



NEWSLETTER



We Challenge
and Support
to Achieve
WCSA

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UPDATE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Miss Scott – Principal



As the nights draw in and the Christmas trees go up, I am writing my very last newsletter entry. It is with mixed emotion that I pen these words. Six and a half years ago, I was privileged to land the job as Principal here at WCSA. A lot has happened over the last six and a half years; good things, bad things and great things. It was brilliant to receive a

positive Ofsted report in 2020, taking us firmly out of special measures. However, it really wasn't good when we had to keep "shutting down" due to Covid. Of course, no-one wants to be reminded of those dismal days, so I won't dwell. It's great that our numbers go up, year on year. More and more students want to join the WCSA community and I find myself touring families on a frequent basis. The percentage of students getting a Maths and English grade increases year on year which is great for our WCSA students, particularly in terms of life post-16, careers options, and university choices.

I am particularly proud of WCSA's place in the local community. As you read through this newsletter, you will be able to see just how much we get up to. One of my highlights is always the Carol Concert; this year we were at St Peter's Church for the first time. Rev Caroline Deakin opened her doors and welcomed families into the church.

We have been collaborating with St Peter's for a little while now, particularly with the wrapping of Christmas and Easter boxes to support families in the town. We also enjoyed the annual Winter Concert, which took place here in our refurbished auditorium. Music at WCSA never disappoints. You will find photos and write ups later on in this newsletter. Over the years, I have always looked forward to seeing my "Students of the Week" on a Friday. Heads of Year nominate the top students in their year group and we celebrate with a photo, some chocolate, and a badge. Recognising excellence in our students really matters to me. Our annual Awards Evening took place last term at the Winter Gardens back in October; we had over 50 superstars and celebrated each and every one individually. If your child is a sporting hero, you can look forward to our Sporting Celebration in June 2023.; this will be an evening to recognise Sporting excellence and achievement.

As I sign off for the last time, I would like to extend my thanks to you – the parents and carers of our WCSA children and our wider community. You do a wonderful job and I have always felt supported by you. When a school can work with families, we truly can get the best for your children.

So, it just leaves me to wish you a "Merry Christmas" and a "Happy 2023".

Best wishes for the Future.

Jacqui Scott - Principal

jscott@worle-school.org.uk

EXAM SUCCESS



Pictured are: Ryan, Athul, Will, Josh, Finlay, Elicia and Zoe, just a small number of our students who all received some of the top grades in the summer 2022 GCSE results.



Thomas D, pictured above, achieved a perfect 9 in his maths GCSE. Thomas is considered to be one of Britain's most talented maths students.

CEO OF THE PRIORY LEARNING TRUST

Mr Jenkins – Chief Executive Officer



Dear Parents / Carers and Students,

Thank you for your unrelenting support this past calendar year. It's been another very busy but successful year and I'm extremely pleased with the way all our academies are developing. The environment within our schools is constantly improving, as is our practice. This is abundantly clear when I

walk around the schools and see the enjoyment and engagement in classrooms. There is so much going on and it is clear that things are definitely returning to normal.

We currently have 8 academies across 9 sites, plus our 4 Little Learners Nursery provisions. I was thrilled to be able to officially open the brand new purpose built Little Learners Nursery site at Castle Batch Primary School Academy recently having moved there from PCSA at the end of the Summer. This is another excellent provision and demonstrates our continued commitment for our very youngest children and indeed our communities. The Little Learners Nursery provision is really strong across our schools with fantastic work with play, outdoor learning and our early years education. It is a really solid foundation for the future. If you know of local people who need nursery places please be aware, we also have a Little Learners Nursery at St Anne's West Wick and at East & West Huntspill Primary Academies. Please do contact us for places and for further information.

6th Form @ TKASA – the extension to the 6th Form building has been completed and has added to the already strong post 16 provision. With the increase in numbers choosing to study at TKASA 6th Form the building had to be expanded to accommodate our students. Our A level results have been outstanding for a number of years, with many of our students progressing to top universities and higher level apprenticeships. Please do contact Doug Radnidge dradnidge@tkasa.org.uk (Head of 6th Form) if you would like a tour of the facilities or to find out more information.

