

The House System

This year means a lot of changes for the House System and not only because of the introduction of the new Christiana Hartley House. Events we would normally hold in the autumn term are having to be postponed or cancelled due to restrictions, social distancing and all pupils being in year group bubbles.

Fund raising activities such as Hepburn's extremely busy cake sale for Halloween or Bonfire Night cannot take place and evening events in the run up to Christmas where raffle tickets are sold direct to parents are also cancelled. The very popular House Talent Show is under review as to how it may continue to take place but still meet safety guidelines. Watch this space.

Due to this, the House Leaders have had to get their thinking caps on and come up with new plans and have decided to occasionally work jointly on some of the fund raising ideas.

As Halloween fast approaches, year 8 were asked to donate items to put together hampers for a Halloween Party at home. Children can then enjoy the fun of celebrating Halloween in their own home with family. Parents are able to purchase their tickets directly on Parentpay and pupils can purchase them in school, with the correct money, from the House Captains in their year group. The draw will take place just before the half term break.

Some of the House Leaders plan on doing a similar project in the run up to Christmas, hopefully giving families a chance to win a hamper full of goodies for the festive period.

Year 7 have embarked on their sponsored skip, which has been so successful over recent years. Prizes are on offer for the form who raise the most money and complete the largest number of skips. Some of the year 7 form tutors volunteered to take part too. This activity was safely carried out on the field with great excitement and fun. Sponsor money can be paid in over Parentpay or handed in a sealed envelope with the pupils name on to Mrs Moran.

Money raised from these events will benefit the house charities.

The charities supported this year are as follows:

- UNICEF (Hepburn)
- Southport Offshore Rescue Trust (Bronte)
- Evergreen Blossom Academy, Ghana (Curie & Pankhurst)
- Greenbank High School PTA (Hartley)
- Guide Dogs for the Blind (Keller)
- Liverpool Women's Hospital Neonatal Unit (Seacole)

Curie and Pankhurst have this year decided to work together to support Evergreen Blossom Academy, Greenbank's partner school in Ghana. They have been hit extremely hard by the coronavirus restrictions. As a privately funded school, they struggle to pay staff wages and to provide basic equipment. Mr Whittle and Ms Clift are currently trying to raise funds to get new desks for the students. These cost £30 each and are made by carpenters local to Evergreen Blossom Academy, so also provide work and income in the immediate area.

Anyone wishing to contribute to this much needed endeavour, can pay for a whole desk or part thereof by Parentpay.

House achievement points are already stacking up, with Seacole taking an early lead after last year's win. New house Hartley are snapping at their heels with Keller close behind in third. This could all change though when bonus points for competitions are added by the time the first champions' certificates are awarded to pupils after half term.

Mr Wildman who took over as Bronte Leader just before lockdown and Miss Marsh, new house Hartley's leader, have settled extremely well in to their new roles and are providing some very welcome ideas and support to the already well established leaders. Miss Marsh is in charge of posting to social media so we can now keep everyone well up to date with up and coming House events, fund raising activities and competitions.

Please continue to do your wonderful job of supporting pupils in joining in as much as possible. Parental support is invaluable in encouraging participation in successful activities and raising as much money as we can for the deserving causes we support.

Mrs A Moran
House Co-Ordinator