

**Key Dates**

School closed- 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018  
Year 11 Parents' evening- 6<sup>th</sup> December 2018 5.30pm  
Big community lunch- 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018 1pm  
Christmas Lunch- 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018 (in 2 sittings)  
Presentation Evening- 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018 (Last Year 11 and Post 16)  
Christmas show- Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018 6.30pm  
School closed for Christmas- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018 1.20pm

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are privileged that our students are an exceptional group of young people and we have very high expectations of the way in which they wear their uniform. Please can I remind you of the uniform expectations, and also remind you that with harsh, winter weather drawing in it would be a great idea to encourage students to wear a coat, scarf and hat or bring an umbrella with them in the case of extreme weather. Many thanks for all your support with keeping our students looking smart and presentable at all times.

**Uniform, Appearance and Equipment Expectations**

**Uniform**

- A white tailored shirt which can be tucked into your waistband and has a top button you can fasten.
- School Tie (Royal blue striped tie) worn so that it reaches the waistband.
- Black school blazer with the school logo on it.
- Black V-neck jumper (optional) to wear under your blazer.
- Plain tailored trousers, to reach the top of the shoe, with black socks. Tailored means not tight fitting or figure hugging and not made from stretchy fabrics. No leggings, jeans or tracksuit bottoms.
- Plain tailored knee length pleated or A-line style skirt. Knee length means the skirt should be touching the crease of the back of the knee and the knee cap at the front. The skirt should not be tight fitting or made from stretchy fabrics. If wearing a skirt, socks or tights must be worn (not both together).
- Socks must be plain, not patterned, and either black, white or grey. They must also be either knee or ankle length. Tights must be plain, black and opaque.
- Plain black, below the ankle OR ankle boot, leather or leather look (not canvas) flat shoes. No sandals, trainers, logos or branding. For example, any 'Kickers' tabs should be cut off and any coloured stitching, found on some shoes (Dr Marten's, among others) should be coloured in black.
- A black kameez can be worn in addition to the rest of the uniform, where required. A hijab may also be worn.
- Sturdy bag and outdoor coat for cold/wet weather. No cardigans, body warmers or non-uniform jumpers including sweatshirts or hoodies.

**Appearance**

- A single plain ear stud, or one pair of plain ear studs are permitted but must be removed for PE. In addition to this a watch may be worn. No other piercings or jewellery is allowed.
- No excessive make-up.
- No nail varnish.

**Equipment**

- Journal
- Blue or black pen

- Green pen
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Scientific calculator
- English dictionary
- Reading book
- Mobile phones and smartwatches are not allowed to be seen or heard during lesson time or changeover.

Thank you very much to those parents who fed back to us re: Assessment and STARS at our recent Parents' Forum, and to any parents who have been in touch individually. In response to this feedback we have made some changes to our assessment process to focus on feedback, strengths, areas for development and future events/activities that may come up subject by subject. We have also tried to make this more understandable and clear. Assessments have taken place in lessons and are now being marked and moderated ready to be sent home with students on the week commencing the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018 for Year 11 and the following week for Y7-10. I would like to encourage parents to review your child's assessments and sign them, ready to be brought back in to school.

Todmorden High has been selected to take part in two Government assessments this year; TIMSS and The National Reference Test (NRT). Although these assessments will not contribute to the students overall outcomes, this is an exciting opportunity for our cohort of young people to contribute to the improvement of education nationally, and globally. Students will be notified as to who is sitting the assessments nearer to the time, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Coates if you have any questions about this process.

Last week our prefect team were selected and will start to be deployed into their roles over the coming weeks. Being a prefect comes with a number of additional responsibilities including duties and allocation to a subject in order to support other students. We take great pride in our prefect team, who are selected by staff member vote, and are an asset to their school community, setting a great example for their peers.

