**ETHOS COLLEGE** 

# BULLETIN

# HALF TERMLY NEWSLETTER

June 2025

# **Farewell to Our Wonderful Year 11s**

This term, we bid a fond and heartfelt farewell to our incredible Year 11 pupils as they concluded their time with us at Ethos. To celebrate their achievements and send them off in style, we hosted a memorable prom night filled with laughter, joy, and unforgettable moments.

The evening was nothing short of magical. Our pupils arrived dressed to impress, lighting up the venue with excitement and elegance. A delicious buffet set the tone for the night, followed by a surprise visit from an ice cream van that delighted everyone and added a fun, nostalgic touch.

As the evening unfolded, we took time to reflect on our pupils' journeys at Ethos. Beautiful photo displays captured highlights from their time with us—school trips, classroom memories, forest school adventures, and countless everyday moments that shaped their growth. Staff and pupils alike shared cherished memories, proud milestones, and heartfelt hopes for the future.

One of the highlights of the night was the presentation of the **Laura Griffiths Award**, which this year went to **Keelan Lewin**. Keelan was recognised for his incredible resilience and determination in overcoming personal challenges to achieve a positive and promising future. He is truly an inspiration and one of the most remarkable young people we've had the honour of supporting at Ethos. It was a touching and joyful send-off for a truly special group of pupils. We are beyond proud of each and every one of them and excited to see what their futures hold—be it further education, training, or new adventures.

Well done, Year 11—you'll always have a place in the Ethos family.









Nurturing inclusive learning communities









Ethos College Knowles Hill Road, Dewsbury, WF13 4QS



#### A Step Back in Time: Exploring Saltaire and the Victorian Era

As part of our recent topic on the Victorians, pupils from Ethos School embarked on an exciting educational trip to **Saltaire**, the historic model village founded by Sir Titus Salt. The visit was a perfect blend of learning, discovery, and creativity—offering a real-life glimpse into what life was like during the Victorian era.

We began our day with a stroll through the beautiful park, where we paused at the statue of **Sir Titus Salt**. Here, pupils learned about his vision and motivations for creating Saltaire, as well as the positive impact he had on the lives of working-class people during the 19th century.

Our next stop was the impressive **Salts Mill**, a towering reminder of Victorian industry. Pupils were in awe of its size and the thought of the thousands of workers who once passed through its doors each day. Discussions focused on Salt's progressive approach to worker welfare, from fair wages to well-planned living spaces—far ahead of his time.

We also had the chance to explore key community buildings, such as the **original school** and **town hall**, which further illustrated Salt's commitment to education, governance, and the overall well-being of his workers and their families.

Back in the classroom, the visit inspired a wonderful creative project. Pupils used what they'd learned to **design and build their own model Victorian towns**, incorporating homes, schools, workplaces, and public buildings—all reflecting the thoughtful planning that made Saltaire so unique.

The trip to Saltaire was more than just a day out—it was a powerful, handson experience that made Victorian history come alive. A huge well done to all the pupils for their enthusiasm and creativity throughout the topic!



















#### End-of-Year Fun at Xscape Castleford!

To celebrate the end of another fantastic school year, our pupils enjoyed a well-earned day out at **Xscape Castleford**—and what better way to wrap things up than with a few lively rounds of **mini golf**!

From the moment we arrived, the enthusiasm was contagious. Pupils threw themselves into the game with full focus, competitive spirit, and plenty of laughter. One of the most memorable moments of the day came courtesy of **Lucas**, who started off as the underdog but stunned us all by winning **both games**—a well-earned victory showcasing some seriously impressive putting skills!

Adding to the fun, everyone got to experience the wacky world of **4D mini golf**, complete with wild effects and moving floors. The 4D glasses brought an extra layer of hilarity (and confusion!), turning every shot into a mini adventure of its own. It was a brilliant opportunity to bond as a group, celebrate our achievements, and make some unforgettable memories before heading off for the summer.

A huge well done to all our pupils for their fantastic attitude—and of course, a special congratulations to **Lucas**, our mini golf champion!

Here's to a restful break and more exciting adventures in the year ahead!

#### Jorvik Trip - A Journey Back to Viking Times

This term, **Group 1** took their learning beyond the classroom with an unforgettable trip to **York and the Jorvik Viking Centre**, diving deep into the world of the **Vikings** as part of their history topic.

At Jorvik, pupils were transported back in time through an incredibly realistic reconstruction of a Viking-age street—complete with the sights, sounds, and even the smells of everyday life over 1,000 years ago! The immersive experience offered a fascinating glimpse into Viking culture and helped bring their classroom learning to life in the most vivid way.

Museum staff were especially impressed by our pupils' thoughtful questions and active engagement. Their curiosity, enthusiasm, and excellent listening skills were clear throughout the visit.

After exploring Jorvik, the group continued their historical adventure with a visit to the awe-inspiring **York Minster**. Pupils were captivated by the grandeur of the cathedral and enjoyed uncovering historical artefacts in the underground vault, which offered further insight into York's rich heritage.

Throughout the day, our pupils represented the school with pride—demonstrating respect, interest, and outstanding behaviour. They were a true credit to Ethos, and the trip was a brilliant way to round off their Viking topic.









Group 5 Explores the Deep Blue: A Visit to the Manchester Sea Life Centre
As part of their topic, "Why Oceans Matter?", Group 5 took their learning to new
depths with a fantastic visit to the Manchester Sea Life Centre. With a focus on the
importance of our oceans and the urgent need to protect vital ecosystems like coral
reefs, the trip brought the classroom topic vividly to life.

