

Friday 14 January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

We are delighted to have welcomed our pupils back to school after the holidays. Please find a range of information below:

Year 11 Assessment Week

I would like to commend our Year 11 for the excellent way in which they have approached their exams. Pupils in Year 9 and 10 have also really helped Year 11 with their sensible and supportive attitudes throughout the process. Please find a comment from Mr Kane – Year 11 Year Leader:

'This week the Year 11's have completed their mock assessments in the hall for the first time. It has been very pleasing to see that the pupils took these exams seriously and showed great maturity in their conduct. I saw many examples of pupils being determined to succeed and showing resilience in what can be a very challenging week. Having now completed the assessments the pupils will be more aware of what to expect in the Summer exam series. These assessments also provide pupils with another opportunity to receive feedback on their assessment performance and to reflect on their approach to revision, enabling them to fine tune the strategies that suit them best.'

I am very proud of the efforts of our Year 11 pupils and know that they will continue to display positive attitudes towards their studies in the coming months.' **Mr Kane – Year Leader.**

Year 11 will receive their mock grades in an envelope during Guidance on Tuesday 1st February. Their form tutor will then support them in a review activity. Year 11 grade sheets will be emailed home on the same day, prior to our Parent/Carer evening on Thursday 3rd February.

Upcoming Assessment Events this term:

Week beginning 31 st January	Year 9 Assessment week
Tuesday 1 st February	Year 11 grade sheet sent home
Thursday 3 rd February	Year 11 Parent/Carer Evening
Thursday 24 th February	Year 9 Options Evening
Tuesday 1 st March	Year 9 grade sheet sent home
Thursday 3 rd March	Year 9 Parent/Carer Evening
Week beginning 7 th March	Year 10 Assessment week
Tuesday 29 th March	Year 10 grade sheet sent home

Equipment reminder:

To ensure your child is ready to learn, all pupils need to have pens, pencils, a ruler and calculator each day at school. Also useful are: a highlighter, a purple pen and a dry wipe pen.

PE reminder:

As the temperature drops outside over the next few weeks and through this half term could you please remind your child to bring both the correct footwear for their lesson ie football boots if they are on the field with PE socks to change into, and also the rest of their full PE kit to keep warm. PE kit includes zip top fleeces and sports leggings for girls and rugby tops for the boys. We also encourage your child to wear a sports base layer under their PE kit if they own one to keep them warm and ultimately make the lessons more enjoyable. Pupils are reminded not to bring in casual tracksuits and hoodies from home as they are not part of the PE kit and they will not be allowed to wear them.

Allergies reminder:

We do regularly remind staff and pupils that they should not bring products into school that contain nuts. This includes biscuits, cakes and sandwich spreads.

Do make sure you keep us updated with regard to your child if they have an allergy, or any other medical condition. You can do this by emailing **Miss Gabriel** on lgabriel@wootton.beds.sch.uk

Christmas in a Box

The Christmas in a Box team have sent photos and thanks for the donations from our pupils. You will remember that we sent over 40 boxes of provisions that the pupils and staff collected, showing huge enthusiasm and care for our wider community. Thanks to parents and carers for supporting their children with donations.



Science Stars of the Week:



Well done to all pupils showing great learning. Our Attitude to Learning scores reward effort including: resilience, thinking, working with others, development of skills.

Stars of the week

Year 9 is Daniel Harkett
Year 10 is Kyle Chapman
Year 11 is Rose Slaney

Seneca Champions for December:

George Smith
Jasmine Ivy Miley
Holly Minney
Arjan Singh
Anja Byrne
Ben Abood
Thomas Lewis
Darcey Smith
Sam Chick
Sean Singh
Lucy Catchpole
Evie Cosbie-Ross
Lewis Roberts
Aliyah Lawrence
Shantal Patel

And class 11S2!

WOOTTON PE DEPT

YOGA CLUB

With Yoga Teacher - Rachel Rockwood

Thursday After School

Activities Studio
3.15 - 4.15pm
Bring PE kit

Yoga Club

Please note a new opportunity for our pupils on Thursdays.

This has been advertised to our pupils via Guidance time.

Upcoming CHUMS virtual psychoeducation workshops

Teenage Sleep Workshop (Children aged 13+) - The workshop will cover the following topics; why sleep is important, what is 'good' sleep, sleep hygiene tips and strategies for managing worries at night.

- Wednesday 2nd February at 16:00-18:00pm
- Tuesday 15th March at 16:00-18:00pm

Secondary Resiliency Workshop (For Teens aged 13+) – The workshop will cover the following topics; mental health vs mental health problems, emotional regulation, psychoeducation around anxiety and low mood, and strategies for relaxation.

- Wednesday 23rd March at 16:00-18:00pm

Please note that spaces for workshops are limited and allocated on a first-come, first served basis. Please email safeguarding@wootton.beds.sch.uk for an application form.

Operation Encompass

Wootton Academy Trust have been given the opportunity to take part in a project that will run jointly between educational settings, Bedford Borough Council and Bedfordshire Police.

Operation Encompass will report to educational settings, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has experienced or been exposed to any domestic abuse.

Operation Encompass will ensure that a member of the school staff, known as a Key Adult, is trained to allow them to liaise with the police and to use the information that has been shared, in confidence, while ensuring that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have experienced a domestic abuse incident.

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our young people and we believe this will be extremely beneficial for those involved. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact **Mrs Enser**.

Covid-19 update

Thank you for continuing to ensure your child has a face covering. These are required in communal areas such as corridors, as well as on school transport. Face coverings are recommended in classrooms.

All schools and colleges have been asked to review their Covid-19 contingency plans. Ours is currently being reviewed by governors, and will then be displayed on our website. We very much hope that learning at school is not further impacted by Covid-19, however we do know that some schools have had significant staff absence. Teachers are asked to set work on Teams each day, for any pupil who is isolating and who is not unwell. If your child is unwell, please make sure they rest and recover as a priority.

If we find we have increasing staff absence we will communicate this with you. In the event this happens we would plan for half a year group, or a full year group, to work remotely for a short period. We will alert you to our updated contingency plan, once it is on our website.

Please also find linked to this newsletter updated resources from Bedford Borough with support and parent flowchart linked to Covid-19.

Parent/Carer survey:

Thank you to those parents who completed our survey last week. We are processing the responses. If you did not complete the survey and would like to do so, I have included the link below. This survey has been reopened and will then close on Monday morning.

<https://forms.office.com/r/EYMXuTCJbv>

Wishing all families a warm and pleasant weekend.

Kind regards



Mrs McMorn

Head of School