

Dear Parents and Carers

Congratulations to year 11 who have approached their mock exams with maturity. They only have one or two left to complete. As ever, do let us know if you have concerns about your child not engaging in revision, or alternatively you are worried that they are over doing things. Please raise concerns via Mrs Clark in the first instance.

We have a large number of pupils and staff representing the school at memorial services this weekend. Our thanks to every child participating, whether or not as a school representative.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Kind regards



Mrs McMorn
 Head of School

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Year 9 Drama performance at Bedford Modern School	14 th November 2022
Non-Uniform day for Children in need	18 th November 2022
Y11 Drama Trip – Woman in Black	22 nd November 2022
GCSE Certificate Event	24 th November 2022
Staff Training Day	25 th November 2022
Enrichment Day	8 th December 2022
School Christmas Concert	8 th December 2022
Last day of term	16 th December 2022
First day of term	4 th January 2023

REMEMBRANCE DAY AT SCHOOL

Remembrance Day was first observed in 1919 throughout the British Commonwealth. It was originally called “Armistice Day” to commemorate armistice agreement that ended the First World War on Monday, November 11, 1918, at 11 a.m.—on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.

Today in school we observed the two minutes silence to honour all of those who have lost their lives in the line of duty. We created a window display of wreaths made from individual messages written by pupils during guidance this week.



NON-UNIFORM DAY FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

This takes place on Friday 18th November. Pupils are asked to make a minimum donation of £1 using Wisepay and in return may come into school in non-uniform clothing on the day.



Please make the donation on Wisepay by the end of school on **Thursday 17th November** if you wish for your son/daughter to take part in the non-uniform fund-raising day

BUS TIMETABLE CHANGES IN 53/53A TIMETABLE

If your child uses this bus please be aware that the timetable was updated with effect 30th January. The revised timetable links can be found on the Stagecoach website or via this link <https://bit.ly/3hdhJFC>

REMEMBRANCE DAY – CIVIC SERVICE

This week pupils from Wootton Upper school were invited to visit and represent the school during a Remembrance Day service held by the Mayor of Bedford. They attended the civic service and listened to the list of the 60 fallen Bedford soldiers and toasted them in the Mayor's parlour.

The pupils then took part in a parade in St Paul's Square in Bedford. The school were thrilled that these pupils were able to represent the school at this event. The photo below is of **Ridley Sofer** with the Mayor of Bedford Dave Hodgson.



SCIENCE STARS OF THE WEEK – CONGRATULATIONS!

This week's stars are

Year 11 – **Alfie Nicholson** - persistently hard work and positive attitude to learning

Year 10 – **Lola Ransome** - Strong contributions classroom discussions

Year 9 – **Harry Lawley** - Enthusiasm and very strong contributions in class



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.



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 or
sfarrant@wootton.beds.sch.uk

SILVER DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Just a reminder for pupils in year 10 who have completed their Bronze practice. Could parents and/or carers please let Miss Bouffler know if their child would like to continue and complete their Silver Award
Thank you - jbouffler@wootton.beds.sch.uk

YEAR 9 DUKE OF EDINBURGH

A letter for those interested in signing up for the Bronze Award has been issued this week
There is a meeting for pupils only after school on Tuesday - at this point there is no commitment - and there is still time to sign up <https://www.dofe.org/do/>

Please email jbouffler@wootton.beds.sch.uk if you need any further information.

HALLOWEEN FUN

Year 10 practical work. Just before half-term the theme had been decorated cakes. We have learnt the theory behind eggs and their functions. The challenge was to decorate the cake with a Halloween theme - amazing effort by 10B.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Connor Tallentire from Wootton Upper School and **Kai Williams** from Kimberley College, came 2nd in the school Teams Event held at Leighton Buzzard golf course in the Bedfordshire Golf Association competition, great result, representing Wootton.

Further, Connor came joint 3rd in the U18s scratch competition.



YEAR 9/10 GIRLS FOOTBALL – WEDNESDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

Result: 6-2 Win vs Mark Rutherford

The girls had their first fixture of the season on Wednesday, and what a great game to start, coming away with a 6-2 win. Goals from **Lauren Hawkins** (3), **Lucy Lingard** (2) and **Lyla Summers** (1). All the girls had such a great attitude towards the fixture and certainly came off the pitch with smiles on their faces.





