



Great Wyrley Academy

A part of Windsor Academy Trust



WELCOME TO OUR JUNE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER 2021

Newsletter June 2021

It seems only yesterday that I was writing to you to wish you all a Happy Easter. The past six weeks have gone by incredibly quickly. It has been busy here in school and for the Year 11 and Year 13 students the half term has been filled with final assessments and evidence-gathering in order to produce their final Teacher Assessed Grades. Well done to all these students who have done incredibly well to come through this adversity showing maturity, good humour and dedication.

I'm pleased to have seen continual improvements in attendance and punctuality since Easter. Thank you for your continued support with this. Students must come to school to maximise their future opportunities.

Looking forward, during the final half term we will have a continued focus on attendance and maintain the highest expectations from all students. We will also be putting a strong focus on uniform and hard work in order to end the school year strongly. As we reach the end of the year we will also celebrate and reward students for the successes of the year and hold our activities week.

In the meantime, have a lovely Whitsun half term break. I look forward to seeing the students at their usual times on Monday 7 June.

Ian Moreton

Headteacher



HERO OF THE MONTH



We are really proud of all of our students at Great Wyrley Academy but particularly so of Oscar in Year 10. An elderly lady in our local community fell into the busy A34 Walsall Rd near school. Oscar helped the lady to her feet, checked she was ok and waited with her whilst her family arrived. What a wonderful positive role model. A great example of altruism and fine character. Well done Oscar!

If you have a heroic story about your child, we would love you to share that with us on info@greatwyrley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk so we give them the recognition they rightly deserve!



ATTENDANCE UPDATE

Thank you to parents and students for their continued support for high attendance at Great Wyrley Academy. This is important as evidence shows that children who attend regularly achieve more, have closer friendships and thrive in school. Since our return on 8th March the vast majority of students have arrived on time every single day and as such are eligible for our **Alton Towers Attendance Reward Trip** later this year. We would like to remind parents that our attendance target is a minimum of **97% attendance**. This equates to no more than 5 days of absence over the whole school year. Parents will be informed where attendance falls below 94% and court action will be considered where attendance falls below 90% which is approximately one day of absence every two weeks. Parents who would like support to improve their child's attendance should contact their child's head of year.

Y7 PLEDGE WEEK

Pledge Week payments are now due. To secure your child's place please pay the £20 payment via your child's ParentMail account by Tuesday 8th June 2021. Only payment by this method will be accepted. If you require any information about making payment through ParentMail please contact us. Consent forms will be sent out after half term.



DATES FOR THE DIARY

INSET DAY

28 June



Modern Foreign Languages

A big SHOUTOUT to Y11 who have worked so hard to prepare for their French Reading, Listening & Writing Assessments this half-term. I am sure it will be worth it in the end, and I am very proud of your resilience – *très bien fait!*

CELEBRATING OUR STUDENTS

FRENCH STARS!

Year 7: Ellie Shotton
Year 8: Lexi Jarvis
Year 9: Edward Griffiths
Year 10: Amelia-Mae Chambers



CHEF OF THE MONTH

Liam Kennedy for his fantastic personal performance and his responsible working routines and helpfulness towards his peers



MUSIC HARD WORKERS OF THE MONTH

Year 7 - Katie Rawlins and Kenzie - Jay Taylor
Year 8 – Annabel Startin and Jack Haynes
Year 9 - Paige Lewis and Kyle Betts

MOST IMPROVED IN MUSIC

Chloe Hickson in year 13

BIG WELL DONE!!

A big well done to Tyler Keats, Tom Samuel or Billy Wright! They have all completed their L3 IT course having achieved Distinction*, Distinction*, Distinction respectively.

DRAMA STARS OF THE MONTH:

Year 7-
Jack Woolley
Leisal Collett

Year 8-
Katie Dutton
Alfie Babb

Year 9-
Aiden Field
Hannah Maiden

ASPIRE

TOP PERFORMING STUDENTS

WINNER Katie Dutton (8A) - 73

Jack Arblaster (10S) - 61
M'Ballou Kallon (8A) - 55
Shaian Cele (8S) - 53
Jack Wilkes (10S) - 51
Paige Edwards (8S) - 51
Madison Mason (10S) - 50
Ellie Lloyd (8A) - 49

ASPIRE POINT TOTALS – MAY

WINNERS Year 8 – 2605

Year 9 – 2464
Year 7 – 2389
Year 10 – 2169
Year 11 – 688
Aspire Sixth - 426

TOP TUTOR GROUP IN EACH YEAR

WINNERS 10S – 523

8A – 755
10A – 724
9S – 695
8T - 687

CALLING ALL ADULTS!