Charity /Community is hugely important to us - Our Trust-wide charity of the year for 2022-23 is the Foodbank, with our Somerset schools supporting the Burnham & Highbridge centre and our Weston schools supporting the centre there. I am delighted to say that a recent non-uniform day across all our academies raised a total of £4,547.72 (as well as a vast amount of food donations) for this great charity and for 'Children In Need'. Thank you for your great support.

We offer a wide, varied and aspirational curriculum and have a fantastic extra circular offer - Our Trust will always be more than just exam results. You will see many of these great activities within the next few pages. To keep up with all our news please do follow our schools on Twitter – we have lots of 'news and views' on Twitter and we also have our excellent website - <https://goodnewspost.co.uk/>. Here you will find all the great things we have been involved with from September to December.

Again – thank you for all your support.

Nathan Jenkins, CEO



OPERATIONS UPDATE

Mrs Bignell – Operations Manager

In this Year's Operations Christmas Update, I wanted to take the opportunity to offer some support.

As we approach the Festive Season, it can be a happy occasion for some, but for others in our community, it can be a difficult time.

We understand that the cost of living crisis is affecting so many people, and so we have pulled together some links across North Somerset, with the aim of signposting available support that you can access if you are struggling.

In our restaurant, we provide free porridge with honey, raisins or fruit topping - this is available for all students. We know learning is hard, but it is harder with an empty stomach.

We also have a really well stocked 'Take What You Need Station', where children can get things like toothpaste, shower gel and deodorant, for free, when they need it.

In certain circumstances we can offer financial support with school uniform from NK Sports. Also, with an electrical device to assist with home learning.

As always, please contact us if you need any support - we are always here to help and support. .

I wish you all a Happy Holidays, and all the best for the coming year.

North Somerset Council advice

<https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/benefits-support/cost-living-advice-guidance>

Children in Need - family fund

<https://www.familyfundsolutions.co.uk/emergency-essentials/>

The Government Warm House Discount

<https://www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme/low-income>

FoodBank

<https://westonsupermare.foodbank.org.uk/>

Somewhere to Go Weston-super-Mare

<https://somerwheretogo.org/>

North Somerset Welfare Provision Scheme

<https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/benefits-support/welfare-provision-scheme>

North Somerset - Better Health

<https://www.betterhealthns.co.uk/information/food-support/>

North Somerset Council - Free School Meals

<https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/schools-learning/local-schools/free-school-meals>



Free Porridge with raisins, honey or jam - for all students

Until March 2023

Learning is tough; it is tougher when you're hungry.

Please pop in to our restaurant any morning to get a free bowl of hot porridge.



REMEMBRANCE

On Remembrance Day, our school community came together to honour those who have served and continue to serve to defend our democratic freedoms and way of life.

Students spent tutor period learning about the significance of remembrance, the different varieties of poppies that are worn to mark remembrance and their individual significance. Year 7 created a wave of poppies, writing messages of remembrance on them and the whole school observed a minute's silence following a short ceremony during which a Year 11 student read a poem called 'A Wish.'

Remembrance Day falls every year on the 11th of November, the date in which the armistice was signed in 1918 to signify the end of World War One. The Great War, as it became known, devastated Europe, and claimed lives on a scale unlike any conflict that had been fought before. On the 11th November, we remembered the sacrifices made by the armed forces community from Britain and the Commonwealth, the special contribution of families and of the emergency services, and the innocent civilians who have lost their lives in conflict as well as those who continue to serve in our forces.



ANNUAL AWARDS EVENING

Mrs Newson – PA to the Principal



It is always a pleasure to celebrate the successes of our students, and this year was no exception! We held a wonderful evening at the Winter Gardens with over 50 students receiving awards for their hard work, dedication and exceptional character. It was a privilege to be able to celebrate the achievements of these remarkable students along with their families and friends.

The evening began with a performance from the immensely talented G Rulli-Gibbs, a Year 11 student, who also received the Gill McLorinan Music Achievement Award, for her excellence in music.



