

Achievement Assembly!

Let's Celebrate good times!

On Friday 22nd October we saw the return of our Celebration Event at school. It was so lovely to see families, carers and representatives from mainstream schools celebrating together the successes of all our young people.

Awards were given for Attendance, Academic and personal achievements. Students received Attendance Awards for 100%, 95% and most improved. A lucky family was also rewarded at the event with a shopping voucher for supporting attendance – Every day really does count!

Group 5 were the well-deserved winners of the Group Attendance Award and will be heading towards the Bowling Alley as their chosen reward.

As we head towards another celebration event to end this half term it is always a pleasure to plan and prepare the assemblies to showcase our school and extend a warm welcome to our Ethos Family.



National SMSC Quality Mark!



I am delighted to inform you that, as a result of the recent verification visit, Ethos College has been awarded Gold level of the National SMSC Quality Mark and this has been confirmed by the Quality Assurance Panel. I would like to offer particular thanks to Jax who showed me around school and Janie who talked to me so confidently. They illustrated perfectly what your school does for its pupils in terms of personal growth, care and personalisation. Thanks are also due to Janet, Stephen and Gary who all gave their time so willingly to talk so passionately and emotionally about the life changing work your school does, I very much appreciate the very personal accounts they gave of how their children and families had been positively affected by the understanding and empathy show to them by every member of the school community. I very much enjoyed hearing about the trustees' vision for Ethos College and the three aims for future developments; I think Gary summed up your school when he said that Ethos is 'more than a school'.

I congratulate Ethos College on the Gold standard of SMSC development that is afforded their pupils and Young Citizens will be discussing with the school which aspects of their provision can be shared with other schools.

Cruelty of Climate Change!

The 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the parties held in Glasgow this year, has inspired some touching narratives written by some of our GCSE English Language students.

Unreachable

Emelia Fellows

Exposed to the harsh, intense winds of the arctic, the slender polar bear dragged her feet across the iced floor. Her hungry cub clinging upon her back. It was so exhausting for the pair to live in this harsh, adapted world, where the globe warms quicker than it ever has. Reaching the point of the beginning of the end, not just for these poor weakened polar bears but for all, including you.

Ice was pulled into the ocean, destroying everything around it, as the weather warmed rapidly. Hungry for more and more everyday the ocean continued to swallow as much ice as possible, as the unusually blazing sun warmed the ice intensely from above. The light of the sun was intense, the rays shine down on the fractured ice, glistening, dancing in the sunlight it rarely sees. The pair of polar bears continue to try and find an impossible escape from their beloved home that once was freezing cold. Unlike now. Exhausted was all the bears have experienced, every second, every breath they take came at a cost, surviving is unreachable, they are in fact the only ones left of their kind, the remaining- the last.

The cub - so frail, slender and young leapt off her mother's back, clashing against the ice below, her paws so weakened, clawed into the ice. That's when it happened. The ocean began sweeping away the cub on a section of ice that teared away from the mainland. Where the mother stood, quivering, she needed her cub to survive. Hopeful of their survival, mother bear tried to reach the ice but it was too far for her to reach. Panicking, yet calm, she jumped into the deadly ocean, swimming as fast as she ever had, the cub gripped onto her mother's back, once she was rescued, avoiding the choppy waters, falling ice, reaching the mainland. The shore was too dangerous the mother realised, they sprinted into the distance to avoid repeating the horrors of what just happened.

Surprised and flabbergasted by the sight the cub saw, she howled and whimpered, her mother's leg was extremely impacted by the sacrifice she had made to rescue her cub, oozing blood poured from the wound.

It never stopped.

Was this the end?

A Sacrifice

by Molly Redgwick

Slowly, a mother polar bear ambles through the contaminated snow, her cub clinging onto her back. The lukewarm air carried the stench of destruction, whilst the beautiful beast struggled, the sound of waves crashing against a nearby oil platform drowning out her huffs of exhaustion. She stopped abruptly, tilting her nose up into the air, signalling to her weak child that she had made a discovery. After a couple minutes of the cub struggling to get down, he finally managed to touch his small paws to the muddy sludge below. Her eyes scanned the vast nothingness, her son digging through the piles of scattered rubbish.

The cub suddenly let out a yelp of excitement, as he dug his snout into a pile of waste, before scurrying to his mother. Something frail dropped on the child's mouth, as he reached her. It was a trapped bird. It sat immobilized by plastic caught in its wings - paralysed in what used to be its home. The mother's expression changed, she was hopeful, and then the familiar gleam of sadness appeared in her eyes once again. It was far too small for the both of them. With one small nudge, the mother gently pushed it back towards her child. He took it in great excitement and within seconds the bird was out of his pain, the once soft fur on its paws now stained deep red.

Jealously, the mother watched, though she was starving and had not eaten in months, her child meant more to her than her own life. She laid down weakly, her head resting her malnourished arms, waiting for her baby to finish, as her eyelids got heavier. The cold air blew against her matted fur as she drifted to sleep, her son soon following after with the bird carcass still clatched between his paws.

It didn't take long for the smaller of the two to wake up, feeling a lack of warmth from his mother. Grumbling tiredly, he waddled closer, his nose rubbing against her fur gently trying to wake her up. The mother remained still. More distressed now, the cub jumped onto her back biting at her ear in a much more desperate manner as he let out loud yelps. She was still, lifeless, and cold.

The cub was alone.

Drop Down Days!



