

# Conyers



# School

## February 2023

**Dear Parents, Students and Friends,**

As the holiday approaches, it is wonderful to be able to reflect upon what has been a very productive and successful half term. Students in Years 11 and 13 have received their trial examination results and begun their build up for the final examinations in May and June. Preparations are underway to ensure that each student builds upon what has gone well and addresses any particular concerns that have arisen. As such our CLASS sessions for Year 11 and additional revision sessions for Year 13 are well attended and much appreciated.

As the end of their time at Conyers approaches, the attention of Year 13 students has been sharply focused on destinations with university applications submitted and offers coming in. Those seeking apprenticeships are in the process of applying and CVs are being polished for those seeking employment. In Year 11 each student has received a post 16 interview in which options for post 16 education are explored. These interviews are a wonderful opportunity to celebrate successes and explore exciting plans for the future.

One of the keys to success is excellent attendance and punctuality, as we know that those students who maintain attendance of above 95% significantly increase their chances of achieving their target grades. We are working hard with all students to help them maintain good attendance and providing support where this is proving difficult.

This term we launched our new rewards scheme Conyers Aspirations in which students are rewarded for meeting our expectations, working hard, producing excellent work and embodying our school motto Perseverando.

We continue to place a 'Spotlight' on the brilliant work that has been happening in classrooms across the school and enjoy taking time to celebrate that wonderful work and outstanding effort. Look out for Spotlight stickers on books and iPad cases which celebrate excellent work and effort. Not forgetting Hot Chocolate with the Head, the reward for all other students across the school who are working hard and exceeding expectations. It is always the highlight of my week.

Have a wonderful half term break we look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 27 February, 8.50 a.m.

## Conyers Aspirations Programme 2023

As part of our positive rewards culture, we have introduced our new 'Conyers Aspirations Programme.' This programme recognises the hard work and effort of all students, based upon the number of positive behaviour points students receive, both within and beyond the classroom. Students are awarded with an 'aspirations award' in the form of a coloured badge. Badges are issued half-terminally, after students earn a set number of positive behaviour points across their entire lifetime at Conyers. Each half term, badge holders will be entered into prize draws with the chance to win a series of amazing recognition and reward prizes. The ultimate aim is for students to collect, wear and proudly display as many coloured badges as possible, leading to the most prestigious 'Conyers Perseverando Pin' which awards students for receiving over 2000 positive behaviour points.

We have made a great start to the programme, with over 65 badges already awarded! Additional students, who have reached a badge milestone, will receive their award after half term.



# Celebrating Achievement

## Headteacher's Commendation

Awarded to:

Archie Bell 10E for your calm demeanour and helpful attitude when a classmate fell ill. We thought you were brilliant!

## Hot Chocolate Awards

Year 10: Alfie Spicer, Niamh Pattison, Elliott Holt, Polina Kleiman and Phoebe Warren.

Year 11: Alice Thorp, Katrina Robbins, Grace Love, Jacob Atkin and Francis Bates.

Year 12: Thomas Yale, Yisha Mi, Elliot Desage, Tegan Reed-Kirby and Gracie McEnaney.

Year 13: Izzy Harris, Arif Ali, Layla Partington, Leon Mason and Khadeejah Al-Amiri.

Year 7: Maddie Carroll, Jack Kirtley, Tom Yates, Olivia Sangster, Sofia Robinson and Leo Hunter.

Year 8: Ryan Salahshouri, Olivia Lister, Miruna Marina, Megan Henderson-Thynne, Joseph Fletcher and Leo Ngorima.



## Preloved Uniform

Our Preloved Uniform scheme has continued to be a huge success across Conyers this year, helping so many of our families. Lots of parents and students have donated items of uniform and PE kit, which no longer fit or are no longer needed. If you have any donations or are struggling to purchase a uniform, please contact Mrs McLean at [kmclean@conyers.org.uk](mailto:kmclean@conyers.org.uk) and we try to help where possible and always appreciate and welcome donations. The Preloved scheme is not only a way of helping families who are struggling financially but is an extremely environmentally friendly scheme - helping with landfill issues.