Miss Scott, along with Heads of Departments then went on to award trophies to students, which included;

Jill Dando Journalist of the Year award - O Masley Y8

Laboratory Champion of the Year Award -

L Churchill Y11

Sir Richard Branson Award for Progress - R Wheat Y8

Award for Overall Excellence - C Pooley Y11

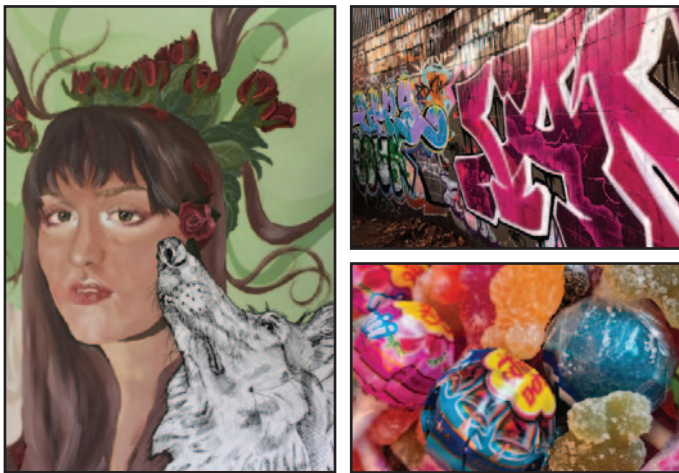
Here are some photos of the amazing evening...



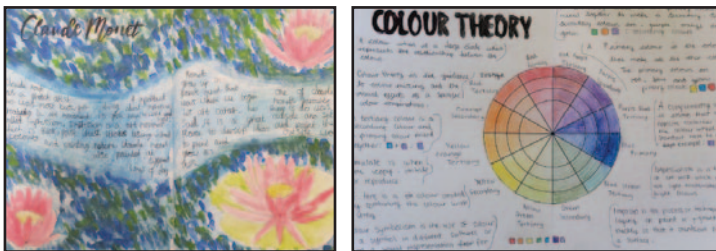
ART

Miss Anderson – Head of Art

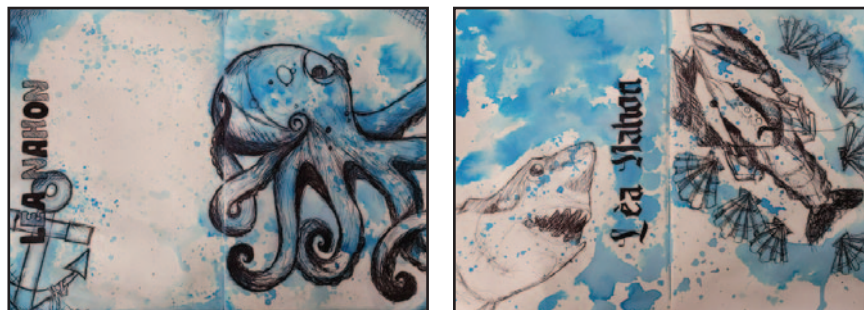
It has been a busy few terms in the Art department with some exceptional work produced by our extremely talented students here at WCSA. As I write we are busy preparing for our annual art exhibition. We are excited to display the fantastic work of our Year 11 2022 alumni and celebrate their achievements with them.



In Year 7 we began the year by exploring colour theory and applying our knowledge to the work of Claude Monet. Students have been enjoying experimenting with watercolour paint to emulate the style of the Impressionists.



Year 8 have explored the work of tattoo artist and Illustrator Lea Nahon. The students have impressed us as a department with their accurate illustrations of underwater creatures and experimentation in mark making and ink application.



In Year 9 the students have been refining their skills in photorealistic art by exploring the work of Nancy Whitehead, using the grid method to develop their drawing accuracy. We have then enjoyed revisiting our painting skills by working in acrylic to blend colours focusing on depth in tone.

Miss Millar, Miss Jones, Mr Archer and myself are exceptionally proud of all of our GCSE students. Year 11 are working towards the submission of their coursework with determination and dedicating themselves to achieving their goals. Our Year 10 students have all started the year with enthusiasm for their options and have demonstrated commitment to the exploration of their theme and fearless experimentation to continually develop their skills.

