

DUKE'S JOURNAL

IT'S ALL ABOUT YEAR 7



What a fantastic start with our new students!

Year 7 have made a brilliant start to their new school journey, we are proud of how well they've all settled in.

We wanted to share some updates with you in this special edition of Duke's Journal!

Keep up the good work, Year 7!





LETYOUR LIGHT SHINE...

A LEGENDARY START FOR 70SW2!

We're shining the spotlight on the wonderful Year 7 form class 70SW2 for achieving 98% attendance during their first few weeks at Duke's! They turned up, showed up and are the winners of this month's attendance competition.

70SW2 is a class to watch - Who will be the winners next month?!

98%
ATTENDANCE

STARS OF THE MONTH

These students have shone the brightest this month and have been nominated by their form tutors for showing great attitudes and effort consistently...

Darcie Mae B

Rory W

Jacob C

Ryan S

Ruby M

Ruby Leigh B

Harley H

Zach S

Kelsey P

Thomas D

Lillie Mae G

Hannah W

Kacey R

Laycee C

Alister S



YEAR 7 PE STAR OF THE WEEK

At Duke's Secondary School, we believe in celebrating effort as much as achievement - Our PE department has been choosing stand-out students to honour each lesson to receive a raffle ticket based upon 3 things:

EFFORT PERFORMANCE ATTITUDE

Each student who is given a raffle ticket will have their ticket put into the PE prize pot and a winner is chosen at random at the end of the week to

choose a prize from the PE lucky dip!









Well done to our amazing athletes for their hard work, dedication and positive attitude in lessons!

Amirah C	Lucas E
Mila M	Kayden P
Lily B	Logan M
Eva R	Charlie T
Amelia C	Thomas D



YEAR 7 FORM CLASSES

MRS WALKER -70SW2

What a fantastic start to Year 7 for 7OSW2! The group has shown enthusiasm, kindness, and resilience as they have adapted to new routines, classrooms, and friendships. We have been focusing on building good habits around punctuality, organisation, and respectful behaviour, and I encourage you to continue supporting these routines at home. Already, I can see many students growing in confidence, and I look forward to watching them continue to thrive.



Continuate of Sipper VOUTUBE GET THINGS

MRS FREEMAN - 7CUT2

I am so proud of 7CUT2 – they make me smile every morning! We start each day with a chat as they line up and our 'wiggle fingers' check. I love hearing their thoughts around the theme of the week, and they always keep me busy walking to Science – which we seem to do most mornings! The group has even named our class plant Ethan, after a class vote. I am really looking forward to getting to know everyone better and celebrating their achievements every fortnight.

MRS RICKWOOD - 70SW1

70SW1 have made an excellent start to Year 7. Students are eager to learn, work hard, and support one another. I have been particularly impressed with how quickly they have embraced new experiences and maintained fantastic attendance. It has been a real pleasure to see their positive attitude to school life, and I look forward to watching them continue to flourish across all areas this year.



MRS HENDERSON & MISS WHITE - 7ARC1

The students in 7ARC1 have made a fabulous start to the new school year. We've enjoyed singing, drawing, and plenty of kindness. As a group, we are reading Wonder, which the students are really enjoying. In maths, we've played some fun games, and in science, we've explored forces by working together to design adventure playgrounds – with some fantastic, creative ideas! We are so impressed with how confidently they have embraced life at a bigger school with lots of new faces. They have already achieved so much, and we are excited to see how far they go this year.



YEAR 7 FORM CLASSES

MS REGAN - 7HILD1

It has been an absolute pleasure to welcome 7HILD1 to Duke's. The group has embraced secondary school life with real enthusiasm, showing commitment to their learning and kindness towards one another. I am incredibly proud of how quickly and maturely they have adapted to this new chapter. Their growing confidence is wonderful to see, and I look forward to watching them thrive throughout the rest of the term.



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MR CADDIES-GREEN - 7CUT1

7CUT1 have settled into secondary school brilliantly. They have approached new routines with maturity, shown enthusiasm for their lessons, and built positive relationships with both staff and each other. Their kindness, respect, and eagerness to learn have already created a strong foundation for the year ahead. I am looking forward to seeing them continue to flourish and make the most of all the opportunities Duke's has to offer.

