

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all had a wonderful break over Christmas holiday. It has been lovely to welcome back the pupils all refreshed and ready for 2023.

Do keep an eye on the upcoming dates section of the newsletter, as we do have some exciting events planned for this year.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend!



Mrs McMorn  
 Head of School

**IMPORTANT DATES  
 FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

Year 9 Assessment week	Week commencing 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
World Religion Day	15 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
Martin Luther King Day	16 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
Year 9 Flu Vaccinations	17 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
Lunar New Year	22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2023
Year 10 Assessment week	Week commencing 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2023
Holocaust Memorial Day	27 <sup>th</sup> January 20223
Year 9 Parents Evening	2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2023
Enrichment Day	7 <sup>th</sup> February 2023
Safer Internet Day	7 <sup>th</sup> February 2023
Event discussing mobile phones	7 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 5.30pm (more information to follow)
School closes for Half Term	10 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 3pm

**SURVEY REGARDING MOBILE PHONES**

Thank you to the 45 parents/carers who responded to our quick survey about mobile phones before Christmas. We do want to get feedback on a range of areas through the newsletter. There was a wide range of views, and a broad understanding of the strengths and pitfalls of mobile phones.

Currently our policy is that we don't expect to see phones during the day. If we do all children know it will be taken until the end of the day. A very small number of pupils have to hand their phone in at the start of each day because they are repeatedly having them removed. A number of parents raise concerns about children accessing their phones during lessons.

Most parents understandably want their children to have access to phones for the trip to and from school, and most believe that children should be able to self-manage their use of a phone. All schools know that some pupils find this difficult and we do teach sessions linked to this via PSHE:

- Year 9 have online safety sessions in their first half term with us.
- Year 10 cover social media and online responsibilities in the half term up to Christmas.
- Year 11 cover online safety, social media and screen time in the half term up to Christmas.
- These themes are then reinforced in assemblies and picked up in PSHE through the year.

Some parents were interested in discussing mobile phones further and we will host an event on **Tuesday 7 February at 5.30pm**. There will be further information to follow regarding this, but we intend to share feedback from parents and carers, pupils and staff at that time.

## CURRICULUM MAPS

Please find via this link: [Wootton Upper School | Curriculum Maps](#) our subject based curriculum maps.

These show the order that topics are taught through each year group, for each subject area. Pupils have been working with us on these for some time, and we are now able to share them with you.

### **What do I need to know?**

These maps show the curriculum thread from year 9 to year 13 (where relevant). They support staff in helping your child make links between what they learn in different subjects. They are also help you to support your child at home with their learning.

We work closely with our two main feeder schools to ensure that our year 9 curriculum completes Key Stage 3, as well as reinforcing work covered in Year 7 and 8.

These maps do change as we review our curriculum - we update curriculum maps to reflect the change on the order of topics or the level of focus on a topic.

We review and update our curriculum at this level throughout each year, colleagues reflect on how well pupils learn and make connections and then look to alter practice.

The maps are to show pupils what they are learning and how it all fits together, and are displayed in department areas.

We would welcome your feedback on these documents!

## YEAR 9 FLU VACCINATIONS

The flu vaccinations will be taking place at school on 17<sup>th</sup> January. A letter has been sent home to parents and carers regarding this at the end of last term.

If you wish for your child to receive the flu vaccination, please ensure the consent form below is completed by **13<sup>th</sup> January at 3pm.**

[Form1 \(eput.nhs.uk\)](http://eput.nhs.uk)

***Please be reminded that paper copies of the consent form and verbal consent from parents/carers will not be accepted.***

As a school we provide the facilities for pupils to receive vaccinations when contacted by the local immunisation team. At this time the only clinic running this term is as detailed above. If you wish your child to receive any other vaccinations, please contact your GP.

## WISEPAY

The Wisepay cashless system is now available to top up your child's account. Food and drink can now be purchased during break and lunchtime from our cafeteria and coffee shop.

Please visit [www.woottonupper.co.uk/students](http://www.woottonupper.co.uk/students) and click on the Wisepay link to access your account.

If you have any queries, please email [accounts@wootton.beds.sch.uk](mailto:accounts@wootton.beds.sch.uk)



## IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM – YEAR 10 HISTORY TRIP

On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022, 60 Year 10 pupils attended the Imperial War Museum in London. They took part in a Holocaust Education experience led by a museum curator, which many pupils found a thought-provoking experience. They also had the opportunity to explore the First World War and Cold War galleries, to support their knowledge of the units studied for GCSE History.