Many congratulations to **Jess West** for completing 4 out of the 6 units from the Healthcare Academy.

This is an amazing achievement and will enable Jess to access many activities within the NHS. This is Jess receiving her 'above and beyond' trophy and certificate.



Apprenticeship Academy

You may be aware that we ran a Year 11 Apprenticeship Academy last year which was a huge success and several of those who took part secured an apprenticeship in the following industries:

- Construction
- Carpentry
- Plumbing
- Hairdressing & Beauty
- Car Parts/Sales
- Mechanics
- RAF
- Chef

The Apprenticeship Academy is an opportunity for pupils to discuss their future career aspirations, build on their strengths using their Skills Suitcase and also learn how to register their interest in upcoming Apprenticeships opportunities.

I am pleased to confirm that we will be running another Year 11 Apprenticeship Academy in the New Year which will be run by the careers team during Guidance.

The Academy will be focusing on what opportunities are available, identifying skills and strengths, how to write a Personal Statement (CV) and interview techniques.

We will be sending our further information soon and would like to know whether parents would prefer to attend an Apprenticeship talk in person where we can invite employers and Alumni to share their knowledge or if you would prefer to attend a talk on line.

We have attached an information sheet on Apprenticeships but if you would like any further information on apprenticeships please contact the careers team at careers@wootton.beds.sch.uk.

Apprenticeships

There are three levels of apprenticeship available, what level you start at would depend on your current qualifications and the opportunities available in the sector you are interested in.

Intermediate Apprenticeship (Level 2; equivalent to five good GCSE passes): provides you with the skills and qualifications for your chosen career and allows entry (if desired) to an Advanced Apprenticeship. To be accepted you will need to be enthusiastic, keen to learn and have a reasonable standard of education (at least two/three GCSE passes).

Advanced Apprenticeship (Level 3; equivalent to two A-level passes): to start this programme, some industries will require five or more GCSEs and some may want more, whereas other employers do not specify any formal qualifications. Some may ask for previous experience in the industry or for you to have completed an Intermediate Apprenticeship. This will ensure that you have the skills and qualifications needed for their career and allows entry (if desired) to a Higher Apprenticeship or degree level qualification.

Higher Apprenticeship (Level 4/5/6/7; equivalent to a Foundation Degree and above): Entry requirements can include at least five GCSEs grades A – C, and Level 3 qualifications, including A levels, NVQ/SVQ Level 3, or a BTEC National. Some will expect or require applicants to have subjects related to the particular apprenticeship to start this programme. You should have a Level 3 qualification (A-Levels, Advanced Diploma or International Baccalaureate) or have completed an Advanced Apprenticeship.

Degree (Level 6/7); (equivalent to a Bachelor's or Master's degree) Entry requirements can include at least five GCSEs grades A - C, and Level 3 qualifications, including A levels, NVQ/SVQ Level 3, or a BTEC National. Some will expect or require applicants to have subjects related to the particular apprenticeship.

Further information about apprenticeships can be found using: www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship

When to Apply:

For Year 11's just completing their GCSE's, pupils are not able to start an apprenticeship until after the last Friday in June or their 16th birthday whichever falls later. The majority of apprenticeship vacancies for this age range start appearing in the Spring during that GCSE year. Some vacancies may be advertised beforehand so it's important to register for alerts by signing up for an account on:

www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship.

Other places to look for apprenticeships are:

<https://www.bedford.ac.uk/apprenticeships/apprenticeship-vacancies>

<https://www.mkcollege.ac.uk/apprenticeships/apprenticeship-vacancies/>

<https://www.bedford.ac.uk/apprenticeships/apprenticeship-vacancies> - Bedford Borough Council Jobs Hub E-Bulletin – sign up for apprenticeship vacancies

Or simply by writing to companies directly.

If you are considering applying for an apprenticeship and would like further information or support please either contact Faye Gadsby, your Careers Adviser: faye.gadsby@bedford.gov.uk or Mrs Ashby, Head of Careers, or Mrs Riding, Careers Coordinator in school.