The excitement was clear from the moment we set off by minibus, with pupils eagerly discussing what marine creatures they might see. The Sea Life Centre did not disappoint—pupils came face-to-face with **tropical fish**, **stingrays**, **sharks**, and a whole range of fascinating underwater life.

One of the most memorable moments was the chance to **get up close to starfish**. Some of our braver pupils even reached out to touch them! There was plenty of laughter when one group remarked that the starfish looked like **naan breads**—though thankfully, no one was tempted to take a bite!

After a morning of exploring the wonders of the ocean, the group headed to the **Trafford Centre** for lunch and a chance to unwind before returning to school. Throughout the day, pupils showed exceptional curiosity, respect, and brilliant behaviour—making them true ambassadors for Ethos. It was a fun, enriching experience that deepened their understanding of ocean conservation and left them inspired to protect the natural world.

Well done, Group 5—you made a splash in all the right ways!

#### Flamingo Land Trip – A Reward Well Spent!

After an incredible year of hard work and commitment, **Group 5**—having won the **attendance award** several times—chose to save up their prize money for something truly special. Their reward? A thrilling trip to **Flamingo Land**! They were joined by **Group 3**, who had also budgeted carefully to mark the end of their **GCSE exams** with a well-earned celebration. The day was a roaring success for both pupils and staff. From the moment we arrived, excitement was high as everyone headed off to explore the **theme park rides** and the **zoo**. It was especially heartening to see pupils pushing their limits—many started the day on smaller rides and gradually worked their way up to the **biggest roller coasters**. Beyond the fun, what truly stood out was the **maturity and respect** shown throughout the day. Pupils were thoughtful, supportive of each other, and represented Ethos School with pride—earning praise not just from staff, but also from members of the public.

We couldn't be prouder of how both groups conducted themselves. This was more than just a day out—it was a celebration of effort, teamwork, and well-earned achievement.

Well done, Groups 3 and 5—you absolutely deserved it!











### Celebrating Kindness in Our Community: Josh Margison – A True Unsung Hero

At Ethos, we believe in recognising and celebrating the values that make our community strong—kindness, compassion, and quiet leadership. This term, we're incredibly proud to shine a light on one of our own: **Josh Margison**, a young man whose everyday actions truly embody those values.

Josh has recently received heartfelt praise from local residents for his selfless and thoughtful behaviour. In one powerful example, he came to the aid of a woman in a wheelchair who had been put in danger when a car ran a red light. With calm confidence and genuine care, Josh helped her safely cross the road, ensuring her wellbeing and leaving a lasting impression.

The woman described Josh as "polite and pleasant" and was deeply moved by his kindness. Her message, shared with the school and community, highlighted not only the act itself but also Josh's natural empathy and willingness to help.

What's even more remarkable is that this isn't unusual for Josh. Friends, neighbours, and staff all agree—he regularly goes out of his way to help others, never expecting recognition or reward. Whether offering a helping hand or simply showing kindness in his day-to-day interactions, Josh is a quiet force for good. Josh truly is an **unsung hero**, and we're incredibly proud of the way he represents our school and community. His actions remind us that making a difference doesn't always require grand gestures—sometimes, it's the quiet choices we make that have the greatest impact.

Let's all take inspiration from Josh and continue to foster a culture of kindness, support, and respect across our community.

Well done, Josh—you are a credit to Ethos and an example to us all.

#### **How We Work with Families at Ethos**

As we say goodbye to one fantastic cohort of pupils, we also extend a warm welcome to the new young people joining our school community. We're excited to get to know each of them—and just as importantly, to build strong, supportive relationships with their families. At Ethos, we believe that working closely with families is essential to understanding our pupils' lived experiences and helping them achieve the best possible outcomes. When families and schools work together, young people thrive—and that's what we aim for every day. Throughout the year, we invite families to join us in celebrating success and sharing in your child's journey at Ethos. We recognise that many of our families have younger children or dependents, and we warmly welcome them too. Where needed, we're happy to provide support to make it easier for everyone to be involved. If you'd like to attend school events or learn how to get more involved, please speak to your child's key staff member. Also, remember to check the newsletter for upcoming opportunities to visit school and celebrate your child's achievements.

#### **Attendance**

It is essential that pupils attend school regularly and on time to ensure the best outcomes for them in school. Good school attendance not only improves academic outcomes but supports relationships and promotes a sense of belonging and structure. If there are any barriers to attendance, we will work with families to address these and to seek solutions that are in the best interest of the young person. If there are any issues then please talk to us in school and we will consider all options to encourage pupils to attend school.

# Wellbeing Support - Hub of Hope

We would like to share a valuable resource for anyone seeking mental health and wellbeing support: the <u>Hub</u> of Hope.

This external website signposts a wide range of **local** wellbeing providers and support groups, offering help tailored to different needs and age groups, including:

- Young people (25 and under)
- Adults
- Urgent and emergency support

The site is easy to use—you can **search by location** to find services near your home or school. It also features **handy filters** to help you quickly locate the type of support you're looking for, whether it's mental health support, addiction services, grief counselling, or more.

For convenience, **Hub of Hope also has a free app** available for smartphones, making it easy to access support anytime, anywhere.

Please don't hesitate to explore this resource and share it with anyone who might benefit from it.

Visit: www.hubofhope.co.uk