Students have been working on their ASPIRE sentences throughout the last half term. We have lots of interest in the following careers:

Football manager / player, Architecture, Law, Acting, Police Force, Medicine, Beauty industry, Veterinary care

We are looking for volunteers to speak to our students about these careers either remotely or in school during the next half term. If you would like to speak to our wonderful students or have a contact name and number please email Mrs Cornwall

hcornwall@greatwyrley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

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

Bullying - Advice

Before you

Make an unkind remark
Spread a nasty rumor
Make fun or belittle
Physically intimidate
or threaten



and THINK
about how it would feel if
someone did these things to you!

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 Dovey, Mr McFarlane and Mrs McCarthy
- Any member of staff



“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)

Deputy DSL: Mr Dovey (e-mail:
jdovey@greatwyrley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk)

Deputy DSLs also available are Mr McFarlane (Head of Year 9) and Mrs McCarthy (Head of Year 10)

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

In January, the Government launched a new strategy to tackle child sexual abuse and in the following months there has been a host of stories about the experiences of young people across the country. To ensure we do all we can to keep students safe we have reviewed and further strengthened our policy and practice, provided additional training for staff and the topic was covered in all Year Group assemblies last week.

There is now new information regarding Health & Safe Relationships which has been added to the safeguarding section of the website.

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/>

ASPIRE SIXTH



A big farewell and good luck to our Year 13s.

They have all worked brilliantly over the past few weeks and months in completing coursework and preparing for and sitting their assessments.

This has been a long and hard half term but we’ve got there and they leave us with all our best wishes for their future.

We have our celebration farewell on Friday 28th May - this looks set to be an emotional occasion as we say our farewells.

You have been a fantastic year group and you will forever be special as my first year group as sixth form lead. Remember to stay in touch and let us know how you are getting on in whatever you decide to do.

good luck!

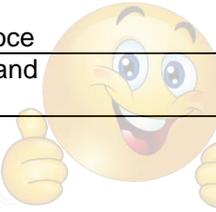
LUNCHTIME / AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS

GET INVOLVED



Activity Type/Club	Leader	Day	Time	Year Group	Notes
Y7 Drama Club	Miss Slade	Tuesdays	2.40-3.45	Year 7	In the Theatre
Y7 Eco School	Mr Stephenson	Thursday	2.40-3.40	Year 7	Outside
Y7 Girls Netball Club	Mrs Medlicott	Wednesday	2.40-3.50	Year 7	Netball Courts (PE kit needed)
Y8 Girls Football	Mrs Fielder	Tuesday	2.40-3.20	Year 8	
Y9 Drama Club	Miss Slade	Mondays	2.50-4.00	Year 9	In the Theatre
Y9 Lunchtime Football Club	Mr Blake	Wednesdays	12.30-1.00	Year 9	Astro
		Fridays	12.30-1.00	Year 9	Astro
Y10 Dance Club	Miss Hammond	Tuesdays	3.00-4.00	Year 10	In the Theatre
Y10 GCSE Drama Intervention	Miss Slade	Thursday	2.55-4.00	Year 10	In the Theatre
Y10 Football	Mr Blake	Friday	3.00-4.15	Year 10	Astro
Y11 Football	Mr Blake	Friday	3.00-4.15	Year 11	Astro
Recreational football	Mrs Fielder	Tuesdays	12.35-1.00	Year 7 & 11	MUGA
Online Philosophy Club	Mrs Gould			All	Students can join the google classroom and take part in topical debates weekly. See Mrs Gould for more information

COMING SOON

	Viva Voce	Miss Dawes / Mr Smith	Monday	3.00-3.45	Years 7-13	Once covid restrictions allow
	Soul Band	Miss Dawes / Mr Smith	Tuesday	3.00-4.00	Years 7-13	Once covid restrictions allow
School show	Miss Dawes / Mr Smith / Miss Slade / Miss Hammond	Wednesday	3.00-4.30	Years 7-13	Once covid restrictions allow	

History



Huge congratulations to all the members of Y11 who have worked extremely hard between our return to school on March 8th and now to prepare for, revise for and then complete the full range of examination papers to aid the process of determining their grades. This has consumed us all this half term and you should feel proud of your achievements and your hard efforts and work. You can now put aside your views on Public Health through Time, the Norman Conquest and Inter War Conflict and Cooperation. You have been a pleasure to teach over the last 5 years and you have handled the challenges of the last year in particular with determination and a resolve to not let it stand in your way of excellence. Mrs Cornwall and I are very, very proud of you and will remember our time with you for many years to come. Good fortune and happiness always to you all.