#### Spotlight on... Year 10 Engineers!

Our engineers were so engaged today in the James Dyson Foundation project. The project is aimed at inspiring the next generation of skilled engineers, with the Dyson Foundation website estimating that 1.8 million more engineers and technically qualified people needed in the UK by 2025!

Our students were working incredibly hard with Mr Jones on a series of complex practicals designed to give our budding young engineers real life experience of the kinds of things they would be doing in industry. I was blown away with the engagement, the focus and the skills on show here - hats off to you Year 10, absolutely brilliant work.



#### Spotlight on... Year 8 English

Mrs Dalgarno's Y8 students investigated the murders of the 'Princes in the Tower' as part of their Richard III studies today. They looked at primary source evidence from the time, filled in reports and came to a conclusion.

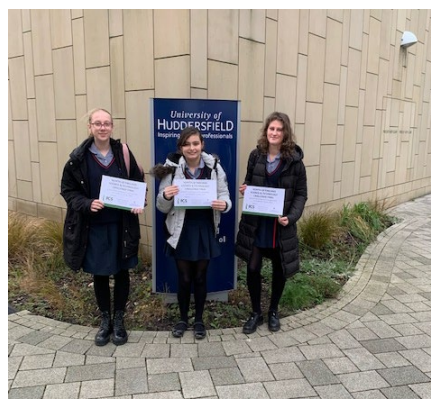
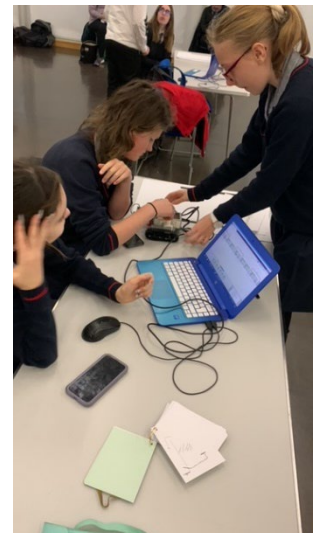
## Robotics

In January, three of our Year 9 students, Alarnee Cassar, Ella-Mai Dezilva and Megan Pickering took part in a robotics national stem final against nine other schools in the country at Huddersfield University.

The students had to plan and program their robot to complete a course and create certain outputs along the way.

Unfortunately we didn't place but the students were utterly phenomenal! They worked nonstop all day and were an absolute credit to the school, even with a faulty sensor and a battery malfunction they battled through without being phased.

One of the professors came up to us as we were leaving and said that they were the most gracious team.



# E-safety at the Primaries

Conyers Computing department visited Kirklevington Primary school to teach a session on E-safety to a group of Year 2 and Year 3 students to help develop them into E-safety Warriors. The session was filled with a range of fun activities, which helped deepen students' knowledge on the potential dangers that they may face whilst online, and the preventative measures that can be taken to protect themselves and their families. To help run the session Mr Rushworth also took four of our hardworking Year 9 computing students along, who proved a big hit with the primary, helping to engage and motivate them when working on a range of exciting activities! We look forward to running more E-safety sessions in the future!



## English

This term Year 11 have had the opportunity to attend the Poetry Live show in York. They saw Simon Armitage, Carol Ann Duffy, Imtiaz Dharker and John Agard performing their poems, talking about them and answering questions. It was a fun and informative day and the students did us proud. Lucky Year 11s have also been gifted a detailed revision programme with masses of practice papers to do over the coming weeks. If you are a parent of a Year 11 student, ask them to show you all their work.

## Holocaust Memorial Stones



Students have been working hard decorating stones as part of Holocaust Memorial Day in January. They have been learning and thinking about the holocaust before designing the stones which will become part of a larger collection.

## Holidays are Fun Sessions

All school age children from reception class to Year 11 who live in Stockton-on-Tees and are in receipt of benefits-related free school meals are eligible to take up a place for holiday activities, including a meal over the February half term holidays.