2019 will be an important year for our Year 11 students. We are hoping for great sets of GCSE results from them. We have held the first set of Mock examinations this term and we will soon be talking to the students about upping the ante on revision! There are some excellent revision resources on our website check out <http://www.todhigh.co.uk/revision/>. We are holding our Year 11 Parents' Evening on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December where staff members will discuss your child's performance and progress with you, and provide a number of subject specific revision materials, in addition we have set the date for a fully loaded 'Revision Evening', where students and parents will be presented to around revision techniques and be able to collect even more great revision materials to help support them in the run up to their exams in the summer term, more information regarding this event will be circulated soon. If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Our community Big Lunch takes place this year on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018, this is an opportunity for members of our community, of all ages to come into school and enjoy a delicious Christmas dinner served by our students and catering team. Please let any relatives or friends know about this great event, and feel free to ring school and secure a place. There are 60 available places on the Big Lunch, and these places will be allocated on a first come first served basis, we hope to see you there. While on the subject of Christmas lunch, our student Christmas lunch will be served on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018, in response to feedback from last year, we have made the decision to serve our Christmas lunch in sittings with the first sitting commencing from 12.45pm for Year 7. We will also be providing additional seating for the day to ensure a fun, friendly and festive environment for our students to enjoy their dinner. As always there will be both a meat and a veggie friendly alternative for our students, if you have any questions please contact Mrs Gorton or the reception team.

Our Christmas show this year will take place on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 6.30pm, and will include performances from departments, music, drama and dance. There will also be festive refreshments served at the start of the event. Tickets will go on sale from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018 priced at £2 for students and £4 for adults/concessions and be available for students to buy at the student reception, or for parents to buy from the main reception window. We would love to see you at this event to celebrate the festive period with us.

Our profile this week features our House Captains who applied, and were successful, in achieving the role of Captain or Vice-Captain of their respective house. With the support of Mrs Thompson, students will be engaging in a number of fund raising activities in an attempt to achieve the most house points for their cohort. We will keep you updated through the weekly letter on the achievements of our young captains, but you can also take a look at our website <http://www.todhigh.co.uk/ths-house-system/> to see what Houses we have, and how many house points they have achieved so far this year.

Ahead of our finish at the end of this half term I would like to take this opportunity to let parents know that school will close at 1.20pm on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018 for the Christmas break. Due to the distance and difficulties in travel our Bacup students will have a slightly earlier finish time of 12.30pm, this is to allow for walking time to get to the bus station and board the 1.12pm Rosso bus to Bacup, which is the only bus that afternoon. Staff will meet Bacup students in reception and accompany them as a group on their walk down to the bus station, to ensure that students get on the bus home safely. If you have any questions regarding these arrangements please don't hesitate to get in touch, they will also be publicised on the website and communicated via text. Additionally allow me to remind you all that Todmorden High School is closed to all students on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November for a training day. Have a great weekend,

Kind regards,



Miss G Shirt  
Headteacher

Student Profile

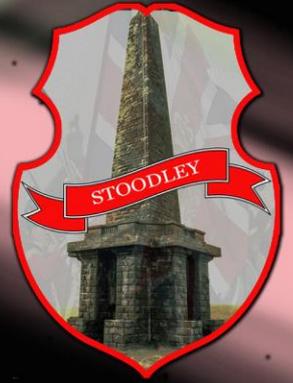
Friday 29th November 2018

Meet our **NEW HOUSE CAPTAINS!**

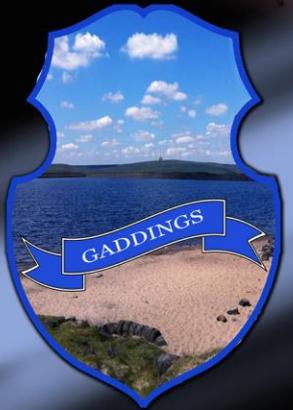
Vale- Logan and Ella



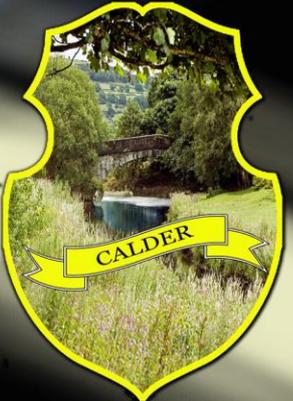
Stoodley- Mia and Tia



Gaddings- Ella and Alfie



Calder- Madeline and Eve



Bridestones- Gracie and Matthew

