



Great Wyrley Academy

A part of Windsor Academy Trust



WELCOME TO OUR JANUARY HALF TERM 2023 NEWSLETTER

Commenting on the findings of the Ofsted report, headteacher, Kelly Moore, said:

“Since joining Windsor Academy Trust in 2018, Great Wyrley Academy has been on a real journey of transformation. While it hasn’t been an easy journey, we can now proudly say that our school is ‘good’ in all areas.

“I am particularly pleased that inspectors recognised how happy and safe our students feel when at school, and the strong relationships our young people are building with both their peers and their teachers. We work incredibly hard to foster a positive attitude towards learning so that when our young people walk out of our school gates for the very last time, they will leave as the very best versions of themselves, with the best possible outcomes, and an incredibly bright future ahead of them.”



Dan Owen, Director of Secondary Education at Windsor Academy Trust, added:

“I am exceptionally proud that Great Wyrley Academy has been recognised for the high quality education it offers. Since joining the trust, the school has gone from strength to strength, despite the additional challenges caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. As the Ofsted report acknowledges, a great deal of thought and effort has gone into making this happen. A culture of excellence is now embedded in every aspect of school life and it is hugely rewarding to see Ofsted recognise both the hard work of our staff and the pride our pupils and parents have in our school.”



Welcome to our new DT Technician Mr Hulme!
Congratulations on the appointment of our new Parent Governor is Mrs Nathalie Donaghy- Gibbons parent of Year 7 student.



Half Term: Monday 20 February—Friday 24 February 2023	
Monday 27 Feb	Y11 Mock Exams
Thursday 02 March	Y9 Parents’ Evening & Options Evening
Monday 06 March	Food Practical Exams Begin
Thursday 09 March	Spring Concert
Wednesday 29 March	School Show

preloved

Our Pre-Loved Uniform shop is now well stocked with items available at low cost including PE items. Thankyou to everyone who has gifted to the shop so far.

For more information please contact:
uniform@greatwyrley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

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 Leads: Mrs Foyle, Mr Studholme, Mr McFarlane, Mrs McCarthy, Mrs Herrington

Any member of staff

Keeping
children safe
is everyone's
responsibility



“We all have the right to live in safety”

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mr Fielder (e-mail: dfielder@greatwyrley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk)

Deputy DSL 's

Mrs Foyle

jfoyle@greatwyrley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

Mr Studholme

jstudholme@greatwyrley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

Mrs McCarthy

mmcarthy@greatwyrley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

Mrs Herrington

sherrington@greatwyrley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

Mr McFarlane

NSPCC

New Dedicated NSPCC helpline 0800 136 663

This new helpline has been created to provide both children and adults who are potential victims of sexual abuse in schools with the appropriate support and advice. This included how to contact the police and report crimes if they wish. This helpline will also provide support to parents.

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/>

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Year 7/8 girls football match against Cheslyn Hay.

The Year 7/8 girls football played their first 9 aside football match on astro turf against Cheslyn Hay Academy. Although the score did not go their way the girls showed great determination and desire in their performance. It was great to see them getting stuck into tackles, blocking shots and organising and encouraging each other. In the second half they also advanced up the pitch more successfully and created several shots on goal. I can't wait to see one of these chances finally go in. Well done on a good team performance.

Mrs Fielder.



GWAWARDS

MUSIC & DRAMA



GWAMMYS

Y7 – Phoebe Foster & Joshua Palmer
 Y8 – Lola Evans & Tyler Sheldon
 Y9 – Amelia Stokes & Christian Parker
 Y10 – Abigail Follows & Teah Jones
 Y11 – Becky Cartwright & Reese Lander-King

GWOSCARS

Y7 – Thomas Kendrick & Indiya Edwards
 Y8 – Brandon Collins & Lucie Chandler
 Y9 – Tye Daley & Conor Follett
 Y10 – Lexi Jarvis & Isabella Maullin
 Y11 – Paris Kumar & Louise Pearsall



Drama:

In Drama, Y10 students have enjoyed taking part in Performance Styles workshops; they have learned all about Brecht's Epic Theatre and Melodrama. They have recently been introduced to the range of stimuli to inspire ideas for their Component 2 exam.

Y11 students have been preparing for their Component 3 exam on the 17th March. Students are performing extracts from, 'Tusk Tusk', 'Be My Baby', 'Leaves', 'Blue Remembered Hills', 'DNA' and 'Like a Virgin'.

KS3 students have been working hard on their Live Theatre Review during cover lessons.

Music:

At the start of the new year all music groups have moved to working on new materials. Year 7 students are learning about Blues music, its History and the musical elements used when performing. During the first week they were improvising a melody using a Blues scale and there was a 'King and Queen of Blue's awarded in each group. Year 8 have been learning about performance directions and using these skills to perform an ensemble piece. Year 9 have been learning about traditional Irish music and have been learning how to compose using a 6/8 time signature.