Ethos College has welcomed a number of visitors to school to speak to students about online safety and radicalisation this half term. We were joined by West Yorkshire Police, who came into school to speak to students about online safety and cyber security. On the same day students also took part in the BRAVE workshop which raised pupil's awareness around radicalisation, grooming and county lines. The workshop was delivered by individuals who have real life experience of some of these issues and the workshop was really powerful in making young people think about the warning signs of these issues.

Careers Talks!

Year 11 students have heard from a number of post 16 providers this half term who have spoken to pupils both in person and virtually, through Teams. Students heard from Huddersfield New college, Kirklees College, Aspire IGEN and Bradford University about their provision and the courses that are offer there. These talks provided lots of valuable information which will support students when they make applications to college next year.

All year 11 students should now have met with Suzanne, who is our Careers Advisor, and should have already discussed some ideas about their post 16 destination; ready to complete applications in January and February.

If any students or parents/carers want to discuss post 16 options, please contact **Suzanne on: 01484 242000.**

Child Development – Health and Social Care

'I really enjoyed listening to the midwife. It was good to hear about what its actually like working in labour and deliver, and gave us a lot of information.'



During Health and Social and Child Development lessons students have had the opportunities to work with different outside agencies which linked to their classroom modules. It was arranged for students to visit a Orchid Day care centre for adults with learning difficulties and physical disabilities and meet a midwife, to gain experienced view of what life is like working in the care sector. These sessions helped students to recognise the demand of care givers and the barriers and strategies used within the workplace and give a broader understanding of what is needed to succeed within these professions. It also informed students of the importance of clear communication. The care givers explained their roles, and shared their own personal stories with the students, who were very mature and asked relevant questions.

School Council

The school council raised some money for charity before the summer holidays, It was a whopping **£76**. This was raised from baking and selling goods to students and staff. The school council also held a raffle with a basket of chocolate treats that had been donated. The lucky first prize winner was Kash, and there were 6 other runners up. Well done to the school council especially Michael who was the driving force in raising so much money. We are arranging a time to go to Northorpe Hall, the chosen charity, to hand over the donation.



'I found it really useful going to the day centre. It was good to see communication methods in action and care values.'

UK Parliament Week

Students took part in 'Parliament week' they looked at information given to them and what they would prioritise if they had the power to make a difference. They decided that they were going to campaign to stop global warming, which linked in with the current COP26 summit. Using interactive resources Molly was able to become an MP, where she organised her diary, responded to emails and attended press conferences relating to their campaign. One student took it upon themselves to write a short letter to their own local MP detailing ways in which they maybe able to help introduce activities within the local community that would help young people refrain from crime.



Hello Yellow

On 8th October, staff and pupils wore yellow to raise awareness for World Mental Health Day, even Winnie the dachshund! The theme this year is suicide prevention and this link will help if you want any more information visit [mentalhealth-UK.org](https://www.mentalhealth-UK.org)



Anti-bullying Week

15th November, students wore odd socks to celebrate how unique and special they are to celebrate Anti-bullying week, allowing us to see that we may all be **different in our own right but treated equally.**



Woodland Trust

With help from the public The Woodland Trust have planted more than 50 million trees since they began in 1972 and worked with thousands of landowners, schools and local authorities.

From single trees in thousands of gardens to hedges and whole woods, the UK is looking greener than it did four decades ago. But we need to plant more.

Our first batch of free hedgerow has arrived at Ethos these include dog wood, hawthorn, dog rose and hazel. Hedgerows will provide nesting sites and food for birds, insect and small mammals. They will be planted around the football pitch acting as a wildlife corridor connecting the land adjacent to Ethos for wildlife.

We have recently held two parent workshops delivered by Northorpe Hall, these have been understanding behaviour as communication and Understanding attachment theory. Staff at Ethos have also benefitted from this training. We look forward to the Teenage Brain in January 2022.

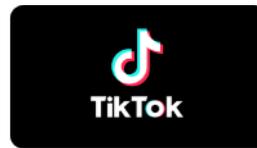
Emotional support is available to parents/carers via the website: [Parentsonline.co.uk](https://www.parentsonline.co.uk)

TikTok Study - Harmful Challenges and Hoaxes

Many online challenges are harmless, fun and can even be positive, such as supporting charitable causes. But there are many that are risky and potentially harmful. Recently TikTok commissioned a study looking at harmful/dangerous challenges, stating that 1 in 5 teenagers have taken part in an online challenge, 1 in 50 have taken part in a challenge the teen has deemed to be risky and dangerous, and 1 in 300 have taken part in a really dangerous challenge.

The study is based on responses from teachers, parents and 5,400 teenagers aged 13-19 in various countries, including the UK and one outcome of the study is that warning labels will appear on potential

You can read a short summary of the report in a BBC article <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-59222757>



Safeguarding at Ethos College

You will all be aware of the heart-breaking case of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes that has been in the media recently. None of us can appreciate the suffering and torment that Arthur experienced before his death and I know that we have all been affected by the details of this case. Safeguarding policies and procedures at Ethos College are stringent and pivotal to everything that we do and even though we are confident in our practice, when we hear about such a tragic death it makes us reflect and consider if there is anything we need to implement.

In Arthur's case, school were in regular contact and parents either didn't answer the phone or told professionals that he was fine and didn't need support. Attendance procedures at Ethos ensure that in the case of any absence daily contact is made with our families and when appropriate home visits are made. The voice of the child/young person should be central when considering their wellbeing and as Arthur was only 6 years old, his voice was not heard.

In safeguarding, we are mindful that the worst-case scenario could happen in our settings so we are diligent in our processes. Working with and not against families is crucial to ensure that we can support the child and have positive working relationships to be able to manage all concerns. I would like to thank all our families for working with us and for supporting your young people actively at a number of events.