



Head's Letter 8/2026

25th August 2026

Sad news concerning one of our pupils

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am writing with very sad news. Earlier this afternoon, I gathered our pupils together to share the devastating news that Praise Banda, one of our Year 13 pupils, tragically lost his life in a road accident while returning to school.

Praise was a much-loved member of our school community, and his loss will be felt deeply by his family, friends, teachers and fellow pupils and particularly by Ravensthorpe, where he will be greatly missed by those who lived alongside him. We know that this news will come as a tremendous shock to many of you and to your children.

We have staff and appropriate support available, particularly for Praise's close friends and classmates. We will also have additional staff and pastoral support available in the houses this evening to support our students. We will continue to look after our pupils as they grieve, recognising that each child will process and respond to this loss in their own way.

We recognise that many parents will want to talk to their children about what has happened. Please give them the space they need and reassure them that it is entirely appropriate to seek support if they are struggling. Please contact your child's tutor or houseparent at the school if you have any concerns about your child.

Some details of what happened are still being confirmed, and we will write again once we know more, including any arrangements to remember Praise.

Our thoughts and prayers are very much with Praise's family and all those who loved him at this unimaginably difficult time.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Cowling
Head