MUSIC

Mrs Burlinson – Head of Music

Christmas Carol Service

The Worle Community School Christmas Carol service was held at St Peters Church on the 6th December. All parents/carers were invited to join in. There were traditional carols for everyone to sing and enjoy. We hope that we helped get your Christmas off to a positive and thoughtful start!



Christmas Concert

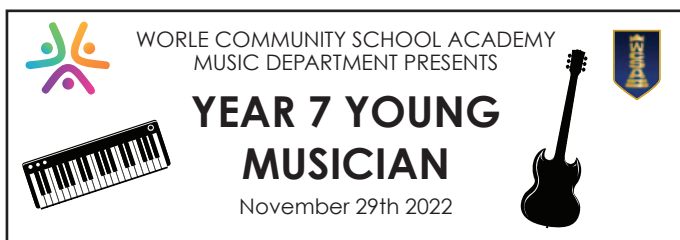
The Worle Community School annual Christmas Concert will take place in the Auditorium on the 14th December 2022.

The programme will include orchestras, choirs, rock bands, instrumental and singing groups, soloists and lots more. This has always been a wonderful evening staging our outstanding musicians and singers. There will be mince pies and refreshments to enjoy on the evening.

Year 7 Young Musician of the year

'Year 7 Young Musician of the Year competition' took place on November the 29th 2022. Students performed live in front of an audience and were judged by a selection of musicians from in and outside of the school.

The winner was Nicole J - Runners up were: Loki R and Ivy I



Recording Studio

The recording studio is an excellent resource that is available for use in all subjects. As well as for music, the studio has been used for drama soundscapes and effects, music editing for dance choreography, primary-source interviews with the community for history, poetry, podcasts and revision songs. Staff and students can book the studio for recording projects by contacting Miss Anning or Mr Houghton, Worle's resident Sound Engineer.

panning@worle-school.org.uk

jhoughton@worle-school.org.uk

Instrumental Lessons and How to Start Learning an Instrument

We have a superb team of instrumental tutors who offer lessons on a range of instruments. If your son/daughter has expressed an interest in learning an instrument and you would like them to start lessons then please contact Mrs Burlinson for more information.

eburlinson@worle-school.org.uk



MUSIC

Extra-Curricular timetable.

We have a wide range of extra-curricular activities in the music department with something for everybody, from the enthusiastic beginner to the more experienced and established performers wishing to extend their skills. If your child is interested in joining any of the groups please speak to Mrs Burlinson. Here is our programme of activities:

| | 8.00-8.25 | 3.00-4.00 | 5.00-6.30 | 3.00-4.30 |
|-----------|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Monday | | Soul Band | Youthful Voices Choir | Private Rehearsal |
| Tuesday | | Rock Club Ukulele Group | | Private Rehearsal |
| Wednesday | | Cantata Choir Guitar Club | | Private Rehearsal |
| Thursday | Orchestra | Soulful Sound choir | | Private Rehearsal |
| Friday | | | | |

Please encourage your child to get involved. Our aim in the Music Department is to get as many of our students as possible singing and playing music in a relaxed but stimulating environment. Whether your son/daughter is an experienced singer, blows a wind instrument or just wants to sing loudly for fun the opportunities are there for them. I am looking forward to seeing more students joining us in the Music Department.



Follow us on Social Media



@worlemusic



worlemusic



worlemusicdepartment



WCSA music department

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Students of the Week so far...

Students were chosen for their outstanding effort and positive attitude, all with high positive achievement points.



Students of the Week 16/09/2022

Y7 - Emma E, Y8 - Marco J, Y9 - Luke W ,Y11 - Liam W-J (Second photo)



Students of the Week - 23/09/2022

Y7 - Freddie P, Y8 - Charlie E, Y9 - Keira T,
Y10 - Fraser P, Y11 - Harry J



Students of the week - 30/09/22

Y7 - Lola K, Y8 - Maria M, Y9 - Lola L, Y10 - Alfie C
Y11 - Rob S



Students of the week - 07/10/2022

Y7 - Maximilian D, Y8 - Lottie J, Y9 - Beau C,
Y10 - Courtney K, Y11 - Gaby I



Students of the week – 14/10/2022

Y7 – Thea W, Y8 – Ola K (second picture)
Y10 – Shannen R, Y11 – Darcey C



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



Students of the week - 04/11/2022

Y7 - Logan D, Y8 - Freddie C, Y9 - Millie A, Y10 - Jake B-M,
Y11 - Evie R - (Second photo)



