



Great Wyrley Academy

A part of Windsor Academy Trust



WELCOME TO OUR FIRST MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF 2021

Newsletter Easter 2021

It has been delightful to have staff and students back in school since March 8th. The students have been through some incredibly tough times over the past twelve months; their resolve has been inspirational. As I write this the sun is shining, the outlook seems a little better and we can hope for positive times in the summer months ahead.

As the term draws to a close I wanted to thank you for your continued support – particularly since January. Helping us provide education at home for all our students, following the correct procedures when students have been ill, keeping up with communications via Parent mail and Class charts; your support has helped make the most unusual of times as normal as possible. Fingers-crossed for the summer term.

Finally, I would like to emphasise the importance now that students attend school. We must utilise the summer term as a time to consolidate learning. Unless a student is ill they should be attending school.

Stay safe and well. I hope you all have a pleasant Easter break with family and friends

Ian Moreton

Headteacher

Classcharts

Please ensure that you sign up for the **classcharts parent app**. You have previously been sent an invite code for this. However, if you can't find it please contact your child's Head of Year (Mrs Foyle, year 7, Mrs Bailey, year 8, Mr McFarlane, year 9 and Mrs McCarthy, years 10 and 11). From this app you will be able to see all the behaviour points awarded to your child in school. Since January there has been 20843 positive behaviours awarded through classcharts!



Please also ensure that your child signs up for the **classcharts pupil app**. Through this they will be able to see their behaviour points, their timetable and will also have access to the rewards shop, with such awards as the Headteachers award.

Attendance Update

We are still closely monitoring every student's attendance in school. Since our return on the 8th March the year group with the highest attendance is Y7 with 94%

Registration group 7B is currently cruising along with 97% attendance.

Who will be the highest next time? Can 7B be knocked off the top?



THE CHALLENGE IS ON!



PLEASE NOTE – YEAR 10



From Tuesday 4th May we will be starting period 7 with our year 10 students. This will run from 3:10pm until 4pm Monday to Thursday. Students will get further details at the start of the summer term

Positive Covid Results - Test and Trace

If your child has a positive lateral flow test result over Easter please report it using Testregister as normal and book a follow up PCR test. If the PCR test comes back positive as well please email info@greatwyrley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk with the details

Coronavirus COVID-19 STOP THE SPREAD



HANDS

Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer regularly to reduce the risk of spreading the virus



FACE

Face Coverings reduce the risk of dispersion from respiratory droplets, which travel in the air, covering a face cuts the virus you're less likely to spread it



SPACE

Transmission of the virus is most likely to happen within 2 metres. Keep a distance where it is possible.

ALTON TOWERS – SUMMER REWARD TRIP

Our intention is – providing it is safe to do so – to take students to Alton Towers towards the end of the summer term (likely to be w/c 12 th July).

In order to qualify student attendance in the summer term must be 96% or above in the summer term.

This means that students taking more than two days off in the summer term will not be allowed on the trip.

The price for the trip will be around £25 (to be confirmed).

Students with 100% attendance for the term will go for half price.

CELEBRATING OUR STUDENTS

MUSICIANS OF THE HALF TERM

Year 7 Madison Procter and Freddie Wray
 Year 8 Marley Dowding-Moreton and Mj Langston
 Year 9 Becky Cartwright and Kyle Betts

MOST IMPROVED IN MUSIC

Morgan Sheppard – Year 11



MADE GOOD PROGRESS IN DRAMA

Year 7 – Eve Sutcliffe & Lewis Seedhouse
 Year 8 – Magnus Woods & Ellie Lloyd
 Year 9 – Ben Strevens & Blaze Hayward

DRAMA STAR OF THE TERM

Leah Kelley

DANCE – MOST HARDWORKING

Year 10 - Ella Simkiss who has recently re-joined us and has been working extremely hard to catch up, staying back after school with Ms Hammond to get it all done! Well done

FOODIES OF THE MONTH

For Aspiring to be creative in their practical studies- Lucy Cope, Mason Lloyd Jones and Lottie Sambrook.



PSYCHOLOGIST OF THE MONTH

Ted peacock (Year 12) for a fantastic work ethic and love of psychology!

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Isabell Beastall for her consistent effort and enthusiasm leading to an outstanding Distinction grade in her exam

ENGINEER OF THE MONTH –

For aspiring to be creative and innovative – Tyler Warke
 Tyler has shown great engineering skills, resilience and leadership skills over the last few weeks.

