



GRINDON HALL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Nookside, Sunderland, SR4 8PG

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Principal: Mrs Joanne Maw

Key Dates

- KS1 Nativity performances – Monday 3rd December @ 9.30am, Tuesday 4th December @ 2pm
- KS2 Nativity performances – Monday 3rd December @ 2pm, Tuesday 4th December @ 9.30am
- 5th December – Rec – Y2 Christmas Parties (PM).
- 6th December @ 2pm Secondary Carol Service
- 6th December @ 1.30pm Reception stay and play session.
- 6th December – PTPA Event ‘A Christmas Carol’ Story Telling evening with author, actor and master story teller Chris Connaughton. A buffet will be provided and guests may bring a bottle. Tickets are £10 from the main office.
- 7th December – Y3 – Y6 Christmas Parties (PM).
- 14th December – Y11 Mocks begin.

Homework



We hope you know that working in partnership with parents is very important to us. Parents of secondary students will be aware that we

have invested in Show My Homework. This allows parents and students to see which homework has been set for each subject and when it is due.

We have improved our system this week to allow a text message to be sent to priority contact 1 to notify them if a student does not complete a piece of homework.

It may not surprise you to know that research evidence identifies that when homework is completed regularly, it can add between 5

and 8 months of progress to a child’s learning. We would like to make sure we support this extra learning for all of our young people!

Could we please ask parents to check which homework has been issued daily and to ensure your child completes it to the correct standard and by the deadline.

As always, we appreciate your support. (And even if the children may not at the moment, we are sure they will in the long term!)

Healthy Relationship Champions

In recent weeks staff from school have been working with representatives from **West End Women and Girls Centre; a healthy relationships charity** funded and supported by Dame Vera Baird QC, Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner and Virgin Money. Representatives from the organisation visited our secondary assembly on 27th November. During the assembly the leaders asked for female student volunteers to become ‘healthy relationship peer mentors.’ We were so overwhelmed with the positive response from that we have now had to draw ‘names from a hat’ in order to have manageable numbers for the group to work with. These students will now be trained to become Healthy Relationships Champions. They will begin their training programme during school time next week. Because of the very positive response, and because we don’t like to disappoint the students who were not picked, we will run our own internal training programme for girls who missed out this time, and any boys who want to be involved.

The Red Box Project comes to GHCS

The Red Box Project quietly ensures that no young person misses school because they have their period.

Working as a nationwide community, The Red Box Project seeks to provide free menstrual products for the young people in our local schools. We have received our red box and items are available in both Primary and Secondary school.

Primary Parents' Evening

Sincere thanks to all parents for taking the time to make appointments to discuss your child's progress. We were delighted to share the work that your children have been doing since the start of term. We hope you agree that they have been working incredibly hard and making excellent progress. If you missed the opportunity to get into school and would like to talk to your child's teacher, please make an appointment via the school office.

Careers Fair

We were delighted to welcome a huge number of visitors to our Careers Fair today. Children from y6 to y13 were invited to attend and asked some excellent questions, extending their learning about the huge variety of training and careers options available to them in the future.

Mrs Buchanan, who masterminded the whole event was delighted with feedback from staff and students. We were also incredibly proud to hear that every college/university/company commented on the excellent behaviour of the pupils at Grindon Hall. Miriam Jameson from the ASK project said "the behaviour of your students was impeccable; they were so polite" The Royal Navy said that they were really heartened by the good manners of so many of our students. On leaving, a member of staff from Newcastle College said "what lovely young people". We couldn't agree more!

Here is a collection of photographs taken at the event.





The Riot Act



On Thursday our year 8 & 9 students were treated to a performance by The Riot Act theatre company, in conjunction with schools GoSmarter programme. The performance aims to educate its audience on the benefits of sustainable travel, including independence, brain stimulation, reduction in traffic on the roads and saving money. The show encouraged students to think of the benefits of walking, cycling and travelling by bus or metro.



The Riot Act brought active and sustainable travel to life through performance, song and audience interaction. Some facts the students learnt included the fact that only 2% of 8.3 million students travel to school using a bicycle, twenty minutes of cycling burns 100 calories and is great for mental health and 25% of all car journeys are under 2 miles.

We all really enjoyed the show. The performers were excellent and the production was very cleverly put together to portray an important message about travelling sustainably to school. Now we hope the students put into practice what they learnt!

Primary Uniform

This is a gentle reminder for parents and carers of primary aged children about school uniform.

- Earrings must not be worn at school.
- Children should wear black school shoes and not trainers.
- Scarves should be school colours or black or grey.

Thank you for continued support.

Your views matter to us

We would really appreciate your feedback about some key areas of school life. Please follow this link, or scan the QR code below, to be taken to a very short survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/FPK32BK>



Wishing you and your loved ones every blessing over the coming week.