Students of the Week - 11/11/22

Y7 - AJ S, Y8 - Oliver M, Y9 - Lexi W,
Y10 - Ilana S, Y11 - Lily M



Students of the week - 18/11/22

Y7 - Freddie P, Y8 - Morgan E, Y9 - Tommy B,
Y10 - Isla C, Y11 - Isabelle W



Students of the Week - 25/11/22

Y7 - Joshua J, Y8 - Alexa D-N, Y9 - Sophie S,
Y10 - Megan S, Y11 - Amy L



Students of the Week - 02/12/22

Year 7 - Imari H, Year 8 - Ben W, Year 9 - Finley D
Year 10 - Sophie P, Year 11 - Jacob R

JILL DANDO NEWS CENTRES

Miss de Sousa – Teacher of English



About us: The JDNC currently has a fantastic group of student journalists, who are very keen to continue Jill Dando's legacy in the school she once attended. This term we have been very busy trying to get

new recruits to join the team of wonderful journalists here at WCSA!



Some of our WCSA journalists sharing Jill Dando's story!

The BBC share their 100th anniversary with us:

On the 10th of November staff of BBC HQ's Media City celebrated their 100th anniversary with us. We were absolutely thrilled to be given the opportunity to interview them. With the theme of 'share your story' they also got to learn so much about our reporters. In the interview, a student said, "despite the negative news on social media recently, our goal is to spread the good news. By spreading good news, we are spreading positivity".

Our journalists are also signing up to the BBC young reporter competition where they have the opportunity to share their story.

We wish them good luck!



Weston College students Visit

We were also visited by Weston College students who are doing a tribute documentary on the life of Jill Dando. As we continue in her legacy, we were thrilled to be part of it. A massive well done to Archie, Kieran and Oliver who were interviewed! They had some challenging questions, but answered them very well. One student said, "It was a good opportunity to experience being on the other side of the camera. It really helped me understand the skill of answering questions during an interview".

Open Evening at WCSA

For another year running, we set up a wonderful display where we highlighted all the work of Jill Dando. The student journalists were very busy in the setting up, interacting with parents and handing out the Good News Post Newspapers around the school. Miss de Sousa said, "With another year leading JDNC, I could not be more proud of the students. The amount of initiative and enthusiasm amongst these group of students is outstanding! I am very lucky to have such a wonderful team with me".



Follow us on Twitter



@WCSAThePost

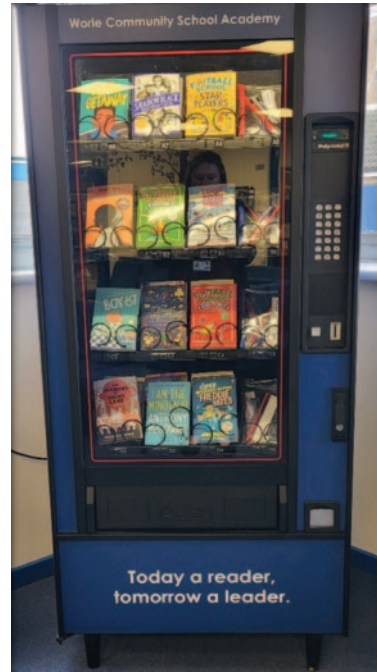
to get regular updates and stories.

LIBRARY

Mrs Brock – LRC Lead

Display Boards

This last term has seen us through Halloween and Remembrance Day. Displays were created in the library to encourage interest in genres that may sometimes be overlooked and therefore have seen an increase in loans of the Horror and Historical Fiction books.



Book Vending Machine

We were very excited to receive our book vending machine in the LRC which is token operated and is used to reward effort, achievements and behaviour. This will be used in the coming months for year 7's and 8's as rewards for completing certain challenges in 'The Great Reading Race' as part of the Literacy/Library lessons.

New Titles

A few of the new titles recently added to the library. Book requests are always welcome and, where suitable, we will endeavour to order them in.

