



Summer 2023

Message from Principal Diana Townshend



Welcome to the summer edition of The Featherstone Academy newsletter. As we approach the summer holidays, it is a great chance to celebrate the achievements of all our students and share updates on the year ahead.

All students have graduated to the next academic year, and have taken on the challenge of their new courses with enthusiasm. We started with #FevFutures Day, where all students explored careers, well-being and how to be successful learners. The new Year 11 have started with applying themselves with determination to their first set of mock examinations, Year 10 have begun their GCSE courses impressively, and Years 8 and 9 are throwing themselves into their Applied Resilience Courses including opportunities such as skiing, gardening, and sewing.

Our Year 11 class of 2023 have finally graduated with a fabulous Prom celebrating them and their time at the school, it was lovely to see so many families and members of the community coming out to The King's Croft Hotel in Pontefract to celebrate their hard work and moving on to the next stages of their life. We look forward to celebrating their results with them in August.

I am happy to report that our Academy continues to grow year on year, and we are looking forward to welcoming 124 new Year 7 students to The Featherstone family on Wednesday 30 August 2023, this year we have a significant waiting list in some years.

Can I take this opportunity to remind you as uniform is refreshed over summer to check the requirements around shoes, knee-length skirts in a non-stretchy material; and also trousers – a straight style in a non-stretchy fabric. All details are in the students planners or on the website if unsure.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a safe and happy summer, and we look forward to welcoming you all back on Wednesday 30 August 2023.

Dates for your diary:

24 August 2023

GCSE Results Day

30 August 2023

School reopens to ALL students

19 September 2023

Student Portrait Photographs

20-22 September 2023

Y7 UK Resilience Camp

26 September 2023

Y6 Open Evening

Headlines

[The return of France
Resilience Camp – page 2](#)

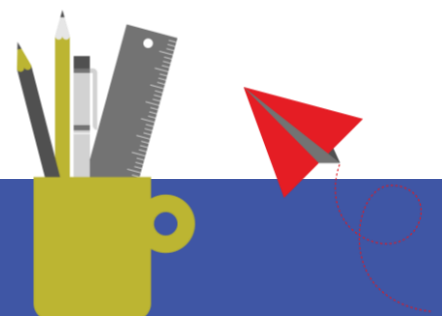
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the academy – page 3](#)

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Year 7 France Resilience Camp

After a four-year hiatus due to the covid pandemic, we were delighted to take some of our Y7 students out to the Ardèche region of France. Along with students and colleagues from Brayton Academy and BBG Academy, they enjoyed walks to the lake and local village for crepes and ice cream, swimming, bike rides, high ropes and two days of kayaking along the river. They demonstrated their resilience in new challenges, celebrated new friendships (and even a birthday!) and made lots of memories that will last a lifetime. We are our proud of our students for embracing #TheRodillianWay!



RUGBY RULES AT FEATHERSTONE!

The town of Featherstone has a prestigious rugby history and we are so proud that our students are continuing to add to the story...



Following a successful scholarship at Castleford Tigers, Y11 Leaver Leon N has been awarded an academy contract starting in September.

Zack C in Y11 successfully made his debut against London Broncos at the weekend. Zack is in his first year of his scholarship with Wakefield Trinity.

Back in May, our Y8 Rugby Team showed some outstanding resilience in a 36-36 game away at Kettlethorpe High School. Two tries in the final 4 minutes earned the team a well deserved draw. A huge thank you to the five Y7 students who stepped up and performed excellently when needed!

Also, an amazing effort by Y7 who, with no prior experience as a team together, finished 2nd in a Featherstone Rovers tournament held at the Millennium Stadium. It was an amazing experience for the students to play on the same pitch as Featherstone Rovers themselves.

Finally, congratulations to Y9 students, Eroni U, Cayden R and Alfie M who have all been awarded scholarships at Castleford Tigers; and also to Kody D who will be joining Wakefield Trinity's scholarship programme.



SWIMMING SUCCESS

In June, Jacob T competed at a swimming competition, picking up a heap of medals rewarding his effort! His results are below:

Saturday

50m Breaststroke - Event 207 Heat 3 Lane 3 - Silver

50m Freestyle - Event 317 Heat 2 Lane 5 - Speeding Ticket

Sunday

100m Individual Medley - Event 502 Heat 10 Lane 3 - Bronze

50m Backstroke - Event 506 Heat _ Lane 3 - Bronze

100m Breaststroke - Event 510 Heat _ Lane 1 - Bronze

Please share your child's sporting successes with us – email us with any news and photos