Mrs Nightingale-7HIL2

I'm delighted to be taking over from Dr Joicey as tutor for 7HIL2. Dr Joicey told me the students "brighten every morning with their energy, enthusiasm, and stories. They have shown great maturity in the way they support one another and overcome challenges – recognising that starting secondary school can feel overwhelming at times." This group has already made a wonderful start, and I am excited to get to know them all and to see what they achieve this year.



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MS ROBB - 7AID2

7AID2 have made a fantastic start to Year 7. They are quickly getting used to the routines and expectations at Duke's and working hard. As a tutor group we are getting to know each other and it's been lovely to see everyone's personalities starting to shine. We are working on our good habits for learning, getting to grips with google classroom and making new friends. I'm really proud of 7AID2 – starting secondary school is a big step, they are taking on the challenge and I'm looking forward to celebrating all the success that is coming there way!

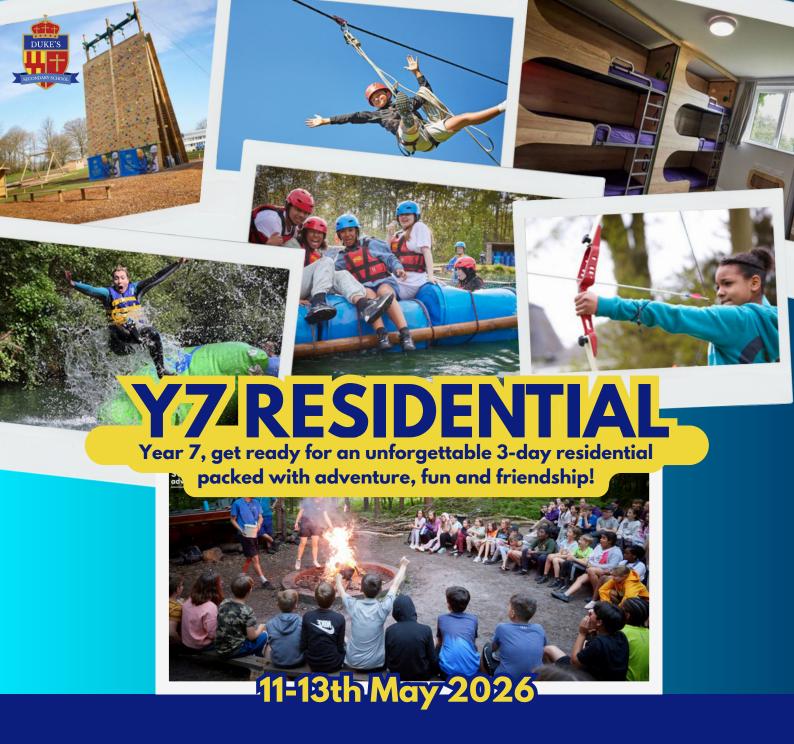


We are excited to offer our Year 7 students a fabulous opportunity to join us on an adventure! We are heading to North Yorkshire from 11th to 13th May 2026 and we'd love your child to join us.

PGL Newby Wiske Hall is a modern, purpose-built adventure and residential activity centre in North Yorkshire, designed to give children a safe, exciting, and supportive environment to grow in confidence, independence, and build teamwork. Formerly a police training HQ, the site has comfortable en-suite accommodation, spacious dining areas, and over 30 acres of grounds packed with activities like climbing, archery, zip wires and even an Aqua Park.

With experienced staff, 24/7 supervision and a focus on personal development, Newby Wiske offers an unforgettable experience that helps children build resilience, make new friends and return home with new skills and lasting memories.





What's included?

- Over 30 acres of exciting activities e.g. Climbing, Zip-wire, Archery, Aqua Park.
- Full-board, evening entertainment, 24/7 supervision.
- Includes all meals (except lunch on day 1), activities, equipment, insurance & accommodation (en-suite bunk pods)
- Chance to build confidence, independence, resilience and teamwork

See email sent for all details on how to secure your place.