Y7 continue to focus upon the Reformation and its impact on the evolution of early modern Britain.
 Y8 focus upon the impact of the social and economic changes of the industrial revolution period
 Y9 the Cold War and how it shaped our world today
 Y10 are now entrenched in the steps to WW2 - was it avoidable or inevitable?

DT



In DT, Y7 students have been in the workshop focusing on ASPIRE by being courageous and organised, using tools and machines to start making their crazy creature desk tidies. They are all becoming more confident with practical skills and will have some fantastic finished pieces in the next few weeks!



ADT

KS3 Aspire in action in ADT.

Over the last few weeks KS3 students across our subject areas have been busy building their Aspire sentences and beginning to realise how this can transfer into their subject studies in ADT

In food Y7 have been recording using their iPad technology their practical cooking actions so that they can reflect on their performance and "Rate their plate" using their Aspire targets and Threshold concept at the end of the lesson.

This week they prepared and cooked apple crumble with some excellent practical results, confident cooker and knife control.



FOND FAREWELL

We bid our Y11 and Y13 ADT students a fond farewell also this month. We have seen some commendable and creative work and witnessed huge efforts applied to evidencing their portfolios for their A level, GCSE and BTEC qualifications in what has been an extraordinarily difficult year.

We wish best wishes to all our students and good luck in their future endeavours.

Stay creatively talented, practically minded and healthy putting to good use what you have learned whilst undertaking your ADT qualifications in art, graphics, engineering and food preparation and nutrition. We hope that we have helped prepare you through your studies in ADT with the next chapter on your journey.

ART

The year 9 students have been developing observational skills ready for their GCSE course in Art, Craft and Design in September. They have been brilliant at observing the imperfections of the fruit's forms and textures to create realism in their work. The ASPIRE focus has been 'I am resilient' and 'I can give and receive feedback', they have been working back into their drawings and continuing to improve their skills, many of our students already showing GCSE standards.



The following students made particular progress in their fruity drawings –

Well done: Stevie-Jo Andrews, Lucy Emery, Harry Griffiths, Lucy Aston, Rebecca Cartwright and Aaron Buckler.



MUSIC

This month has seen the year 7s complete their song mix using Garageband. They have created a drum loop and then added several sound loops to create a piece of music. Some of the more advanced versions have been split and multiple loops edited to produce an amazing sound.

Year 8s are completing their performances of 'Buffalo soldier' and they have worked brilliantly to be able to play the separate parts together in a group.

Year 9s have now completed their solo performances and will be moving on to ensemble work next half term.

17th May saw numerous students taking up the option to try out various instrumental lessons for free over a trial period. All students who have taken up this option are enjoying the sessions.

Year 10s are working hard on creating their compositions during lesson time as well as during period 7 and these are all developing well.

On Friday 28th we will be saying goodbye to our year 11 and 13 music students. They have been an amazing and talented group of people who I will miss dearly. Congratulations for coping with the extreme demands placed on you during covid.



Did you know June used to be the 4th month of the year? Before Julius Caesar came to power, the calendar year only had 10 months

PSYCHOLOGY

Year 12 - students have worked hard to complete our latest topic on attachments. This is a difficult and emotive topic and I have been very impressed with the maturity and respect that students have shown when discussing some very difficult issues. As a class you have worked brilliantly over the past few months and despite lockdown, we are at the same place in the course as we would have been without lockdown. We are almost two thirds of the way through the whole course and this is a fantastic achievement - well done!

Year 13 - students have now completed all assessments ready for their grades. It is going to be very emotional saying good-bye to you on Friday. You have been a lovely class and I am going to miss you very much. Life was certainly never dull when teaching you! I am very proud of the determination and maturity you have all shown towards your studies. You never gave up and have strived to achieve your best. I wish you all the best for the future.

SCIENCE

Key Stage 3 - Year 7 are working hard on developing their understanding of human reproduction, organisation within body systems and the structure and function of cells. Year 8 are exploring the roles of acids and metals in society, trying to understand how you could make salt for your fish and chips from Sodium hydroxide and Hydrochloric acid. Year 9 are trying to wrap their brains around Specific Heat Capacity and why we use water as a coolant in cars, as well as gas pressure and why this helps us understand the coldest temperature there is - Absolute Zero at - 273°C.

Below are some of the posters and models Y7 have produced to show their knowledge of cells.





FOREST SCHOOL / ECO CLUB



WELCOME TO OUR ECO UPDATE

Our eco club members have decided they would like to tackle the biology pond area of the school to improve the biodiversity in this area. It has been neglected over the years and has become a 1960s concrete eyesore.