Y10 GCSE have begun work on their 'free' composition and are practising hard to develop their solo performances. They have also begun working on learning about The Concerto through time, looking at Music of the Baroque period.

Y11 Have now completed their 'Free compositions' and are working hard to complete their composition to a brief. They have also been working hard to improve their solo and ensemble recordings.

Soul Band

Our Soul Cats have been working hard to prepare some new material to be performed at the next concert as well as for the Belgium trip in July. We have had lots of new members join and they have worked hard to perfect their performances. We will be looking to put on an 'Evening of Soul' in the coming months where the soul band will perform for the entire evening. Date to be announced soon.

Drama Club:

Members have been rehearsing 'Revolting Children' from Matilda for the Love 2 Dance showcase in March.

School Show:

Rehearsals have been productive. It's not long now! Please take note of our Saturday rehearsals coming up soon if your child is involved. The expectation is that students source their own costumes. Take a look at inspiration posted on Google Classroom to help assist them!

Saturday 4th March

Saturday 25th March

MATHS

Enrichment:

In February students from 9M1 and 10M1 will be taking part in this year's UKMT Intermediate 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. Hopefully we will have some good news when we get the results! More information such as how to prepare for the challenge has been posted on google classrooms.

The UKMT challenge club runs on a Tuesday after school in Q11 for years 7 and 8 to help students prepare for the UKMT Junior Challenge. Please see Mr Hayat for more details. The Junior Challenge takes place in April.

Y11:

The Y11 Century Tech rewards scheme continues. Any student that completes a nugget on Century Tech is entered into a weekly draw to win a bag of sweets. The more nuggets you complete the more entries you will get. The draws take place during year 11 assembly on Monday mornings. Remember you've got to be in it to win it!!

Period 7 intervention takes place on Mondays after school. Biscuits and juice is provided and all year 11's are welcome. We are focussing on exam technique during this cycle and students are provided with past papers to complete during the session and at home.

Mathematician of the month:

Year 7 - Grace Lloyd (7M2) for brilliant all-round effort and always wanting to challenge herself.

Year 8 - Megan Asbury (8M3) for being very hard-working and gaining more confidence in her maths.

Year 9 - Maddi Proctor (9M1) for being hard-working and conscientious.

Year 10 - Louie Beckett (10M4) Louie has shown how well he can do when fully focussed and wanting to study. Well done!

Year 11 - Olivia Hickson (11M1) for continuous hard work and effort every lesson and **Matty Jones (11M2)** for the huge amount of hours put into Century Tech (1st in the class!)

ADT

This month we have celebrated the amazing talents of the Y13 Graphic students. They have been developing their own projects from Games design to War Propaganda and Architectural photography. They are a creative and resilient group of students who have shown incredible dedication over the last 6 months of work on these projects. It was a joy to celebrate with their friends and family, thank you to all who came to enjoy the evening with us.

The Art, Design and Technology team has growth this month with the KS3 Art club having a major boost in numbers - almost doubling. Students are working really hard with Mrs Crabb to create pieces of work for the set of the school show 'The Adams Family' (Click, Click). This has been a fun experience to look at art in action, becoming set designers and next month we will be moving into developing props for the show too - watch this space for pictures coming soon.



ENGLISH

Y11 have been working hard in their revision of both Literature and Language in the run up to their next GCSE mock examinations at the end of February. Work is being set on a weekly basis on Century Tech which will further aid in this revision process. In addition to this there are multiple intervention sessions being run by the English department to provide focussed support, Monday afternoons there is a virtual literature revision session in the library, Tuesdays a literature session led by Miss Alton and Miss Goodman and on Thursdays a Language session led by Mrs Whittaker - all students are welcome to attend. In order to deepen students' understanding of the literature texts they are studying in KS4 we have a theatre company coming into school on 16th March to perform a production of An Inspector Calls to both Y10 and 11. This will be a fantastic opportunity for students to watch the play performed live and question the characters at the end whilst in role.

GW ENGLISH AWARDS:

Year 7 - Freya Preston and Imogen Stevenson-Daniel on the successful completion of the Fresh Start programme.

Year 8 - Ellie Profitt and Teagan Merrick for their enhanced efforts within lessons.

Year 9 - Billy Robinson and Leisal Colett for their sustained effort and contributions.

Year 10 - Eva Nightingale

Year 11 - Aaron Bucklor, Ellie Devey and Olivia Hickson for sustained effort and fantastic contributions to class discussions.

Coming very soon is National Apprenticeship week. Please use the link here to discover more about the opportunities available to our Y11 over the course of the week.

<https://nationalapprenticeshipweek.co.uk/events/>

Clarks®

Your new Clarks store is now open 7 days a week at West Midlands Designer Outlet, Eastern Way, Cannock, WS11 7JZ.