SPORTS STARS OF THE MONTH – YEAR 7

Isabelle Broome and Benjamin Spooner

SPORTS STARS OF THE MONTH – YEAR 8

Harvey Duckham and Lexi Jarvis

SPORTS STARS OF THE MONTH – YEAR 9

Libby Aldridge and Declan Mayfield

KS4 SPORTS STARS OF THE MONTH

Evie Garbett and Max Woolley

ASPIRE

Top 10 performing students

WINNER - Katie Dutton (8A) - 169
 Freddie Wray (7A) - 141
 Olivia Hickson (9A) - 140
 Leah Kelley (7A) - 131
 Thomas Pearson (7T) - 126
 Summa Williamson (8B) - 123
 Jack Arblaster (10S)- 118
 Grace Wiggin (7A) - 114
 Scarlet Harris (10S) - 114

ASPIRE POINT TOTALS - SPRING TERM

WINNERS Year 7 - 4816
 Year 8 - 4545
 Year 9 - 4278
 Year 10 - 3996
 Year 11 - 3396
 ASPIRE Sixth - 840

Top tutor group in each year

WINNERS - 8A - 1436
 7A - 1380
 9S - 1122
 10S - 1068
 11S - 948

Please see the end of this newsletter for more details on our ASPIRE scheme!

	Respectful	Responsible	Resilient	Creative	Compassionate	Courageous
ADT	Saffira Webster	Grace Wiggin	Lottie Sambrook	Regan Humphries	Freddie Wray	Summa Williamson
English	M'Ballou Kallon	Jess Samuel	Katie Dutton	Daisy Moss	Lexi Jarvis	Isaac Reynolds
Expressive Arts	Brandon Elkins-Mansell	Poppy White	Morgan Sheppard	Becky Cartwright	Kayleigh Patrick	Katie Dutton

Bullying - Advice



What is considered to be bullying at GWA? Our School anti-bullying Policy uses the Acronym S.T.O.P.

Several Times On Purpose

“Bullying is any deliberate, hurtful, upsetting, frightening or threatening behaviour by an individual or group towards other people. It is repeated over a period of time and it is very difficult for victims to defend themselves.”

If you want to report that you, or someone you know, are being bullied or just want some help or advice concerning bullying then please email:

ebullybox@greatwyrley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

As well as doing this, remember you can also speak to:

- Your Head of Year
- The Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mr Fielder
- The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Foyle
- Any member of staff

SAFETY



“We all have the right to live in safety”

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mr Fielder (e-mail: dfielder@greatwyrley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk)
Deputy DSL: Mrs Foyle (e-mail: jfoyle@greatwyrley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk)

Useful help and advice for parents, regarding all safeguarding areas, including children's mental health and on-line safety can be found at:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/>

ASPIRE SIXTH



Sixth form students have been incredibly busy over the past few weeks. Year 13s have now all completed their UCAS applications and have received some exciting offers from a wide range of universities. We have had record offers from Russell Group universities which is fantastic. They have received some guidance regarding finance and student accommodation etc. Please can students look at the sixth form Google Classroom for the relevant information including details of Grant Fairy for extra help with funding.

A big congratulations to all sixth form students who sat BTEC examinations in January. The results were fantastic across all subjects. This is a fantastic achievement particularly in these difficult times. Well Done!

Mr Smith would like to extend his congratulations to the Year 13 Music students. They have risen well to the challenge these last few months have brought and they are making excellent progress. With lockdown reducing the number of completed units, the students have begun work on creating numerous leitmotifs for a range of characters as well as producing a short piece of film score to accompany a film of their choice. Despite restrictions on their time they have all worked hard to complete at least 4 leitmotifs and are working well to create a range of film scores that John Williams would be proud of! Well done year 13.

Sixth form had excellent attendance to their live lessons during lockdown and this fantastic attendance has continued now that we are back in school. If for any reason, a student is absent, please can you ensure that our attendance officer and the relevant subject staff (at both sites) are informed as soon as possible so that all relevant parties are aware.

We are proud to announce that up to four of our sixth form students will have the opportunity to take part in the *Lessons from Auschwitz* programme. This is a unique, online opportunity for students to learn about individuals whose lives have been affected by the Holocaust. All details regarding the course and the application process can be found on the sixth form Google Classroom.

We are thrilled at the amount of applications for Aspire Sixth that we have received from Year 11 students. If you have any queries about sixth form or want to make an application, please see our Aspire Sixth section on the school website or email myself directly snewman@greatwyrley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

Year 7

Y7 are having a giant sunflower growing competition. Students will be sent home with a small pot with a sunflower seed. These need to be returned after Easter once they have germinated so we can plant them to grow through the summer term.

