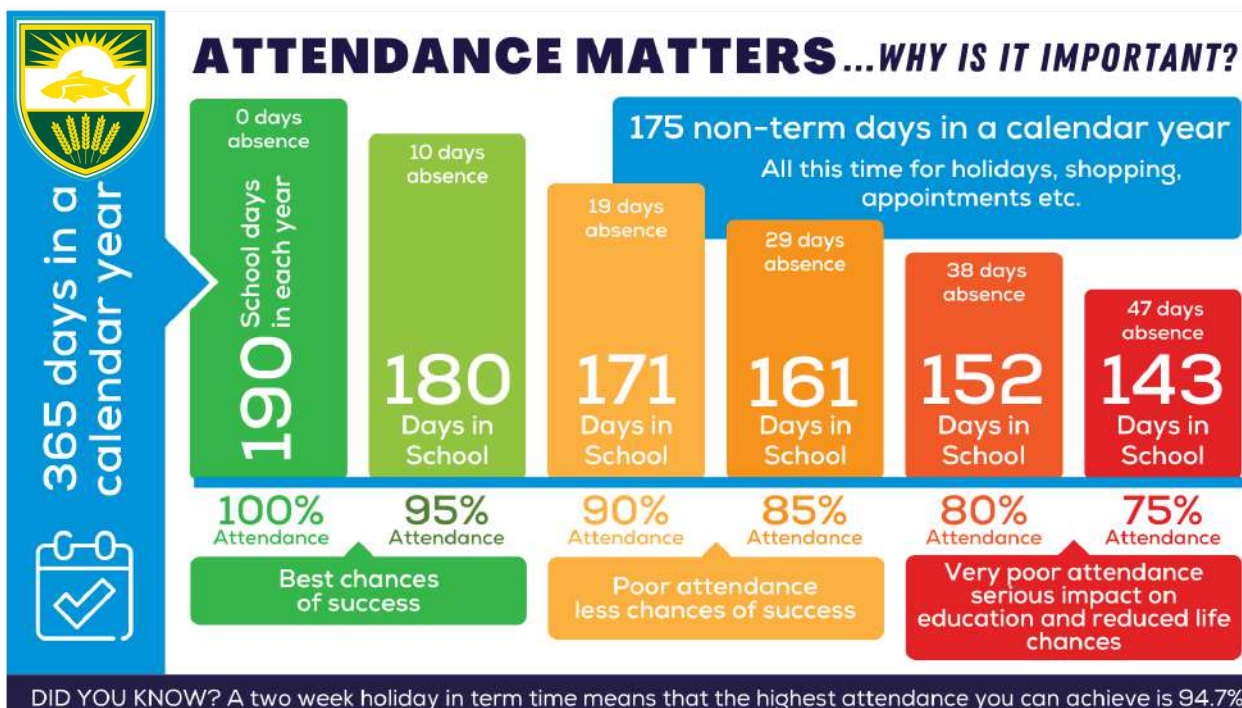


Attendance Matters!

We have a duty of care to ensure your child's safety as well as their regular school attendance.

If your child is going to be absent you must contact school before 9:10am every day your child is absent. Contact can be made via the MCAS mobile phone app, or by calling 01723 512354.

You can also email the school - m.herring@fi.coastandvale.academy.

