

XP Trust

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CEO of XP Trust: Gwyn ap Harri

Wednesday 20th December

Dear Parents,

We are now officially on the countdown to Christmas - with some great Presentations of Learning, Christmas events and term 1 data drops all taking place during the past couple of weeks. We have been overwhelmed with the support for our students during their PoLs.

Presentations of learning

Thank you to each and every parent, carer and friend of XP or XP East who have attended our Presentations of learning this week. I have been privileged to experience snippets of every single PoL this term, with our C30 students presenting to an audience their self composed folk songs as part of the expedition; 'From the Ground Up'. Our C27 students hosting a viking bazaar as part of their 'Raiders and Invaders' expedition, with viking stew and immersive stalls to embrace, C28 students showcasing their expedition learning from 'Another brick in the wall;' and finally our C29 students hosting their PoL to share learning from our 'Being Human' expeditions. I am sure you'll agree the character of our students shines through during Presentations of Learning where we saw them grow in confidence as they presented to audiences of between 100 and 200 people this week.

A reminder that any students who have not been part of PoL will still have the opportunity to present their learning to crew or the expedition teaching team to reflect on their learning over the past term, presentations of learning are integral to the work we do in the XP Trust. Each and every one are very important events for our students and for our school community.

As you know, at XP, we make our work public. One of the ways we do this is through PoLs as it enables students to grow their character and further embed their learning through presenting their work in front of a range of authentic audiences and in a variety of contexts. In addition, our expedition leaders are working with the comms team to ensure each of our Autumn term products lives outside of our school community. If you are able to support within your own workplace or community links to suggest places to showcase a recent expedition please let us know. You can email Mrs Salter with details to liaise directly with our comms team.

Bike Theft and Lock Reminders...

We have had a bike theft from school premises in recent weeks and 2 further attempted thefts. Luckily on the second and third visit all bikes were locked up with 'D Locks' which acted as a deterrent for the opportunists. We have shared CCTV footage with the police and have also obtained some smart ink pens which can be loaned from the XP office to add post codes and names to bikes as required.

A reminder that ALL bikes and scooters should be stored outside the front of XP School for both XP and XPE students, they must be locked up on the bars at the front of the school. The police advise 'D locks' - see the picture below.



All things musical



Dave Evans ran a series of awesome workshops for our Year 7 students with professional musicians! Our students improvised, created digital beats, sang and played the drums! This was a taster into lots of different music related experiences in the hope students will want to engage further within music as we plan our arts festival for the Summer.

We are hosting an information session about our 'kick start bands' project that will be open to all students who are interested in being in a band. This will run during the Spring term with an initial awareness session on Wednesday 20th December!

Student Led Conferences

Teachers and crew leaders have been updating data and moderating students' work in preparation for our termly academic snapshot. (C26 students should have had this information already and attended their student-led conferences).

The academic snapshots for all students in Y7-Y10 will be shared shortly after we return with further information about our Student Led Conferences, these will be held with crew leaders for C30 (Y7), C29 (Y8) and C27 (Y10) students. Our C28 (Y9) students will be using this information to inform their passage presentations which will be held later in the Spring term.

C26 (Y11) parents will be invited to 'Teacher Led Conferences' where students will delve deeper into the specific disciplines and reflect on their work to date alongside their subject teachers. This is a new addition to our GCSE offer that we are hopeful you will agree is appropriate for you to be able to support your children further at home with any additional revision or studies.

Take Part in the Extraordinary Earth Project

Thanks to Miss Jones for sharing this opportunity with students and parents this week - please check out the blog post for further information.

<https://xpschool.org/introducing-the-extraordinary-earth-project/>

Head Lice

We have had a case of head lice in school this week that has been reported by parents. Please can parents support students to treat any cases of headlice. Advice and guidance can be found at the link below.

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/skin-hair-and-nails/head-lice-and-nits/>

C30 Year 7 Crew Reboot

First week back for C30 will be dropped down in order to reboot relationships. Each day of the week will have a specific focus:

Get to KNOW...

Get to BUILD...

Get to BOND...

Get to PRACTICE...

Get to SHOW...

Students will be required to be in suitable footwear, with an outdoor jacket. This week will help us to rebuild relationships and set our norms ready for the new year.

Highlights from the past couple of weeks



A few additional highlights I'd like to draw your attention to from the past couple of weeks in school...

Our latest Trust publication 'Rail City' was launched at the amazing Doncaster Gallery, Library and museum – DGLaM.


It is also timely as 2023 is the Flying Scotsman's Centenary year, the iconic steam engine built here in Doncaster. Our thanks go to the team at DGLaM and the city council who have facilitated the launch and supported our work across the Trust. 'Rail City' will be on sale in DGLaM, the TIC and Waterstones in the Frenchgate Centre. The perfect present for anyone who loves rail, trains and local history. ([You can also purchase the book from our online shop!](#))

We continue to welcome delegates from all over the world to XP and XP East. Last week our friends and partners from the Wood Foundation in Scotland joined us once again with 25 teachers from schools in the Aberdeen area. Over two days they looked at Crew, expeditions and the bigger picture of what we do and how we do it. They even enjoyed a tour of our students' work in the heart of Doncaster.

Last but not least as you can see from the photograph with their Crew they also joined in with our charity Christmas Jumper day!



Crew Da Vinci have contributed to the Christmas Sign-along - please click the link below or check out our school blog to view their beautiful rendition of an all time Christmas great!

 [Merry XMAS - Crew Da Vinci](#)

Car Parking in Car Park 3

The system is now live and therefore it is essential you update any changes in car details with the office. Anything we already had and our system has been shared and should be absolutely fine. If you have received a fine please contact info@clubdoncaster.co.uk but also copy in the school office so they can assist if required. This will ensure any fines are addressed quickly as we no currently do not have a school log in for the system as we did previously.

End of term reminder

A reminder that the last day of this term is a Friday 22nd December and it is a 1.30pm finish. There will be no provision for students to stay in school after this time. This is to allow all staff to de-gunge the school ready for the new year.

On behalf of all of our XP Doncaster students and staff I'd like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 8th January.

As usual if you have any questions about your son or daughter please get in touch with your child's Crew Leader in the first instance or email general enquiries to office@xpschool.org or office@xpeast.org

Thanks

Mrs Clair Salter