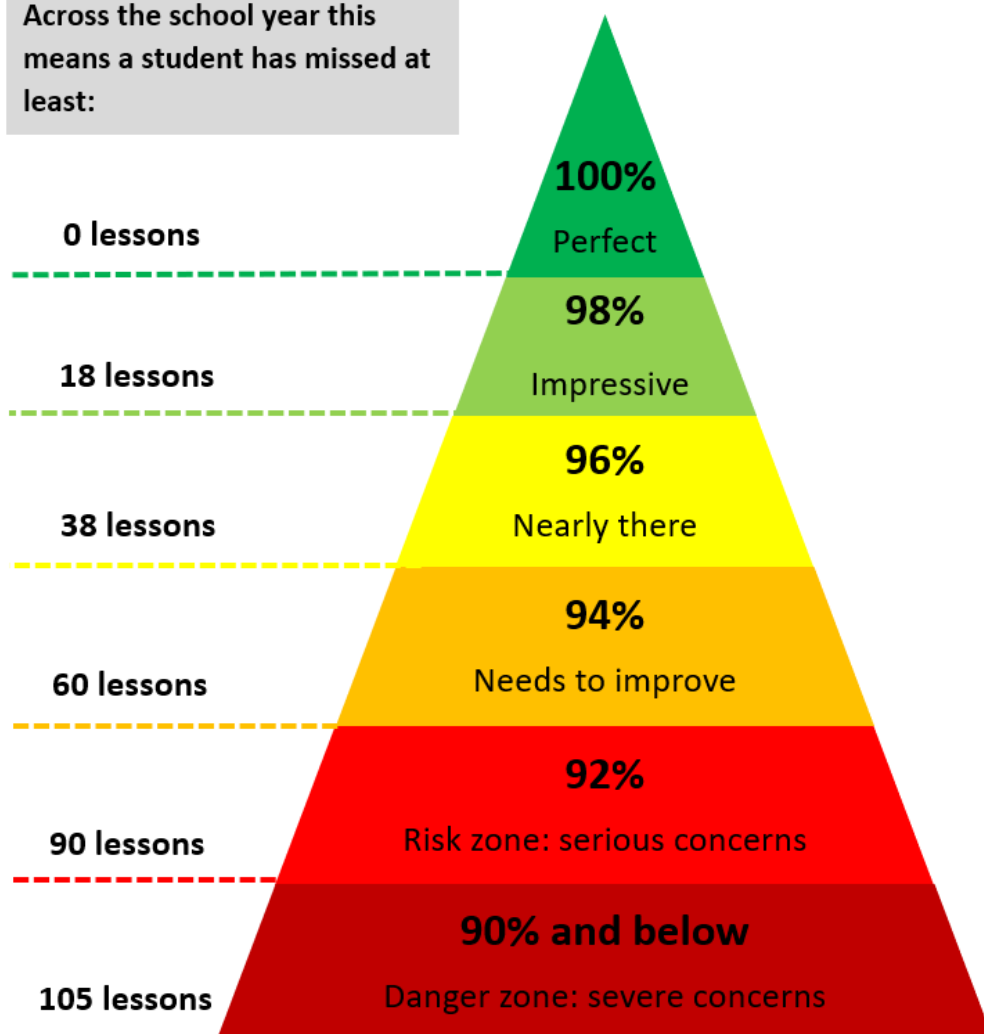


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Attendance matters

Across the school year this means a student has missed at least:



Our top attenders



- ★ Layla E
- ★ Juliana P
- ★ Maisie W
- ★ Maisy B
- ★ Cameron H
- ★ Lizzie M
- ★ Euan P
- ★ Daria R
- ★ Laila T
- ★ Siena B
- ★ Ruby C
- ★ Tom C
- ★ Isabelle D
- ★ Lucas E
- ★ Darcy H
- ★ Emily H
- ★ Julia R
- ★ Dylan R
- ★ Jacob T
- ★ Libby G
- ★ Emily G
- ★ Christiana O

Attendance at school is a priority for us. We want to give all our student's the best start in life, and we know that education and support from school can help to do this. All students should strive for 100% attendance and 0 lates. Their attendance should not drop below the school target of 98% for each academic year.

Our attendance pyramid shows the impact that attendance can have on your child's progress. Those students that have less than 98% are less likely to achieve their target and ultimately less likely to go on to further education and study something they enjoy. Every lesson counts and every lesson is just another piece to the jigsaw in enabling your child to reach their potential and become the successful adult they can be.

Punctuality is equally as important. Form time is used to ensure students are calm and equipped to be successful during their school day. Year 10 and 11 are expected to be in school for 8.15am and Year 7, 8 and 9 are expected to be in for 8.25am.

To report a child's absence please call 01977 722812 before 9:00am on the first and every day of absence.



CLASS OF 2023

Our students enjoyed a fabulous evening at The King's Croft Hotel in Pontefract. We look forward to seeing them all again on Thursday 24 August 2023 for Results Day



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Geography Field Trip

Year 11 Geographers completed their first fieldwork trip exploring the effectiveness of sea defences in Hornsea. We were also delighted to be able to see seals at Flamborough Head, which was looking particularly spectacular this year in the sunshine.



Staff Changes

As well as saying farewell to the Class of 2023, this year we also say goodbye to some members of staff:

- Ms G Roberts, Deputy Head
- Miss R McGowan, SENDCO / Teacher of English
- Miss M Webster, Teacher of Science
- Mr D Evans, Teacher of Music
- Mr M Ledda, Teacher of English
- Miss L Conway, Cover Supervisor

This means we are delighted to introduce our new members of staff to you, some of whom joined us in June:

- Mr K Paddy, Deputy Head
- Mrs D Backhouse, Teacher of Maths
- Mrs L Collins, Head of Science
- Ms S Crawford, Teacher of English
- Miss A Dykxhoorn, SENDCO
- Mrs D Guha Thakurta, Teacher of Science
- Ms C Riley, Teacher of DT
- Ms S Henderson, Teacher of Music
- Mr M Carroll, Inclusion Support Worker
- Mr R Walker, Specialist Learning Support Assistant
- Miss Caitlin Lelas, Specialist Learning Support Assistant
- Ms S Pepworth, Cover Supervisor



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