Free in store kids fitting with our expert fitters available by appointment or walk-in service available. We also offer quiet time fittings, please contact the store for more details.

ASPIRE FOR LIFE DAY

On the 31st of January we had our careers centred Aspire for life day. Students across all year groups had lessons focussed on careers, personal branding and how to build skills and character for the world of work. Y10 had a focus on work experience also and researching placements and preparing for that, Y11 were busy writing and revising their CV and discussing interview techniques and how to make a GREAT application.

As part of the day Y9-11 had the opportunity to visit and listen to presentations from external speakers and employers from the NHS, Business and Enterprise, MOD, The British Army, Rodbaston Animal care, PowerPanels Control and Automotion Engineering, Taylor Wimpey construction, INCOMM Engineering and Bentley Motorsport and Automotion. We also had our very own Aspire Sixth form and Walsall college stands for the students to visit to ask questions and discuss what their next steps could be to Aspire to be GREAT and get their first job and further education places.

The day was a vital day for students to continue to make links between what they are learning in the classroom and wider careers centred work so that they can become the very best versions of themselves and realise their dream jobs and ambitions.



Remarkable Woman



Huge thanks to international singer and “Remarkable Woman” Jayne Middleton who came in to speak to the Y10 & Y11 girls at GWA about being true to yourself, following your dreams and never giving up.

A truly inspirational session!

Girls Football ‘Go Lead’ Inspire Event.

The Football Association, The Youth Sport Trust and Barclays have joined forces to run at national event where girls act as leaders and role models to inspire their female peers to participate and experience football. Eleven pupils from Year 7 and 8 took part in live launch of the ‘Go Lead’ Programme. They showed great enthusiasm and teamwork and agreed on several events they would like to plan, organise and lead for girls to play football in a comfortable and friendly environment. Watch this space.



EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Activity	Leader	Days	Time	Year Groups
Soul band	Mr Smith	Tuesday	3 - 4.30pm	Invite only
Viva Voce	Mr Smith	Tuesday	8- 8.30	All
Year 7&8 football	Mrs McCarthy	Wednesday	3.15	
Girls Netball	Mrs McCarthy	Monday	3.15	
Girls Football	Mrs Fielder	Wednesday	3.15	
Year 9 & 10 football	Mr Fielder	Thursday	3.15	
Art Club	Mrs Down & Mrs Crabb	Tuesday	3:10-4:10	All
Gallery Curators	Mrs Down	Wednesday and Thursday	lunch time	All
Dance Club	Miss Wood	Tuesday	3-4.15pm	All
UKMT Challenge	Miss Wood	Tuesday	3:10-3:50	Year 7 and 8
Amnesty Club	Mrs Gould	Monday	03-Apr	all
Drama Club	Miss Slade & GCSE Students	Monday	3-4	Year 7
School Show	Miss Slade/ Miss	Wednesday/ Thursday	Wed 3-5.30 Thursday 3-4.30	Students from all years who successfully auditioned last summer
Tennis club	Mrs BroadWood & Mr Toulson	Monday	Lunchtime	
Grow Your Own Food club	Mr Frost	Wednesday	Lunchtime	All
Debate club	Mr Frankham	Wednesday	3:10-3:50	
Gaming Club	Mr McFarlane & Mr Pattinson	Monday & Friday	Lunchtime	Invite only
Juggling	Mr Stephenson	Wednesday	3:10-3:40	Year 7
Social Activities Group	Mrs Smith	Wednesday	3:10- 4:00pm	Invite Only



JANUARY ASPIRE POINTS

Top 10 performing students

WINNER

Katie Dutton (10X) —131
 Elliot Lunt (7W) - 89
 Brandon Collins (8X) - 87
 Leo Orme (7W) - 86
 Willow Llewellyn (10X) - 83
 Marley Dowding-Morton (10Y) - 83
 Lydia Dutton (7W) - 82
 Shaian Cele (10Z) - 81
 Freya Preston (7Z) - 79
 Lyndon Dawney (9Y) - 77

ASPIRE POINT TOTAL

WINNERS

Year 7— 5571
 Year 9— 3584
 Year 8— 3362
 Year 10— 3293
 Year 11— 2678

Top 5 tutor groups

WINNERS

7W—1800
 7Z—1543
 8X—1433
 9X—1411
 9Y—1307

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 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.

Students are regularly rewarded when they mentioned 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.'

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-quizz	Competent at self quizzing techniques from KO and self quiz it daily
Give and receive feedback	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
Communicate clearly	<p>Get students to SHAPE their verbal answers</p> <p>Sentences - no single word answers</p> <p>Hand away from mouth - be confident</p> <p>Articulate - don't mumble</p> <p>Project - a loud, clear voice</p> <p>Eye contact - this is important!</p> 