If people have some old plastic pots they no longer require, we would happily accept them - reasonable sizes of 12 inches.

Music

In Music the year 7s have been using their iPads to create a Blues performance where they have to record a 12 bar blues chord sequence, a walking bass line and improvise a melody using the blues scale. Each student has performed a 12 bar improvisation and within the class there is a King and Queen of Blues chosen for their excellent performance. Year 8's have been performing parts from the song 'Just the way you are' by Bruno Mars and Year 9s have been looking at how to create a chord sequence.

Drama

Since returning back to school, year 7s have been exploring Physical Theatre. They have incorporated ensemble work, mime and movement into performances and used their bodies to transform into various objects and machines. Year 8s and year 9s have been exploring theatre practitioners, Greek Theatre and the dark themes hidden in popular fairy tales.

Drama club for year 7s has started back and students have been working on a musical theatre piece, 'Baggy Trousers' from the musical, 'Our House'.

Dance

We have had a busy but great start back. BTEC year 10 group took part in the virtual dance show Love to Dance with their piece 'Discovering Styles'. Amelia Chambers also from Year 10 submitted a lovely solo that explores the idea of growth and the journey we have to go through to develop ourselves. The change is not easy, and the piece encapsulates the hardships and barriers we have to accomplish to develop ourselves. Year 10 are working extremely hard on their BTEC Dance course work, where they are exploring and analysing professional dance pieces and the process behind creating them. Year 7 have been creating their own choreography, working from their chosen stimuli. They are new to dance but have taken on the challenge and are working very well!

★ ARTIST OF THE FORTNIGHT: ★

- Lewis France – Year 8, an exceptional chain drawing



★ Psychology ★

Year 13 are currently working hard towards their final grades. Their commitment and resilience has been fantastic and they are determined to achieve the grades they rightly deserve!

Year 12 have been busy learning about memory, in particular eyewitness testimonies and how psychological research can be used to improve police interviews of witnesses. We have even been practising our research skills on chocolate chip cookies and smarties!

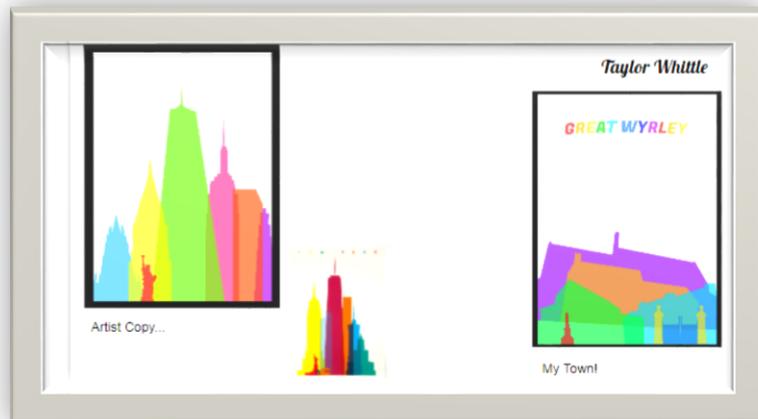
Health & Social Care:

Massive congratulations to all of the Y12 H&SC students for passing their Unit 1: Human Lifespan Development external exam. The students have been preparing since September and completed the exam at the beginning of a national lock down when no other students were in school. Their resilience and determination throughout this challenging period has been rewarded with an amazing set of results. We are all so proud of you - really well done!

Great Wyrley Bake off

During our last period of remote learning the Great Wyrley bake off competition was held with some wonderful efforts and end outcomes seen- here is link to the entries and winners. <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1FQ-Ou-Y8C9bvzY3mKPoRgaTtcXTdh3GinzRgWXZljbw/edit#slide=id.p1>

Well done to runners up Marley and Beth superb efforts- and winner Charlotte with her wonderful spring inspired cake.



★ DESIGNER OF THE FORTNIGHT- ★

Taylor Whittle for aspiring to communicate clearly in his Yoni alter inspired work

Uniform and equipment

We have made exceptions for students since the return, allowing for the fact that many shops stocking uniform are closed. However, over Easter they all reopen and you are able to make purchases online. Many supermarkets also sell the more generic uniform items (e.g. shirts and trousers).

After Easter full and correct uniform is expected. A full list is available on the school website. Please pay particular attention to which shoes are permitted. Lost ties also need to be replaced.

