

Friday 28 January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

A really full newsletter this week with lots of successes and opportunities. It has been a pleasure to read through. Next week is assessment week for Year 9 and we wish them well.

Year 11 will receive their mock results on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February. We look forward to meeting them and their parents/carers at the consultation evening on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February.



There are still some parents and carers who have not logged into ClassCharts. By logging in you see a daily update of your child's achievements, and updates from class teachers. It is most useful when your child also logs into the App – many of our learners are using it very effectively.

If you are not sure how to log in, please email Mr Bailey:  
[pbailey@wootton.beds.sch.uk](mailto:pbailey@wootton.beds.sch.uk)

### **Instrumental Lessons**

### **A message from Mr Reeve – Head of Music**

Many studies show a correlation between learning an instrument and academic success. Learning to play an instrument stimulates the brain, improving functions like memory and abstract reasoning skills, which are essential for maths and science. It also increases discipline, confidence and creativity but most importantly it is a fun and rewarding activity.

At Wootton Upper School our instrumental lessons are provided by peripatetic staff who work for the Bedford Music Co-operative. If you are interested your child learning an instrument, please visit the website to find out more information or to sign up for lessons:

[www.bedsmusic.coop/lessons](http://www.bedsmusic.coop/lessons)

## DJing and Music Production

We have a new digital recording and production studio at Wootton Upper School and from February half-term, we will be offering exciting opportunities for students to learn DJing and music production skills.

DJing has become a recognised performance skill and, as well as being an enjoyable activity, students can even specialise in DJing as a performance option at GCSE.

Local DJ Mark Louisy from *In2Beats FM* will be running an extra-curricular DJ club on Mondays from 3:00pm-4:00pm as well as offering one-to-one tuition on the turntables during school time.

There will be a 'taster' session for students who are interested in this on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February** from 3:00pm-4:00pm.



If you are interested in your child participating in either of these opportunities, please use the links below to register or request more information

DJ Club Sign Up: [Link to Form](#)

One to One Tuition:  
[www.bedsmusic.coop/lessons](http://www.bedsmusic.coop/lessons)

## An update from the Careers Team



Mrs Riding – Careers Coordinator



Mrs Ashby – Head of Careers

As we move into one of the busiest times of year for the Careers team, we would like to welcome our new Careers Coordinator, Mrs Riding, who will be based at Wootton every day working alongside Mrs Ashby, our Head of Careers.

As part of their spring term careers education programme, Mrs Riding has been welcoming all Year 9 pupils into the Careers Hub in order to meet them, and register them on our fantastic online careers platform Unifrog. The Careers team would like to remind all parents that it is possible for you to set up a Unifrog account of your own, so that you can view the information and tools available to your child.



To access Unifrog please contact the careers team at [careers@wootton.beds.sch.uk](mailto:careers@wootton.beds.sch.uk) who will provide you with an access code and guidance on areas that may be of interest to parents.



Finally, we would like to draw your attention to a range of activities that the careers team will be running as part of **National Apprenticeship Week** which begins on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February. This includes an **evening talk**, run by Mrs Ashby with guest speakers for parents and pupils in Year 11. This talk will focus on the final stages of finding and securing an apprenticeship and is a must for any pupil looking to secure an apprenticeship this summer.

***Full details of all activities can be found on the attached document.***

#### Charity Work:

Each year group has been challenged to choose a charity and think about how they can raise some money for a good cause. This is what has been chosen:

**Year 9: CHUMS** [CHUMS – Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Service for Children and Young People](#)

**Year 10: Young Minds** [YoungMinds | Mental Health Charity For Children And Young People | YoungMinds](#)

**Year 11: Kids Out** [Home - KidsOut](#)



## North & Mid Beds Schools Cross Country Championships 2022 Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022

On Wednesday we had pupils competing in the North and Mid Beds Cross Country Championships held at Sharnbrook Academy. We had pupils from all year groups competing, as well as Kimberley College pupils. All the pupils did brilliantly and I am pleased to share that all runners who completed the course qualified for the next stage of the competition, the County Championships, taking place at Ampthill Park on the Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February. A special mention needs to go to **Lyla Danobrega** in Year 10 for coming 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Inter Girls race.



Jessica Wood – Year 9  
Alfie Nicholls – Year 10  
Aiden Kavanagh – Year 10  
Lyla Danobrega – Year 10  
Natasha Newland – Year 10

Phoebe Thorn – Year 11  
Lottie Owen – Year 11  
Aimee Smith – Year 11  
Lola Payne – Year 11  
Amelia Carter – Year 11  
Elliot Hudson – Year 11

Well done to all the pupils who took part, and we look forward to seeing you race again in a few weeks.

**Mrs Williamson**



## U14 Football - County Cup

A nerve-jangling match in the quarter final of the county cup led to the Year 9 boys football team being victorious and progressing to the semi-finals. Both teams were evenly matched with very few chances for either team. Man of the match, **Alfie Young**, was solid in defence and carried with the ball confidently throughout. With the game 0-0 at half time it needed either a bit of magic or a set piece to break the deadlock, and that opportunity fell to **Evan Gilham** who leapt like a salmon to score from a corner kick. The team continued to battle well however couldn't hold on and conceded in the dying minutes which took the game to penalties. Both teams were ruthless with their penalty kicks and it went to sudden death. With Lealands missing one of their penalties it meant up stepped the composed **Sam Lammin** to score the winner, causing mass hysteria from the boys and the following supporters.

Mr McTernan



## U15 Girls Futsal



The U15 girls are currently midway through their mini Futsal league which is being played at the John Bunyan Centre over four consecutive Wednesday afternoons. With a bye in the first week, the girls hit the ground running in Week 2 with a 6-0 win over KCA in their first match. Goals being scored by **Lucy Lingard** and **Bella Sanderson**. The second match against Goldington Academy was very tough with the girls struggling to gain possession and going down 6-0 however goalkeeper **Tash Newland** pulled off numerous saves and was outstanding. This week Covid hit us hard and we couldn't play, meaning that we now have 2 games in the final week against St Thomas More and Lincroft, with another 2 games against Wixams and Castle Newnham to be arranged. With hopefully everyone back on board we should be able to work our way back up the table.

## Discovery College

The Discovery College offers free workshops to young people aged 13-18 across Bedfordshire and Luton. Workshops will be conducted in groups either face to face or online and seek to cultivate a non-judgemental environment where everyone can share their voice.

Upcoming workshops include:

- Understanding Anxiety
- Understanding Low Mood
- Self-esteem and Confidence
- Male Mental Health
- Building Resilience
- Luton Town Football Club Mentorship
- Understanding the 7C's of Addiction

The prospectus for the Discovery College can be found on the school website:

<https://www.woottonupper.co.uk/support>

Instructions for how to sign up can be found in the prospectus. If you would like any further information, please email Mrs Enser on [kenser@wootton.beds.sch.uk](mailto:kenser@wootton.beds.sch.uk)

## Science Stars of the Week



### **Congratulations to the following pupils:**

Year 11 - Phoebe Thorn

Year 11 - Sam Chick

Year 10 - Ruby-Mae Coffey

Year 10 - Lauren Brett

Year 9 - Marika Szulc

Year 9 - Matthew Lake

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Mrs McMorn

Head of School