

EM WL 18.11.22

Dear parent/carer,

Anti-bullying week has been a great success in school this week, students have really engaged with the assemblies and activities which has been fantastic to see. We are finishing the week with Friendship Friday today by celebrating all of the friendships that are in our school.

Students have also been participating in House competitions this week – we have had over 400 letters written by our students for people in the local care homes. The letters are heart-warming to read, we are looking forward to being able to pass them on to residents. They have also been taking part in the Dodgeball competition that took place this week, all gaining points for their Houses.

We had a visitor to our school this week who is a headteacher at an outstanding school in Huddersfield to look at our behaviour systems in school. The feedback that we received was excellent, particularly commenting on how well our students conduct themselves and how calm and focused our school is. It was a very reassuring visit confirming what we already knew that we have brilliant students here at Birchwood.

As you may already be aware, year 7, 8 and 9 students will have knowledge and skills tests over a two-week period, which starts w/b 28th November. Most assessments will take place during this period however, there will be some exceptions where some subjects may conduct these slightly outside of this two-week period to best fit with their curriculum. Either way, your child's teachers will confirm when these are happening. This is nothing to worry about- this is a chance for students to show what they have learnt over the course of the year, so far, and for us to identify any areas of support that we can put in place. We have collated all revision materials for this on our website to support you and your child (in order to access the materials, you will need to login with your child's school email): <https://www.birchwoodhigh.org/ks3-winter-assessments-22/> If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Jones ([njones@birchwoodhigh.org](mailto:njones@birchwoodhigh.org)).

Please can we remind you to report your child's absence as soon as you know they will not be in school you can do this by using class charts (this can be done at any time) or call the school office. You need to do this each day of your child absence.

Have a lovely weekend when it comes.

Best wishes and take care,



Emma Mills

Headteacher