Students will still be permitted to come to school in their PE kit on the days of their PE lessons as no changing facilities for PE will be available in school. **Students must wear their blazer with their PE kit.**

PE kit will have to be correct (as per our uniform regulations), smart and clean. Only school PE tracksuits and PE hoodie / jumpers will be allowed. **No branded hoodies.**



Students will need to bring their own equipment with them. Whilst this has always been expected it remains crucial. Please ensure that your child brings with them a bag and all of the essential equipment they need for their lessons - pens, pencils, crayons, ruler, calculator, apron (D&T).

A reminder that hair should be of natural colour with no extreme shades or designs. Mobile phones – if seen or heard – will be confiscated as per our policy.

ADT – ART DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Students in ADT have been very creative and resilient this term and have produced some wonderful outcomes both remotely and during face to face lessons since our return. As we have neared the end of our learning cycle students have been focussing upon more practical and hands on work once more.

In art at KS3, many groups have returned to painting and clay sculpture and have welcomed working again creatively and responsibly in the art facilities.

In food Y9 have had the chance to produce healthier versions of their favourite takeaway in order to raise awareness of how home cooked food can equal fast food alternatives and take responsibility for their food choices, Y8 have baked afternoon tea treats but focussed on the function of sugar in the body and Y7 have been introduced to the rubbing in method developing quickly confidence in making their apple crumbles and studied crisps and fat levels and carried out a science experiment where they made their own vegetable crisp alternatives. In graphics at KS3 students have moved to CAD design tasks using the design softwares to produce their Craig Ward and Yoni Alter inspired practical key assessment tasks. In D&T, students have seen how engineering principles underlie the design and make process and have been busy building the bird boxes and fabricating their metal coat hooks over the last couple of weeks.

Level 3 BTEC Engineering examination results

A big congratulations to the level 3 engineering students on their fantastic examination results. The dedication and hard work shown by these students through these difficult situations with national lockdowns and cases of isolation around the COVID 19 pandemic within school has shown the determination and resilience of our students to still perform and achieve these outstanding results. A very big well done from all of the ADT Faculty family.

We have set up a faculty classroom for all students to access called 'ADT the best lesson of the week' this link will take you to it. <https://classroom.google.com/c/MjA4MjgzMzk2NDE0>. Please take a look at items posted here. We plan to include interviews, blogs, interesting reading articles and programs which link to our industries and workers who are employed across the Arts, Design, Food and Nutrition and Engineering sectors on a regular basis hopefully this will encourage students to realise their future ASPIRATIONS within our ADT subject areas and plan their future career paths. News of our competitions will also be shared here so look out for the upcoming 'Young Engineers' challenge Mr Baker will be organising after Easter. Take a look at what already features.

GET INVOLVED
AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS



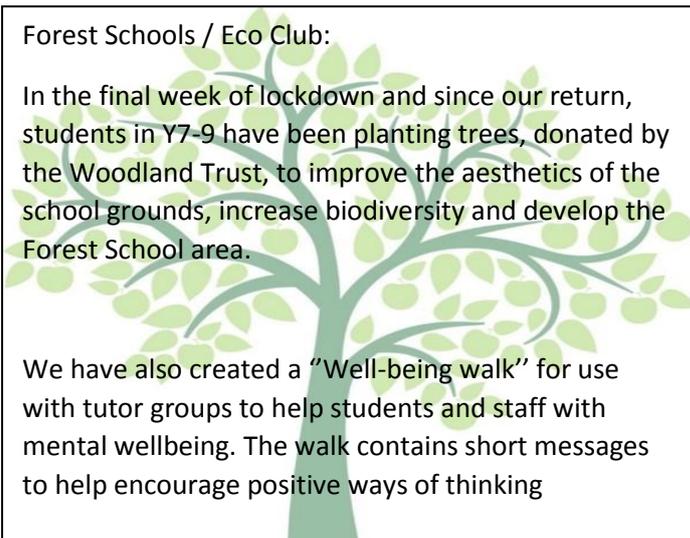
More clubs to follow

Activity Type/Club	Leader	Day	Time	Year Group	Notes
Y7 Drama Club	KSL	Tuesday	2.40-4.00	Year 7	In the Theatre
Y7 Girls Netball Club	JME	Wednesday	2.40-3.50	Year 7	Netball Courts (PE kit needed)
Y10 GCSE Drama Intervention	KSL	Thursday	2.55-4.00	Year 10	In the Theatre
Y10 Football	EBL	Friday	3-4.15	Year 10	Astro
Y11 Football	EBL	Friday	3-4.15	Year 11	Astro
Online Philosophy Club	CGO			All	Students can join the google classroom and take part in topical debates weekly. See Mrs Gould for more information
Y7 Eco School	JST	Thursday	2.40-3.40	Year 7	Outside

Forest Schools / Eco Club:

In the final week of lockdown and since our return, students in Y7-9 have been planting trees, donated by the Woodland Trust, to improve the aesthetics of the school grounds, increase biodiversity and develop the Forest School area.