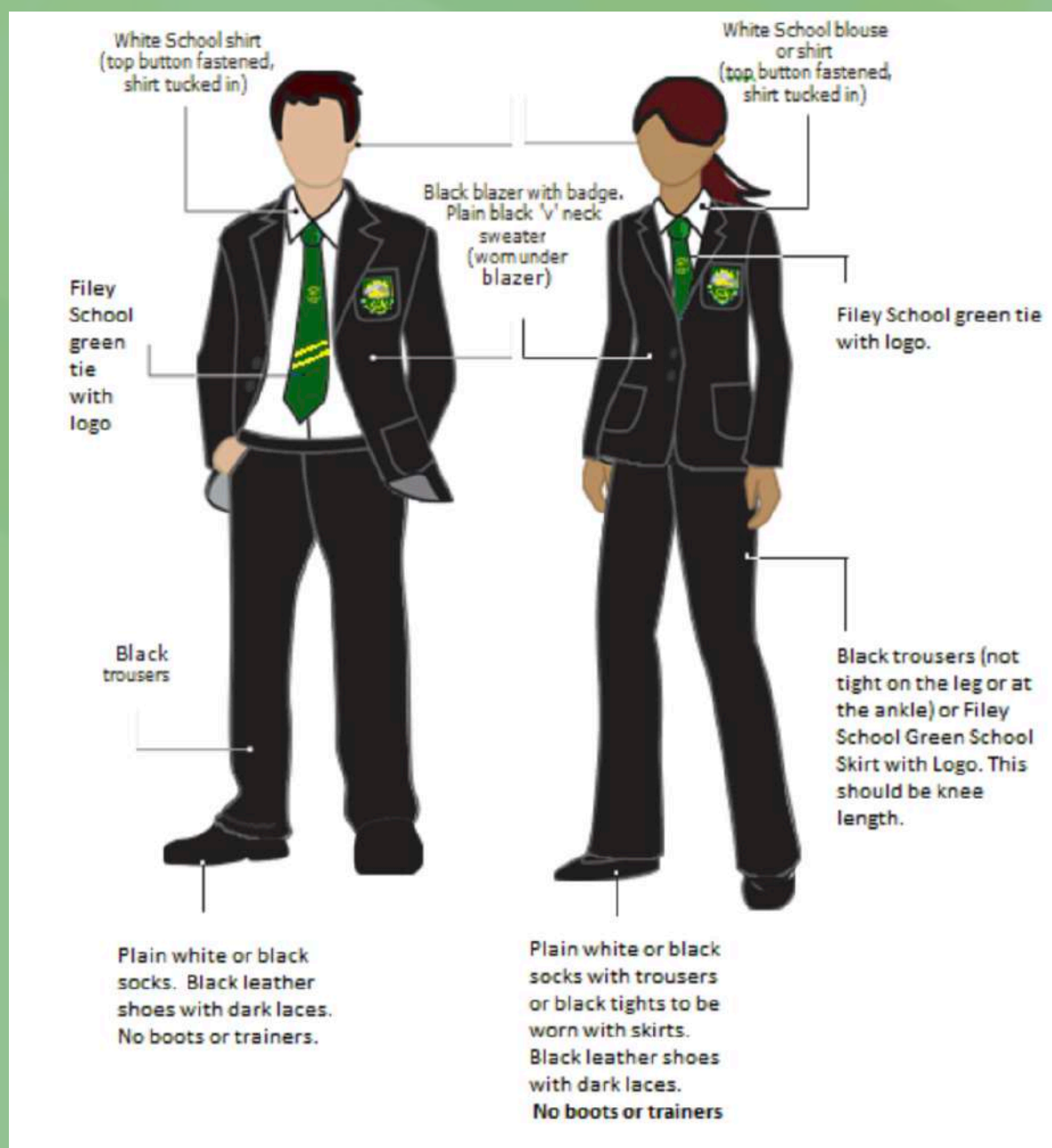


For safeguarding reasons, we operate a 48-hour visual policy during absences from Filey School when no contact has been made to the academy, by parents of guardians. Home visits may be conducted on day 3 of absence, if daily contact has been made to the academy. Home visits may be more frequent at the discretion of the Head of the School, Attendance team or safeguarding team. During home visits, a student must be visually seen by staff of Filey School. For safeguarding reasons, it may be necessary to request Police welfare home visits and / or social care support.



Wear it with pride!

Our School Uniform



- Hair must be unobtrusively styled and in naturally-occurring tones.
- Nail varnish is not permitted in school.
- Any make up used must be discreet (looking entirely natural). Excessive make- up will have to be removed.
- No false eyelashes of any description are permitted.
- One pair of small ear studs may be worn in the lower lobe. No other items of jewellery are allowed (i.e. necklaces, rings, bracelets, nose studs/rings, tongue studs or eyebrow studs).
- A watch may be worn, but smartwatches are not permitted.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MAKING FRIENDS ONLINE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

In today's digital world, it's increasingly common for children to form friendships with people they've never met in person. While online connections can offer children a sense of belonging, they also carry significant risks. Around 19% of children aged 10 to 15 in England and Wales have chatted online with someone they've never met face to face. This guide offers expert advice for parents and educators on helping children navigate online friendships safely.

ONLINE GROOMING THREATS

Predators can use games, chat apps or social media platforms to build relationships with children and gain their trust. This may quickly develop into grooming or exploitation. Between April 2017 and March 2023, UK police recorded nearly 34,000 online grooming offences – an 82% increase in just five years.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Children may encounter distressing or explicit material while interacting with online contacts – especially via TikTok, Instagram or Snapchat. This is evidenced in a survey by the Children's Commissioner for England, which found that 45% of children aged 8 to 17 had seen content online that made them feel uncomfortable, worried or upset.

PRIVACY AND DATA RISKS

Children and young people often overshare personal details – such as where they live or go to school – without understanding the consequences. In fact, 4.4% of 10 to 15-year-olds in the UK have met up in real life with someone they'd only spoken to online.

COMPROMISED PERSONAL SAFETY

Meeting an online 'friend' in real life risks placing a child in serious danger. From abduction to coercion, the consequences can be devastating. Reports of children being harmed after such meetings are becoming increasingly common in the UK, highlighting the need for safeguarding intervention.

PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS

Online harm – such as cyberbullying, grooming or exposure to disturbing content – can lead to long-term emotional issues, including anxiety, depression and PTSD. 'Sexortion' gangs, who threaten to release sexual information about a person unless they pay them money, have reportedly targeted children as young as 11, leaving them traumatised and ashamed.

LONG-TERM REPERCUSSIONS

Children exposed to harmful online relationships early on may develop unhealthy beliefs about relationships, consent, or self-worth. In a recent case, a 26-year-old posed as a girl on Snapchat to befriend children aged 10 to 18, manipulating them into sexual activity and causing profound emotional distress. One 12-year-old tragically died by suicide, highlighting the long-term psychological harm online friendships with strangers can cause.

26 FRIENDS ONLINE NOW

Advice for Parents & Educators

TEACH SAFE ONLINE HABITS

Help children understand how to use privacy settings, protect their personal information, spot fake profiles, and report anything suspicious or concerning, like pressure tactics. Encourage them to think critically about what they share – and whom they're talking to.

KEEP CONVERSATIONS OPEN

Let children know they can talk to you about their online life. Avoid reacting with anger or judgement, as this may prevent them from opening up in the future. A child who feels listened to is more likely to disclose problems before they escalate.

ENCOURAGE REAL-WORLD CONNECTIONS

Support children in building friendships through school, clubs, hobbies and activities in the real world. Strong offline relationships help reduce children's reliance on online platforms for social interaction, and can help them develop resilience and social confidence.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Parental control settings on devices, games and apps can help manage screen time, filter out inappropriate content, and monitor activity. While no system is perfect, they provide a valuable layer of protection as children explore digital spaces.

Meet Our Expert

Gabriella Russo is a safeguarding consultant with over 30 years' experience in supporting children, families, and adults across education, local authority, and mental health settings – both in the UK (including at Parliamentary level) and internationally.



The National College

