



Friday 14th July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Headteacher's Weekly Update

I was absolutely stunned by the summer concert on Wednesday evening. The students were utterly inspirational. The huge range of vocal and instrumental talent on display was amazing and testament to hours of practice and preparation. It was lovely to see so many family members in the audience (the hall was completely full) and I'm sure it gave everyone a real lift!

Sports Day – Tuesday 18th July

As predicted, the moment Sports Day was postponed it was guaranteeing that last Monday was going to be a lovely day!

The new date for Sports Day is Tuesday 18th July (with Wednesday 19th as the reserve date). All students should attend school in PE kit on the day and there will be stalls alongside the usual ice cream van, so the students might want to have some cash with them.

As we did last time, we'll aim to give you as much notice as possible if the plans are required to change (via an email to all parents). At time of writing the forecasts for Tuesday look positive.

Thank a Member of Staff!

It is always nice when parents take the time to send me positive comments about a member of staff; as it is the last weekend of the school year, I thought it would be nice to provide a quick way for you to be share any positive comments that you wanted to about a member of staff. You can send your comments via this [link](#). I will then share any comments I receive with each colleague next week.

Staff Farewells

We have two colleagues with fixed term contracts that are coming to an end this term. My sincere thanks to Mr Teitel for returning to provide cover in Business & Economics during a period of staff absence. Mrs Lewis will also be moving on now that Mrs Meader has returned from maternity leave. We are all very grateful for all their support this year.

We have three members of the support staff moving on at the end of the year to new challenges. Mrs Attryde has been a wonderful support to so many students this year and has made a huge difference; I'm sure she will make a similar impact in her next role. Miss Preece has been a brilliant Attendance Officer and will be starting a very exiting graduate tech. role at Three/Vodafone. The final farewell is to Mrs Andrews, who initially joined the school as the clerk to the Governing Body (then the Local Advisory Board upon academisation) before becoming our Careers Coordinator. I have been fortunate to have worked closely with Mrs Andrews in her clerking role and very much enjoyed it.

On Thursday I will write my final letter of the year and this will include teacher farewells.

Soulscape Non-uniform Day

My sincere thanks for your support with the non-uniform day today which raised money for [Soulscape](#), an excellent local charity that we partner with to support the students.





Safeguarding Bulletin

Attached with this letter is this term's parent and carer safeguarding bulletin from Mrs Ridsdale (Deputy Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead). It includes some very important advice to help you to keep your children safe so please take a moment to read through it.

Break and Lunch Survey

We would like to run a very quick survey on the current break and lunch structure to support our decision making for September. We have created a very short survey to gather your thoughts on the most appropriate model following the trial this half term. We would appreciate you taking the time to complete this over the next couple of days so we implement the next steps to facilitate the preferred approach. To complete the survey please use this [link](#). Thank you in advance for your support with this.

School Transport Review

As shared last week, WBC is reviewing its school transport provision. The consultation explains why the council is reviewing its provision and asks parents, carers and others for their views on the proposed changes. Any changes would come into effect in September 2024, although the review also enables the council to make changes before then, if it can. You can participate via this [link](#) by Friday 21st July.

End of Term – 12.20pm on Thursday 20th July

A final reminder that the school year ends at 12.20pm Thursday 20th July. All school transport buses will be rearranged for this time, however, all other students (e.g. walk, cycle, car, public transport) will need to make their own arrangements to return home.

We have three and a half days of this academic year left so, for the last time in 2202/23, I will wish you all a fantastic weekend and especially the staff and students doing the D of E practise hike tomorrow.

Best wishes,

Nick McSweeney

Headteacher

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