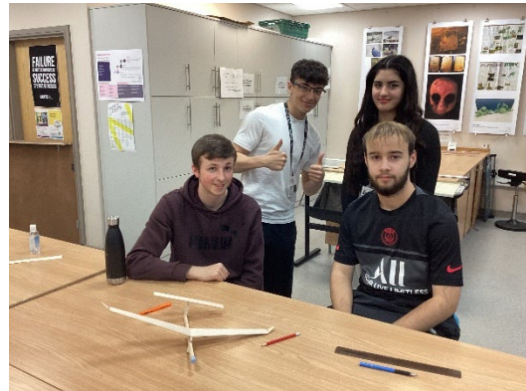
For further information and to book a place, go to [www.stockton.gov.uk/HAF](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/HAF)



# Maths

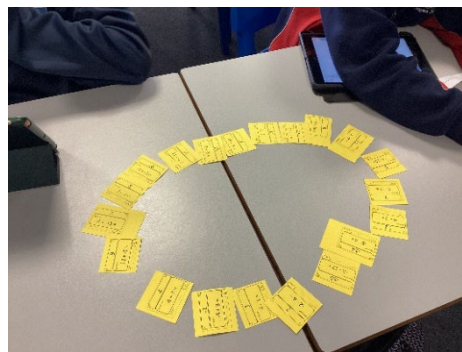
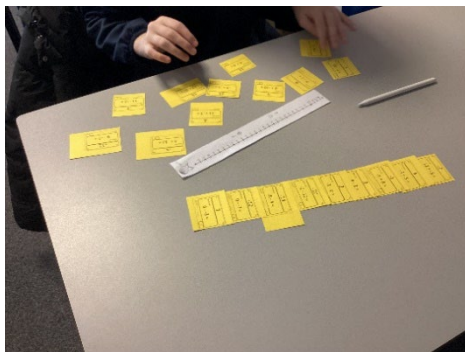
At the end of December, two groups of Sixth Form students took part in the Aviation Challenge at Hartlepool College.

Representing Year 13 were Nathan M, Sami K, Roojan S and George G. Very well done to the Year 12 team - Joe W, Essah K, Shritan S and Anandita A, who came second overall.



More recently, a group of 100 students from across Years 9, 10 and 11 took part in the Intermediate Maths Challenge, which is run every year by UKMT. This required students to complete a selection of challenging questions that encourage students to develop mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems.

The theme for Focus Day 3 was resilience and team building; one of the activities that Year 7 students were set was about Codebreaking. As well as finding out about some of the history of code breaking, they got to make and use Caesar Ciphers – this was a challenge that some students found confusing at first but, through perseverance, they got the hang of it and were soon enjoying decoding complex problems. For Year 8 there was a code-breaking trail around school, and students in Year 10 were also set some challenges; well done to Grace F and Hanna D who successfully completed the Super Challenge set by Mrs Dixon! In lessons, students continue to work hard tackling many different activities on their iPads as well as completing hands on tasks like the negative numbers card sort below:



On top of the amazing work tackled in lessons, some of our most able Year 11 students have been getting a taster of advanced maths topics such as factor theorem and matrix transformations. The group meets on a Wednesday lunch time in 320 with Mrs Beer.

Other students have been engaging in weekly parallel challenges - these are a range of activities, puzzles and problems that investigate the mystery and history of maths. A big shout out to Tyler G (Year 7) and Luca P (Year 8), who have been attempting these each week.

Keep up all the great work everyone!

# Youth Climate Change Event

The Student Parliament arranged for the Bright Minds Big Futures group to come in and discuss the launch of a Youth Climate Coalition across the Teesside area.

This followed on from the Question Time event on the environment at Conyers School in November.

Neil Mitchell, the Head of Environment, Leisure, and Green Infrastructure at Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, spoke passionately about what the council and schools can do to reach the net zero target by 2032.

This may prove challenging for our region given the industries that have been established in our area. For this reason, we need to get creative and look for ways to reduce our carbon footprint. Some suggestions from students from schools that attended included:

- Walking to school as the weather is getting better.
- Parents turning off their car engines if waiting to pick up their child.
- More students bringing in their own reusable water bottles rather than buying disposable ones every day.

The event was a success and Heads of the Climate Committee of the Student Parliament Daniel Sauron and Joe Fixter are currently looking at pragmatic ways to reduce Conyers impact on the environment. These include encouraging students to bring in their own bottles as well as looking at ways to limit the use of single use plastics.

