

Hello and welcome back after a what was hopefully a fun and refreshing break! I'm looking forward to seeing Form 3 seeing out this academic year, and celebrating all their achievements for the year, and ensuring the leavers this year end their St Nicholas' journey on a high and feel as prepared and excited as they can for their next steps in life.

Terms 5 and 6's timetable is again a very exciting one, and I look forward to continue to support the students in all of their endeavours, both known favourites and encouraging the trying of new things to expand their knowledge and interests. For the last two academic terms of this year, we have another work experience opportunity on the time table which takes place at an animal sanctuary where some students will have the hands on opportunity to learn how much work goes into looking after animals on a farm setting! Media has been a huge success so far and I can't wait to see the completion of their first project, and to see what they choose next!

I continue to encourage the students to become even more involved in shaping their own experiences, and in their last week before the break they chose their options, voted on the stories we will look at in literacy, choose the recipes they would like to cook so I have got all of that prepared and ready to get stuck in when returning!

In literacy, the students have chosen to look at the story of The Lion King. With this being set in Africa this will give the students excellent chance to learn about even more geographical locations. Our literacy lessons provide plenty of opportunities for even more cross-curricular activities that should capture the magic stories can bring!

In numeracy the students will continue developing their number skills, working with whole numbers up to 100. They will also be learning how to add, subtract and multiply small numbers to

begin to deepen their skills with money management and looking at different ways they might need to manage their own money and will put these skills into function use out in the community.

The students have selected their cookery recipes for the terms and are always excited to get in the kitchen! They have chosen to make Toad in The Hole with Victoria Sponge, Sausage Roll with Trifle, Burgers and Eton Mess, Spaghetti Bolognese and Victoria Sponge Cake, Chicken Nuggets and Chocolate Cupcakes and Lasagne and Apple Crumble.

For PE activities the class will be taking part in a daily walk and we will also be going cycling along the riverside in Toddler's Cove as part of an exciting accessible cycling offer now that the weather is hopefully improving!

PSHE these terms will continue to expand upon helping the students to make the most of leisure time, following daily routines and encourage safe and appropriate access of community spaces. The students will be looking at how they can safely navigate unfamiliar areas and will be accessing the community to facilitate this. The students will be choosing a local community facility, such as a café, library or museum to access regularly as part of their community engagement. There is always a focus on emotional wellbeing too, to make sure the whole student is well supported.

ICT continues to form a part of all the student's lessons and the students themselves will learn how to conduct research for their topics themselves, designing posters of their findings and understand and follow online safety rules and advice. The students will be focussing on understanding how to use ICT functionally and will be able to input and edit text. They will of course be having fun with ICT too – by taking part in some comprehension interactive quizzes and programming and using the karaoke system! I will introduce the class to my programming

• mouse and they will have fun making obstacle courses and learning how to code the mouse to navigate this.

• Makaton to Music will continue to study and teach songs that will be chosen by the students taking part. It is wonderful to be able to help the students expand their communication skills through these sessions, and to see all the students across the 6<sup>th</sup> form come together and have fun whilst learning those all-important communication and social skills that will serve the students for life. I am so pleased and proud of the progress the class made last term and have seen firsthand the students take their knowledge and implement and share this across the 6<sup>th</sup> form.

LEGO therapy sessions are coming back on this timetable and the students can again develop and learn social skills, language and communication skills in a different way.

The sixth form continues to offer many work experience placements as part of the timetable and students will get to choose to take part in these throughout the year. They can have the opportunity to work outside with plants at Muddy Wellies, do some wood work at Construction, serve customers at the Food With Friends Café and take part in a variety of activities during their community days which can help them learn more about opportunities they can explore for their future.

As the academic year ends, we will host a celebration for what the students have achieved and enjoying sharing these successes. The 6<sup>th</sup> form will have several weeks of fun and different opportunities away from the regular timetable such as a residential trip, a performance at the Marlowe Theatre and a week full of fun activities and trips to create a lasting positive memory for the end of the year. Form 3 have already told me we must go to the zoo! More details will be shared with you as plans are confirmed nearer the time!

- I look forward to seeing and sharing with you once again all the
- amazing things the students get up to for the last two academic
- terms of this year!

Charlotte