



Relentlessly Pursuing Excellence

Parent Bulletin - Friday 5th May 2023

Headteacher Update:

Dear Parents & Carers

I hope that you have had a good week following the long weekend and as we enter another one, I would just like to thank you for your continued support during strike action. You will know that on Tuesday we were able to remain open for all Year groups which meant that the disruption to students' education was minimal on this occasion. Whilst there are no current planned dates for future strike action we have been informed that this is likely and so as always once we have been made aware of when this may be I will write to you with the intended plan so that you have plenty of time to make arrangements as early as I can.

Even though this was a particularly short week we have been extremely busy at school, as you can see from the school events below there has been lots happening in and out of lessons. Year 11 are really feeling the pressure as the countdown to those exams continues. Students are working hard in their lessons, during revision sessions and at home to try and maximise every single opportunity they can. Parents and carers are using Teatime Test to try and help support students where they can and have felt involved in the revision journey.

Finally this week I would like to draw your attention again to our Trust wide fundraising event which is taking place on Saturday 13th May and Sunday 14th May. **WAT a Run** is an event being organised by our trust, Windsor Academy Trust, to raise funds for the Windsor Academy Trust Community Foundation. The newly-established Foundation has been set up to help us fundraise across our family of schools so we can support those in our communities who need it the most.

There are two ways our students and their families can get involved:

WAT a Run - Main Event - Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th May:

Over 18s only. Staff and family members from across Windsor Academy Trust will be embarking on a two-day sponsored run - from Halesowen Athletics Club to each of our schools and back again - running as many kilometres as they can to contribute towards an overall goal of 2,000km. For Great Wyrley Academy myself, Mr Studholme and Mrs McCarthy will be taking part in the event.

WAT a Run - Community Fun Run - Sunday 14th May:

All ages. A 5km 'fun run' will take place at Halesowen Athletics Club at 2pm on Sunday 14th May, at the end of the main event, that students and their families are welcome to join. Families will need to make their own way there and parents will be responsible for supervising their children at the event.

If you are interested in signing up for the fun run then please use this link to register <https://www.windsoracademytrust.org.uk/civic-3/wat-a-run-2/fun-run/>

WAT a Run - School Event - Move around may - please see the school events for further details on our school events during May.

Sponsorship and Donations:

However you and your children choose to get involved, we would be very grateful for any fundraising you can do. To make it as simple as possible, we have set up one fundraising page where donations can be made electronically.

Please share our fundraising link with as many people as possible!

<https://heartofenglandcommunityfoundation.enthuse.com/cf/windsor-academy-trust-wat-a-run>

As always I thank you for your continued support and hope you have a really lovely long weekend.



Mrs K Moore
Headteacher

School Events for this week:

Maths Challenge: 7M1 and 8M1 took part in this year's UKMT Junior Maths Challenge. The UK Mathematics Trust was founded in 1996 and their aim is to advance the education of young people in mathematics. They have over 700,000 entries per year and are the UK's most popular school Mathematical Challenges. Highest scoring students are invited to take part in follow on rounds such as Kangaroos or Olympiads. Their enrichment activities aim to open young people's minds to the breadth and depth of mathematics. We look forward to receiving the results!

Amnesty International Youth Group: Amnesty International Youth group this term have been working on supporting our students to access free sanitary items if they need them. There are now 12 boxes around the school with key members of staff. If your child needs some, please encourage them to speak to staff. The list is up in the girls toilets.

Move Around May

<https://heartofenglandcommunityfoundation.enthuse.com/cf/windsor-academy-trust-wat-a-run>

Link to slide Deck:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/11UOeu3vNuXj-NasDyBqu6qSEPXKSPs5Vk2lBe_zxA/edit#slide=id.g23116afb1e4_1_5

During the month of May we are inviting all GWA students to be more active.

A healthy body leads to a healthy mind and a positive outlook on your studies and life in general.

What to do?

Students will be given suggestions of activities that you can undertake on your own or with friends and family for each week of the month of May. In school and in your own time.

- There will also be tutor time and PE lesson activities to participate in.
- Upload your evidence (photos) to the assignment in the classroom.
- Start to get sponsorship donations.