An interesting fact: According to some estimates if bees were to disappear, we would have four years to live on the planet.



# Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

This half term has seen the training for the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award study take a step outside for the first time with the current cohort. They have been working incredibly hard in the classroom working on their route planning, distance measuring and route card, and have finally been able to take what they have learnt in the classroom and see it come to fruition out in the open spaces of the North Yorkshire Moors. The groups planned and executed with great success a route starting and finishing at Guisborough Forest and Walkway Visitor Centre taking in Hutton village and Roseberry Topping along the way. The next walk will see the group exploring a different location but with equally spectacular views. Well done to everyone that took part and completed the training walk. A special thanks to the following staff for giving up their time to help train the students: Dr. Lodge, Mr. Taylor, Mrs Cousin-Dawson, Mr. Black, Mrs Nicol, Mr. Brown, Mrs. Wheeldon and Miss Harris.



# Science club

This half term the science club have been taking part in a forensic science project. Science club members have been looking at fingerprint analysis to identify a murder weapon, identified the pen of a murder note using chromatography and analysed witness statements. After half term topics that will be investigated are, using microscopes to identify fibre samples found at a crime scene, using flame tests to identify a metal found on the victim's clothing and testing the pH of soil samples taken. If you would like to join in with these activities, speak to Miss Crosby, Miss Armstrong or Dr Hallam. We are always looking for enthusiastic scientists of the future and ideas of what to investigate next.



Learning to sing or play an instrument is one of the most rewarding and enjoyable activities a young person can do. It is widely recognised that studying Music helps develop a wide range of skills and abilities that benefit the student both academically and emotionally. This is especially true for students who participate in ensembles such as bands and choirs.

## **New Starter Offer**

In addition to only being £20 for the first half term, we are offering free loan of brass, woodwind or string instruments for anyone having lessons. Please email [gomusic@conyers.org.uk](mailto:gomusic@conyers.org.uk) for an enrolment pack to take advantage of this fantastic opportunity.

@gomusicconyers on Twitter.

## **Assisted purchase**

We recommend that any student who has passed their grade 3 invests in their own intermediate instrument. The best way to do this is through our assisted purchase scheme where the cost of the instrument can be spread to the end of the academic year and the instrument can be bought without having to pay VAT. For more information please email [gomusic@conyers.org.uk](mailto:gomusic@conyers.org.uk)

Twitter: @gomusicconyers (more pictures, and videos!)

email: [gomusic@conyers.org.uk](mailto:gomusic@conyers.org.uk)

# Help for Our Families

## Household Support Fund

[www.stockton.gov.uk/household-support-fund](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/household-support-fund) has information about additional support that is currently available to a wide range of low-income households and how to apply for it.

## Cost of Living Support

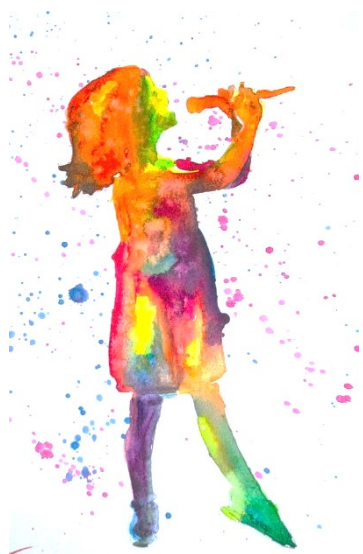
[www.stockton.gov.uk/cost-of-living-hub](http://www.stockton.gov.uk/cost-of-living-hub) has information on the benefits, advice and support available to you to help you through the cost of living crisis.



