



Friday 1st March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Weekly Update

The KS3 concert on Wednesday was an absolute triumph and a joy to attend. All of the performers should be so proud! As always, I'm incredibly grateful that staff support our concerts and particular thanks go to Mrs Wellman, Mrs Ashworth and Mr Ward.

Library News

- **Book Review Competition:** To celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 7th March students could win a £25 book voucher and a treat bundle. Open to all years, every book review submitted on the [library website](#) between 1st March and 22nd March will be in the draw for a chance to win. The winner will be announced on Monday 25th March.
- **Library website password:** If your child ever forgets their password they just need to click on 'reset password' and a link will be sent to their school email allowing them to set a new password. Usernames are the same as their school login.
- **New Monthly Book Club:** A new book club for all students is starting this month (meeting once a month to chat about the book and pick a new book). Read *Little Thieves* by Margaret Owen and then come along to the library at first break for a chat about the book and a cookie on Tuesday 26th March. Several copies of the book are available to borrow from the Library. *Little Thieves* is a delightfully irreverent retelling of 'The Goose Girl', an unputdownable tale about stolen lives, thorny truths, and the wicked girls at the heart of both.
- **World Book Day £1 Book Tokens:** Students can download a token to get a free book or £1 off a full price title. These can be downloaded from [this link](#). The book token barcode can either be scanned from a phone or printed out and shown in-store and are valid until Sunday 31st March 2024.
 - **Free books:** there is also information regarding free books via [this link](#).

Canteen Special – Great British Pie Day

On 7th March the canteen will be offering a special range of pies, including chicken & bacon, cheese & potato and beef & onion. All will be served with mashed and roasted potatoes, buttered cabbage, mushy peas, roasted root vegetables and gravy. There will even be apple pie for pudding!

PTA Annual Quiz Night

This year's quiz will be held on Saturday 16th March at 7pm in the main hall. Alongside the excellent quiz there will be a bar, snacks and raffle. Teams of up to 8 may enter (adults: £5, children, Year 6+: £2.50. More information can be found via [this link](#).





Careers Update

So far this year we have created 59 careers related activities for our students. This has included PSHE lessons, trips, activities, employability skills workshops, events with external providers, businesses, colleges, universities and alumni students giving back to the school. Our staff are always taking advantage of opportunities to prepare our students for the future, to help them make informed choices, by exposing them to all the routes available on their journey to becoming responsible and productive members of society.

Careers Opportunities this week:

- **British Army:** hear from a panel of inspiring female ambassadors from the Army, representing professions across 7 different career streams on Tuesday 5th March 4- 5pm. You can book a place via [this link](#).
- **Bracknell and Wokingham College:** taster sessions via [this link](#).
- **Reading College:** taster sessions via this [this link](#).
- **Adviza:** parent webinars via [this link](#).

End of Term Arrangements

Another reminder that the final day of term is Tuesday 26th March and school will finish 12.20pm as usual, with the E1, E2 and E3 buses rearranged for this time. Unfortunately the 202 and 244 cannot be rearranged and so you will need to make alternative arrangements. Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th are INSET days for staff (so the school is closed to students) and Friday 29th is a bank holiday (Good Friday).

Have lovely weekend!

Best wishes,

Nick McSweeney

Headteacher

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