Have fun- be active. Let's support the WAT trust wide effort- all donations raised will go to The Heart of England Community Trust.

Coronation Treat: Today all students received a Coronation Treat, students were invited down to our canteen where the ADT department and the canteen team created a giant crown for students to post messages to the King on his Coronation on Saturday 6th May. The canteen staff then presented them all with a Coronation cupcake. Students were impeccably behaved. Please see our news and blog page for some pics.

Please click here to go to the [News and blog page](#) of the website

Curriculum Updates for this week:

What are students studying in English this cycle?

Year 7: How can we use our voices to shape the world for the better?

Year 8: How much power in society do we really have?

Year 9: What shapes our understanding of good and evil?

Year 10: Macbeth and Power and conflict poetry

Year 11: Final preparations for GCSE's



[English Learning Journey](#)

What are students studying in Music this cycle?



Year 7: Musical elements

Year 8: Popular studies

Year 9: Popular studies

Year 10 (options): Rhythms of the world, ensemble performance, concerto over time

Year 11 (options): Final preparations for GCSE's

[Music Learning Journey](#)

Year 11 Exam period

Alongside this newsletter is a copy of the plan for year 11 students for when they are in school during the exam period. In short, students are expected to be in school until their final examination has been taken. Teachers will be delivering additional sessions prior to any exams to give a pre exam boost. The schedule for this is in the attached document.

We will also be opening the library up to year 11 students during the day at specific times in case they would prefer a quiet area to prepare for their exams. Students can request a place in the room using the following link

<https://forms.gle/n3L7tLADSqZxT8JJ6>

Year 9 into 10 Options

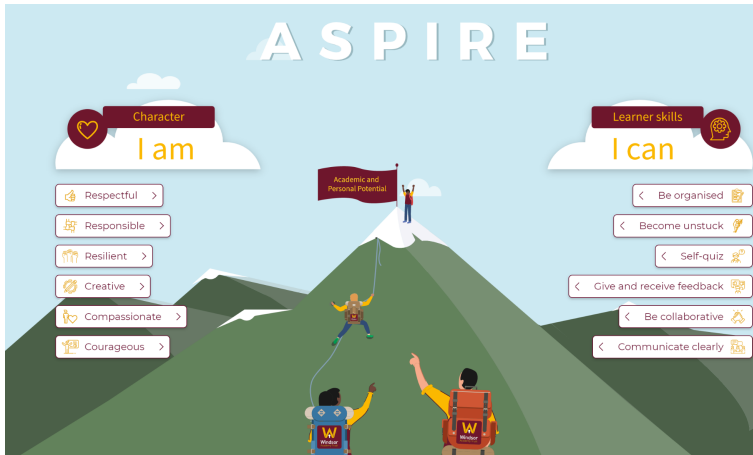
Students in year 9 have recently been given their option subjects for Key Stage 4. These are the subjects they will take for their GCSE's alongside English, Maths and Science. This year we have been able to offer the following subjects to study;

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| - Art | - Dance | - Music |
| - Business Studies | - Food | - Product Design |
| - Child Development | - French | - Religious Education |
| - Digital Information Technology | - Geography | - Sport Studies |
| - Drama | - History | |

During the second half of the Summer term students will have the opportunity to have a taster session of their option choices before the next academic year

Student Services Updates for this week:

Great Wyrley Academy students have received over 2300 aspire points this week. The top 3 character virtues and learner skills demonstrated this week are being **respectful**, being **responsible** and **communicating clearly**. They have demonstrated a great deal of respect for each other and communicated their learning extremely well in lessons



Communicate clearly	448
Responsible	317
Respectful	261
Be organised	251
Creative	234
Become unstuck	207
Self-quiz	200
Resilient	163
Be collaborative	122
Give and receive feedback	90
Compassionate	23
Courageous	8
Total	2324

First point of contact: If you have any concerns regarding your child please make contact with their form tutor in the first instance. Due to teaching commitments of staff it is not always possible to meet with parents and carers who arrive at reception without an appointment. If the matter is urgent please leave a message with the reception team and someone will be in touch at the earliest opportunity.