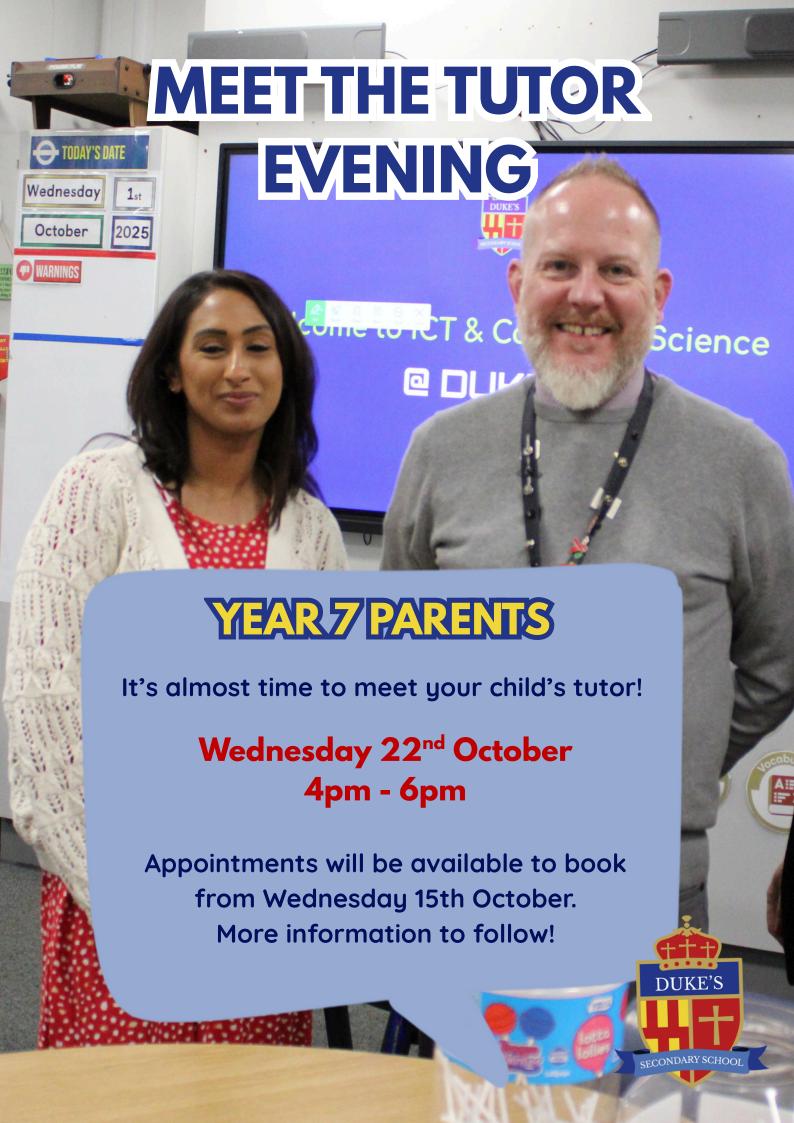
PHONE FREE LEARNING



At Duke's Secondary School, all year 7 pupils must hand their mobile phones in during tutor time in the morning.

They are stored securely and returned at the end of the day. Any student who doesn't wish to hand their phone in should leave their phone at home.

If a student is found to have not handed their phone in, it will be confiscated and they will receive a detention.





Festive fun is on the horizon...

Your child is invited to join us on the

12th December to see the fantastic Pantomime

Jack and the Beanstalk.

More details on how to secure a place is to follow!



DUKE'S SECONDARY LIGHT VALUES



Your child is earning Light Value Points in their lessons and in other aspects of school life.

Please ask them about our LIGHT Values and what they did to achieve their points.

What have you done today to 'LIGHT up Duke's?



Be kind, be respectful and show empathy.



We make sure
everyone feels
welcome here and
celebrate difference.



Do what's right.
Treat others the same
way you would like to
be treated.



Believe in yourself, never give up and aspire to be the best you can be.



Be honest and true to yourself. Take responsibility for your actions.