

14 January 2025

Dear Parent and Student

Congratulations go to:

- The following Lower School pupils who have achieved their **Bronze Merit Award**:

Ryan Mason 7T	Munmun Deb Nath 8C	Frankie Bee 8S
Florence Jacques 8S	Renosh Thayaruban 8T	
- The following Middle School pupils who have achieved **25 Merits**:

Barnaby Wood 9C	James Chapman 9S	Amelia Beaumont-Heyes 10S
Isaac Crowther 10S	Mason Blades 11S	Bryony Boston 11S
- The following Lower School pupils who have achieved their **Silver Merit Award**:

Summer Finley 7C	Janu Kankanamalage 7C	Layla Drake 7S
Beatrix Welch 7S	Finlay Cone 7T	Oliver Gorman 7T
Hunter Rodwell 7T	Treasure Babalola 8C	Henry Cross 8C
Charlie Jeffery 8C	Rose Brooks 8S	Poppy Chapman 8S
Edward Laverack 8S	Lani Willows 8S	Aiden Bloodworth 8T
Penny-Rae Hunt 8T	Jacob Tee 8T	
- The following Middle School pupils who have achieved **40 Merits**:

India Elsom 9C	Connor Finley 9C	Rihanne Mawer 10C
Kirsten Richardson 10C	Ashley Pegg 10T	
- The following Lower School pupil who has achieved their **Gold Merit Award**:

Mya Kidd 8C		
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- The following Middle School pupils who have achieved **60 Merits**:

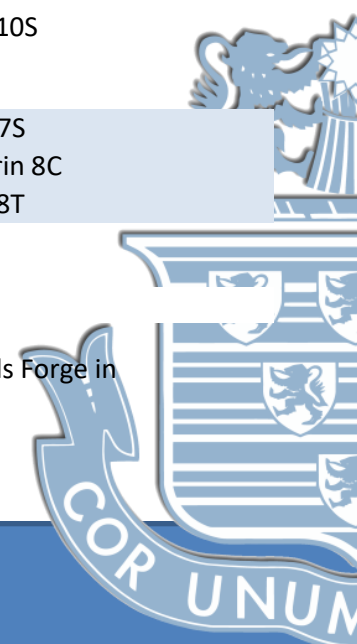
Holly Reeson 9C	Megan Grant 9T	Laura Rudd 10S
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- The following pupils who have attained **Departmental Subject Colours**:

Art	Sara Awwad 7C	Layla Drake 7S
	Hunter Rodwell 7T	Hannah Perrin 8C
	Gracie Bird 8T	Ellie Burrell 8T
- The following pupil who has attained their **Subject Leader's Commendation**:

Mathematics	Ruby Tildesley 13S
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- Freddie Price 8S competed at Derby Excel Level 1 Meet at the international pool at Ponds Forge in Sheffield, achieving a Silver Medal in 50m front crawl.



Well done
Freddie on
your
achievement!



Year 10 Parents' Evening is this evening from 4.30 pm to 7.30 pm. **Y11 Parents' Evening** is on **Thursday 23 January**, appointment sheets have been distributed to students; a copy is attached.

A further reminder that the **Year 9 MenACWY & Td/IPV vaccination programme** is on **31 January**. Please remember to give consent for your child to be vaccinated by following the instructions in the attached letter.

We are currently looking to appoint **Exam Invigilators**. Further details including an application form can be found on our website under [Vacancies](#).

Saturday School got off to a good start being well supported by our Y10 and Y11 students, please do come along and join in.

Cor unum, via una



Mr G Thompson
Headteacher



NHS

Keeping your child protected

MenACWY, DTP & HPV Vaccines in schools

From the Archives'

From time to time, we will include an excerpt from our school archives, which I hope you will find of interest and will enable our current students and families to connect with our school's past. If you have any past information you would like to share, it would be gratefully received to add to our archives.

The cold spell of weather has brought to mind a poem written by one of our students over a half a century ago, which I thought I would share with you. P J Baker captured winter in his words and was a pupil at the school until 1953. He achieved his General Certificate in Education and received the State Scholarship and Lindsey Senior Scholarship and attended Worcester College, Oxford where he achieved a BA Honours in Modern Foreign Languages. Perhaps it was the Paris Trip in 1951 (he is pictured far right on the back row) that inspired his love of MFL. Whilst at the school he was published again in the Alfordian with a piece about this trip and in 1953 about his experience of visiting Oxford for the first time. During his senior years in the school, he was a prefect and represented the school as part of the football and cricket 1st XI; the latter of which he was known as Peter 'Spiv' Baker. Any information anyone has regarding Peter in his later life would be much appreciated, as would any articles or materials you may have and would like to share with us to add to our archives.

Winter

Winter, though art much maligned;
How can people be so blind
To all thy beauty?
The snow-cloak of the icy king
Does but share the blooms of spring.
The lazy snow comes drifting down
Giving beauty to the grimy town.
The cobwebb'd hedges, chased in frost,
Each tiny twig perfection holds
A glittering tracery that is lost
In summer or in spring.
Winter is but the stepping-stone to spring,
When all things must rest
Till the birds again shall sing
And fly, and build their nest.

P J Baker (Alfordian 1950)

Paris trip 1951