"We liked how the iPad guided us through the museum gallery as it helped us to learn more about the Holocaust. We liked looking at the exhibits as it helped us to learn more visually and relate to individual people in the Holocaust, and what they went through". **Rebecca Smiley** and **Roxy Jackson**.

"The trip was very enjoyable, I learnt a lot!" **Lizzie Golding**.

The coach driver also gave us a guided tour of some of the sites of central London on the way home! Thank you to the pupils for being so engaged throughout the day, and to the staff who supported on the trip.



## SCIENCE STARS OF THE WEEK – CONGRATULATIONS!

This week's stars are  
Year 11 – **Lola Moore**  
Year 10 – **Ella Harper**  
Year 9 – **Taiyana Bellot**



## TOP ATTITUDE TO LEARNING ACHIEVERS



### Year 9

Harriett Burns  
Franklina Akwafo  
Reagan Baxter  
Taiyana Bellot  
Harvey Borromeo  
Abigail Brightman  
Willow Brockett  
Ava Castleton  
Yuxi Chen  
Erin Chillingworth  
Grace Dearman  
Hannah Doyle  
Nala Ellis  
Annabel Fishwick  
Molly Gleeson-Higgins  
Amelie Gobindram  
Charlotte Grove  
Mame Gyambibi  
Alice Hicks  
Dylan Jenkins  
Hadley King  
Harry Lawley  
Caitlin McCallum  
Aarav Mehmi  
Tom Okeke  
Charlie Penfold  
Sarah Scott-Pearson  
Mia Thomas-Lutener  
Lottie Watters  
Ollie Watts  
Taylor Wiseman

### Year 10

Tosin Ademola-Sodeke  
Izzy Baker  
Flynn Ballard-Davis  
Milei Calder  
Alecks Connaughton  
Ava Daruvalla-Riccio  
Riya Gill  
Lizzie Golding  
Claudia Gomez Alamar  
Daniel Harkett  
Alfie Ingram  
Ella Jarvis  
Henry Jia  
Matilda Johnson  
Anna Kureekal  
Matthew Lake  
Charian Leckie-Shaw  
Alex Maslanka  
Alaina McDougall  
Frederick Nyamekeh  
Camilla Raja  
Lola Ransome  
Nicholas Rempel  
Izzy Ross  
Rebecca Smiley  
Ben Smith  
Liv Soesan  
Maya Turicanin  
Matthew Van Oorschot  
Samuel Wallace  
Matthew West  
Shelby White

### Year 11

Angel Aghanya  
Lucy Ahearne  
Oluwadamilola Ajayi  
Lily Aspey  
Gaby Babai  
Keeley Botha  
Tino Cascella  
Jiegao Chen  
Abi Corrigan  
Luca Crusco  
Lewis Curryer  
Owen Davies  
Fraser Everitt  
Colette Fickling  
Grace Ford  
Annabel Hamilton  
Izzy Harvey  
Ewan Higgins  
Eleanor Hogben  
Kydon Holton-Lowdon  
Safaa Ibrahim  
Navdeep Kaur  
Zainab Khan  
Arran Lock  
Lola Moore  
Alfie Nicholson  
Layla Redpath  
Scarlett Sale  
Jacob Salmasi  
Caiden Searing  
Karanpreet Sidhu  
Layla Sturgeon  
Sophie Symonds  
Jax Watters

## HELP FOR HOUSEHOLDS

A number of supermarkets and retailers are running an initiative to help with the cost of living. For further information please visit the link below.

[Discounts and offers - Help for Households](#)



# Pre-loved Uniform shop

Wootton Upper School would like to launch a pre-loved shop uniform shop.

This will support towards us being more sustainable as a school, but also support with everyone in our school community having equal access to uniform.



Second hand clothes help reduce carbon emissions, save resources such as water and energy. They also prevent old clothing from ending up in landfills or incinerators.

Second hand clothes also help save money, which at this current time can be a real benefit , particularly with ever growing children 😊

We are asking if parents have any Blazers, ties and/or new style PE kit in good condition, that your children has out grown and you would be willing to donate to our cause.



Reduce

Reuse

Recycle

If you do, please could you bag this up and drop it off to the main reception or the students can bring this over to the Pastoral Hub.

Alternatively if you would like to access any pre-loved uniform please do not hesitate to contact us on the below emails;

**[lwhitwham@wootton.beds.sch.uk](mailto:lwhitwham@wootton.beds.sch.uk)** or  
**[sfarrant@wootton.beds.sch.uk](mailto:sfarrant@wootton.beds.sch.uk)**