*Go*  
**Music**  
*Conyers*

*Showcase*

6.30pm – 7.30pm  
Conyers School Hall  
Tickets £5 per family  
gomusic@conyers.org.uk



*Vocals: March 29th*



*Piano & Strings: March 8th*



*Guitar & Drums: March 22nd*



*Woodwind & Brass: March 15th*

*Want to perform? Speak to your Music teacher or email gomusic@conyers.org.uk*



# Social Media

We celebrate the successes of our students on social media so follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

Conyers School and Sixth Form  
5 d · 🌐

Well done to the U13 girls football team who continue their unbeaten run in the league with an outstanding victory over OLSB



Conyers School and Sixth Form  
31 January at 14:42 · 🌐

It's been a great start to the new year for Year 13 students. January has been filled with exams, revision and lots of fun. Our Focus Day supported students in being ready for their next steps. They developed their cooking skills and they developed an awareness of the potential dangers around them.

Ahead of the run in to the end of the year, they explored the importance of sleep and for those with final exams looming, they created effective revision plans.



Conyers School and Sixth Form  
6 d · 🌐

Year 8 and 9 students are making excellent progress on the slopes of Arinsal, Andorra. Check out <https://twitter.com/ConyersPE> for more photos and videos of this week's ski trip



Conyers School and Sixth Form  
25 January at 13:05 · 🌐

Our 3rd Focus Day is underway with the theme of Perseverance! Year 7 have been taking part in team building challenges.



## Calendar Dates

Friday 17 February

Monday 20 to Friday 24 February

Monday 27 February 8.50am

Tuesday 7 March

Monday 13 March

Monday 20 to Thursday 30 March

Thursday 23 to Friday 24 March 2023

Friday 31 March 3.40pm

Monday 17 April 8.50am

Monday 1 May

Monday 8 May

Monday 15 May to Wednesday 28 June

Monday 15 to Friday 10 May

Tuesday 16 May

Monday 22 to Friday 26 May

Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June

Monday 5 to Friday 9 June

Tuesday 13 June

Monday 19 to Friday 30 June

Monday 3 June

Tuesday 11 July

Tuesday 18 July, 2.30pm

Students finish for the half term holidays

Half term

Students return after the holidays

Year 13 subject consultations

Year 12 subject consultations

Year 11 MFL speaking mocks

Year 11 English and Maths trial exams

Students finish for the Easter holidays

Students return after the holidays

Bank Holiday, school closed

Coronation Bank Holiday, school closed

GCSE/A Level/CNAT/BTEC L1/2/3 exams

Year 8 exams this week

Year 10 subject consultations

Year 7 exams this week

Half term

Year 9 exams this week

Year 8 subject consultations

Year 10 trial exams and Year 12 end of year exams

Year 11 into Year 12 Sixth Form Transition Day

Year 7 subject consultations

Students finish for the summer holidays, buses early



## TRAMPOLINING



**Ages**  
5 - 18 yrs

**£5 per session**

**Fridays**  
4:30-5:30pm | 5:30-6:30pm

To book please contact  
GoSport@conyers.org.uk | 01642 790296



## BOOTCAMP

faster . stronger . fitter

30 minute HIIT class

Thursday 23rd February  
7:15-7:45pm  
CONYERS (in the gym)  
4 week course £20



Bookings: [www.EaglescliffeRunningGroup.com](http://www.EaglescliffeRunningGroup.com)

## Primary Badminton



**Every Tuesday (Term time only)**  
**5:45pm—6:30pm**  
**Year 3 & 4**  
**£3.00 per session**

**No equipment needed.**  
**Shorts and laced trainers essential.**



Contact Go Sport on:  
01642 790296  
or  
[gosport@conyers.org.uk](mailto:gosport@conyers.org.uk)



### NEW!! YOGA CLASS

Starting 1st March Wednesday 7-8pm

Find balance and inner peace with Nicky in her new yoga class starting on the 1st March in the Activity Studio at Go Sport.

In this vinyasa flow yoga class you will move through a sequence of postures, stretches and relaxation, suitable for all levels of ability. Yoga is potentially life changing. Enjoy all the amazing benefits of a regular practice: increase flexibility; reduce aches, and pains; increase bone and muscle strength; improve sleeping patterns; reduce anxiety and lots more!

Sign up now and awaken your mind, body, and spirit with yoga with Nicky.

For more information and booking:

[Dragonfly1@outlook.com](mailto:Dragonfly1@outlook.com)  
[www.nickydragonflyyoga.com](http://www.nickydragonflyyoga.com)