We have also created a "Well-being walk" for use with tutor groups to help students and staff with mental wellbeing. The walk contains short messages to help encourage positive ways of thinking

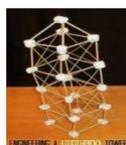


PE

We have thoroughly enjoyed having our PE classes back in front of us and taking part in physical activity once more. We have been really impressed with the attitude and motivation that the students have returned with. In KS3 we have been continuing with Hockey, Netball, Handball and Football.

The Easter Spaghetti Structures Challenge- Calling all you young Engineers. How high can you go?

Over the Easter period can sometimes get a little bit boring so take on the challenge. Build a structure out of dried spaghetti and send in the picture to the ADT google classroom. On the ADT classroom you will find lots of inspiration from the short video on how to get started with your builds. Remember if you go for something like the Eiffel Tower or the Blackpool tower is all about having fun. Don't forget to send us the pictures and post them to the ADT classroom to enter. The winners will be chosen and announced the first week of the summer term. Get building.



YoungWriters Imagine Competition

66 of our students have been chosen to be published in the YoungWriters Imagine poetry competition. Many of these poems celebrated our society and reflected the ASPIRE values which we hold in school. This is an outstanding achievement for our Year 7 and 8 students; they have worked extremely hard this term. It is definitely something to be proud of and we cannot wait to see the book once it has been printed in hard copy! Well done to all those involved.



ASPIRE

We encourage every student at Great Wyrley Academy and ASPIRE Sixth to ASPIRE in their learning and in their lives. We advocate that there are six character virtues and six learning skills which are crucial to the unlocking of both personal and academic potential. It is these virtues and skills which will equip all students with the personal and academic attributes required to become happy, safe and successful citizens.

ASPIRE has evolved!

More specific character virtues and learner skills, chosen in light of recent research and our own experiences throughout lockdown

These are the 6 'I am' virtues. These are personal qualities that we would like you to develop so you are successful in your future lives.



These are the 6 'I can' learner skills. These are skills that you will use, develop and master each lesson to help you to help you self-regulate your own learning.

Character 'I am'

Learner skills 'I can'

Character Virtue	Definition
Respectful	To treat someone or something in a way that shows it is valued.
Responsible	To act knowing that our choices will lead to certain outcomes.
Resilient	To try, even when something is challenging.
Creative	To think of different ideas and perspectives.
Compassionate	To show care and kindness to others.
Courageous	To be brave and aim high.

Learner skill	Definition
Be organised	Organise and effectively manage learning independently (self regulating)
Become unstuck	Know what to do when they don't know what to do',
Self-quiz	Competent at self quizzing techniques from KO and self quiz it daily
Give and receive feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Receive, understand and act upon feedback Give accurate feedback to themselves and peers
Be collaborative	Work effectively with a learning partner and within a team

Students are regularly rewarded when they positively on class charts.

We want every learner to believe that they can be all and more than they ever thought they could be, and to know what their future self looks like. Research tells us that people who have clear aspirations, and who know what they need to do in the present, are eight times more likely to achieve those aspirations. 'Aim for the moon, because if you miss you'll land among the stars.'

Communicate clearly

Get students to SHAPE their verbal answers

Sentences - no single word answers

Hand away from mouth - be confident

Articulate - don't mumble

Project - a loud, clear voice

Eye contact - this is important!

IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDING NOTICE-

As you will have been aware from reading and watching the news over the last week the website 'Everyone's Invited' has drawn much publicity for the shocking testimonials from over 10,000 people describing sexual abuse by other young people. As a result, the government announced that they were launching a review into sexual abuse in schools.

With immediate effect the NSPCC has created a new helpline that will provide both children and adults who are potential victims of sexual abuse in schools with the appropriate support and advice. This includes how to contact the police and report crimes if they wish. The helpline will also provide support to parents where necessary –

NSPCC helpline 0800 136 663

The NSPCC logo is displayed in a large, bold, green font. The letters are thick and blocky, with a slight shadow effect. The 'N' and 'S' are connected, and the 'P' and 'C' are also connected. The 'C' is a simple, rounded shape. The 'C' and 'C' are connected.