We have started clearing the pond and pupils have been working hard, and getting wet and muddy. It is going to take all month for us to get it cleared out.

Our plan is to make this a haven for not only the pond life but bird, butterflies and bees as well. We will lift some of the slabs and plant up sections to attract insects.

To help achieve this we are asking any avid gardeners for donations. Do you have any plants you could donate, larger plants you could divide, bedding plants you could spare or pond plants we can repopulate the pond with.

If there is anyone with any logs they could spare, these make great bee habitats when drilled with holes.

If there are any donations that would be difficult for pupils to carry to school Please contact Mrs Holmes and we can arrange to get them into school.

We will keep you updated with our progress.

Many thanks

Mrs Holmes

Eco club coordinator

Cholmes@greatwyrley.Windsor academy trust.org.uk



FOREST SCHOOL

Y7 students have been outside in challenging weather, improvising shelters, developing collaboration skills and building resilience. Over the six-week programme we have learned how to make, use and cook on open fires responsibly, cooking hotdogs and, of course, s'mores! We've been creative by making self-portraits from natural materials and we are finishing by making our forest school medallions using bow saws and carpenters drills. It is great to see students becoming much more independent, assuming the roles and responsibilities of setting up the equipment needed for each session without being asked. Well done everyone for all your hard work over this half term.

If anyone has any natural materials that we could use during our sessions, i.e. logs for seating, poles for shelter building, etc, please leave a message at school reception. We can collect small amounts of material from the Great Wyrley area. Many thanks in advance.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Congratulations to Y7 students in the philosophy group, you have really developed your persuasive arguments and really have challenged Mrs Gould's little grey cells. We have come to the end of our first philosophical inquiry into being super and students are reflecting on whether Batman should kill the Joker and if this will stop him being classed as super.

Y7 are considering the different theist and atheist arguments used to say whether God exists or not

Y8 are contemplating the inequalities in society and the religious groups responses to this

Y9 are exploring how the media affects people's views of religion

Y10 are developing their understanding of Islamic belief and how this shown in their actions



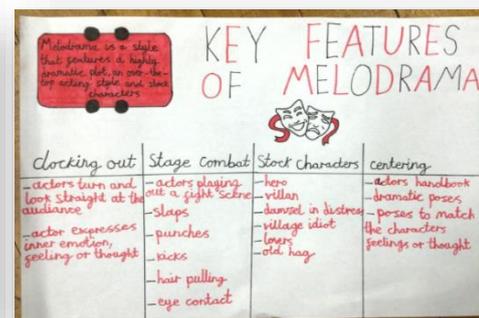
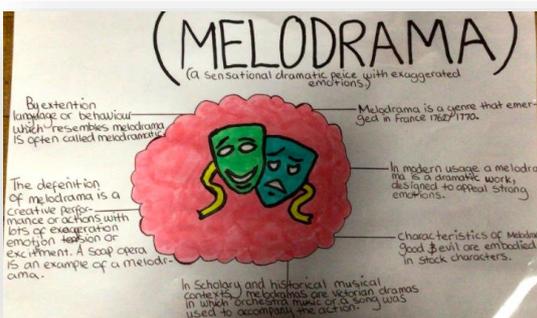
DRAMA

In Drama the Y7s were introduced to stage combat, the Y8's created abstract still images to display the pressures a preadolescent boy may experience linking to their text, 'A Monster Calls'. The Year 9s continued to learn about the characters in 'Lord of the Flies' through the use of physical theatre.

Miss Slade is incredibly proud of her Year 10s as they completed their devising exam this week; they devised a piece to raise awareness of mental health issues among young people. Drama Club members finished their musical theatre dance to 'Baggy Trousers' and received a fantastic reaction on social media.



Examples of some of the great work being produced



DANCE

This week the Y7s have completed their KAT assessments, a big well done they all did very well after having dance for such a short time. It has been enjoyable to watch their confidence grow.

The Y10 BTEC group have also had a big week. They have handed in all their coursework for component 1, well done for all your hard work!

They also had a workshop from professional dancer and ex Windsor Academy pupil Sophie. Sophie had travelled the world dancing, in a Q&A session about her experience in the industry she told the pupils her favourite country to perform in has been Japan. The students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were exhausted after!

Year 10 after school club. Our busy year Y10s have recorded their performance for the Windsor Academy Show at Wolverhampton Theatre. Their performance will be streamed virtually and it is an incredible piece to Beyoncé Single Ladies.



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

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-quizz	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 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.'

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!