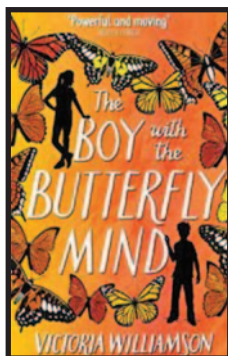


Featured Author

A termly display is created in the LRC featuring a different author. This term we have featured Tom Palmer who is an author of 57 children books with focuses on sport and historical fiction.

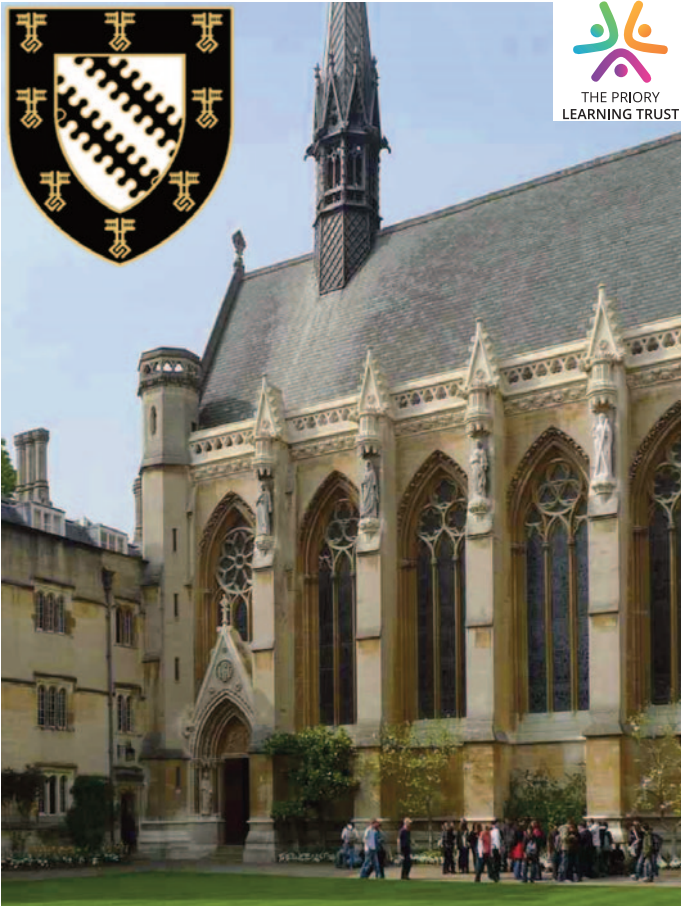


6 books to read this Christmas



CAREERS

Ms Cuthbertson – Head of Careers



It has been a great term for Careers events and activities.

I have been meeting Year 11 students to talk about their progression plans beyond WCSA, and all our local colleges and 6th Forms have hosted open events for students to explore their facilities, to help with decision making.

Please keep a look out on our school app, WEDUC, and social media platforms, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for the monthly Careers bulletin, highlighting lots of local careers events.

Careers featured in the Year 11 information session for families here at WCSA and we updated our online Careers Convention. Please go on the WCSA website careers page to take a look:

<https://worle-school.org.uk/careers-parents>

As part of our programme relating to Higher Education; during half term Careers also hosted a brief visit from Cambridge University at PCSA. Staff talked to our students about life at one of the world's most prestigious universities and what to do now to build your skills.

In November, a small group of Year 10 students took a visit to Exeter College and Oxford University to have a look around

and have lunch in their student dining hall to experience a day in the life of a Uni student.

I also took Year 8 & 9 members of the Brilliant Club to be inspired and explore Southampton University for the day.

Later in term 2 I held an assembly with Year 10 students to launch Work Experience week (17th-21st July) to allow students plenty of time to source a great placement.

At the end of term we continued with our annual tradition of Student Hero Awards. We celebrate students acts of kindness at home, school and in the community.

Looking ahead to next term, I will continue to support Year 11 students with progression planning, ramp up work experience planning for year 10 students, and we will spend time with Year 9 students while deliberating their Year 10 Options choices.



