Furrowfield School

Together We Succeed

Head Teacher – Miss H E Scott

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of our first half term of the 2026–2027 academic year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on what has been an incredibly positive, busy and successful start to the year at Furrowfield School.

It is sometimes only when we stop and look back that we realise just how much has been achieved. Over these first eight weeks, our students have embraced new challenges, celebrated successes, represented our school with pride and, most importantly, continued to demonstrate what it means to be part of the Furrowfield community.

A fantastic start to the year

September began with the pleasure of welcoming our students back to school and, in particular, welcoming our new Year 7 students as they began their Furrowfield journey. They have settled remarkably well into school life, embracing new routines and becoming valued members of our community. Our students in Years 8 to 11 also returned with an exceptionally positive attitude, helping us establish a calm, purposeful and welcoming start to the year. Our Year 7 Welcome Afternoon gave us another opportunity to celebrate this excellent start. It was wonderful to welcome so many parents and carers into school, share students' work and recognise the progress they have already made. The positive feedback we received was greatly appreciated.

Celebrating our students

Celebration has been a real theme throughout this half term. We have seen record numbers of students receiving our Applause on the Doors recognition, alongside excellent levels of attendance and students demonstrating the values that sit at the heart of The Furrowfield Way: being Collaborative, Inquisitive, Reflective, Resilient and Imaginative.

One particularly proud moment was seeing one of our Year 10 students, Oliver, received the Young Community Champion Award at both the Northumbria in Bloom Awards and on Tuesday at the National Britain in Bloom Awards. His dedication to horticulture, the Furrowfield School garden and wider community gardening projects was rightly recognised, and he represents in this particular area of our school exceptionally well. Congratulations to Oliver, what an achievement.

Our Year 7 football team also gave us a fantastic reason to celebrate by becoming Wanderers Football Tournament champions, winning eight matches and drawing one. Just as importantly, staff reported that the students were fantastic ambassadors for Furrowfield, demonstrating teamwork and collaboration throughout the tournament.

Achievement in many different forms

We firmly believe that success comes in many forms, and this has been evident throughout the half term. Our Year 11 students have approached their final year with determination and ambition, with many having already secured qualifications during Year 10. Across the wider school, all year groups are also participating in the AQA Unit Award Scheme through our Enrichment Programme of Clubs and Societies, providing even more opportunities for students to have their learning, skills and achievements formally recognised.

Reading has remained a whole-school priority, alongside our growing focus on careers, future aspirations and Preparation for Adulthood. We want students to develop confidence in themselves, recognise their strengths and understand the breadth of opportunities available to them beyond Furrowfield.

Belonging, wellbeing and keeping our students safe

At Furrowfield, achievement will always sit alongside our commitment to ensuring students feel safe, understood, valued and that they belong. This half term saw the introduction of our new sensory-supporting school uniform. We have been delighted with the way students and families have embraced this change, which reflects our commitment to meeting individual sensory needs while strengthening students' sense of belonging to our school community.

We also introduced our new Student Child Protection and Safeguarding Agreement, reinforcing the message that students can speak to any adult in school if they have a problem, worry or concern, as well as continuing our important work around online safety. Most recently, with our focus on Mental Health this provided an important reminder that relationships are at the heart of everything we do. Feeling safe, understood and connected can make an enormous difference to a young person's wellbeing, and we will continue to ensure our students know that asking for help is a strength and that there is always someone at Furrowfield School who will listen.

Families and our wider community

Our partnership with parents and carers remains one of Furrowfield School's greatest strengths. It has been wonderful to welcome families and visitors into school this half term, from our Year 6 Open Afternoon and Year 7 Welcome Afternoon to our extremely well-supported Macmillan Coffee Morning. These occasions remind us that Furrowfield is much more than a school. It is a community built around its students. Thank you for the many ways in which you support us, whether that is encouraging good attendance, supporting reading at home, maintaining our uniform expectations, attending events or simply working alongside us when your child needs additional support.

Looking ahead

Although there is so much to celebrate, we are always looking forward. Our next half term will bring further opportunities through our Remembrance Respect Day and Remembrance Commemoration, Anti Bullying and Be Kind Week our Christmas festivities, and our focus on reading, careers, enrichment, Preparation for Adulthood, academic learning, personal development and student leadership. We want every student to continue developing the confidence, resilience and ambition to succeed both at Furrowfield and beyond.

Before then, we still have our Futures Day on Friday 23rd October, when students will step away from their usual timetable for a special curriculum day focused on jobs, careers and future opportunities. Selected students will also have the exciting opportunity to experience leadership as Head Teacher for the Day.

Thank you, Team Furrowfield

Finally, I want to say an enormous thank you. Thank you to our students for the effort, determination and character they have demonstrated. Thank you to our staff for the care, commitment and belief they show in our young people every day. Thank you to our Governing Body for the commitment they show to the school and our community. Thank you to you, our parents and carers, for your continued trust, encouragement and support. When I look back over these first eight weeks, I feel incredibly proud. We have achieved so much together, but what matters most is the culture that continues to grow across our school: one in which students are known, valued, supported and encouraged to believe in what they can achieve.

Together We Succeed and Belong Together are not simply words at Furrowfield School. This half term has shown, once again, what they look like in practice.

I hope all of our students, families and staff have a safe, restful and enjoyable half-term break, and I very much look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and ready for another exciting half term on Monday 2nd November 2026 at 8.30am in full school uniforms.

Warmest wishes



Miss Heather E. Scott
Head Teacher