Wishing all WCSA students, families and staff a very Happy Christmas

ST PETER'S CHURCH

Caroline Deakin – Vicar of St. Peter's Church



It has been a tough year in many ways and so we are really pleased that we can collaborate with WCSA again to work together to provide Christmas boxes to bless a number of families. St Peters and WCSA have been collecting donations of food, Christmas decorations, small gifts and more so that the boxes will be full of lovely things to help celebrate this Christmas.

We would also love to take this opportunity to let you know about the Youth drop in that is now running at the church Mon-Fri 3-5pm (term time only). We have loads of activities on offer, including craft, games, table tennis, Wii, refreshments and much more. And it's all for free!

This is an inter-church project and all the youth workers are fully DBS checked and have all had appropriate safeguarding training. The group is for Years 7-11 and we would love to welcome them as often or as infrequent as they choose.

We also have a number of Christmas services, chances to sing Christmas carols and eat mince pies over the next few weeks. Do check out our facebook page and website for more information but the basics are below.

Every Blessing and have a wonderful Christmas
Caroline and the team at St Peter's church

Christmas at St Peter's

- 11th December**
4.00pm Nativity Service
- 17th December**
6.30pm Carols by Candlelight Service
- 21st December**
5pm Milton Churches Christmas Carols
- 24th December**
4.00 pm Christingle
11.30 pm Midnight Communion
- 25th December**
10am Christmas Celebration

St Peter's Milton and Mead Vale
Tel: 01934 624205 stpetersmiltonabtnet.com
www.stpetersmilton.org.uk

Follow The Star THE GREAT INVITATION

December Sunday Services at St Peter's

Baytree Road, Milton, W-s-M, BS22 8HG

- Sunday 4th Dec. 8.30 am
10.00 am
- Sunday 11th Dec. 8.30 am
10.00 am
4.00 pm
- Sunday 18th Dec. 8.30 am
10.00 am
- Sunday 25th Dec. 10.00 am

8.30 am
A shorter quieter Service

10.00 am
A lively Service for all ages

4.00 pm
Informal, lively worship
and great fun for all ages

St Peter's Milton and Mead Vale
stpetersmiltonabtnet.com
www.stpetersmilton.org.uk
Tel: 01934 624205

Follow The Star THE GREAT INVITATION

READING PROGRAMME

“One of the greatest gifts adults can give—to their offspring and to their society—is to read to children.” (Carl Sagan)

Gifts: things which we give to others, without any thought of receiving something in return. These do not have to be tangible things which we can hold, although, to borrow from one famous quotation, “A book is a gift that you can open again and again.”

The gift of reading opens up so many life opportunities for ourselves and our youngsters, which is why we continue to gift our children the opportunity to read each and every day with our Tutor Reading Programme. This programme is now well embedded across the school and to wander the classrooms in a morning is to journey through time and place; witnessing our youngsters being transported to other lives and worlds is truly something which we are proud of here at Worle Community School Academy.

But how do we choose which books to gift our children? And how might this help you to choose for yourselves which stories to share at home?

Starting off a series:



Many of our youngsters are currently reading the first book in a series, whether it is 'The Hunger Games' with Year 8, 'Noughts and Crosses' with Year 9, or 'The Knife of Never Letting Go' with Year 10. These books have all been purposefully chosen with the wider series in mind. If we can get our youngsters engaged with the first books in these



series, then perhaps they will independently engage with the subsequent sequels where they can build upon the relationships that they have built up with the characters and journey onwards with them through their adventures.

Exploring genres:

“There is no such thing as a child who hates to read; there are only children who have not found the right book.” This idea has driven our choices of texts and as we look to expand our library for Tutor Reading, we continue to look to embrace as wide a range of genres as possible. From the autobiographical text of Anne Frank’s “Diary of a Young Girl”, to the science fiction adventure of ‘Echo Boy’; from the classic text of ‘Animal Farm’ to the gritty realism of ‘Refugee Boy’; from the historical narrative of ‘The Book Thief’ to the more modern adventures of ‘The Murderer’s Ape’: we aim to immerse our youngsters in as wide a range of books as possible, with the aim that they will find their niche on the bookshelf. Once they find that, the gift of one book will broaden to an entire section of the library and a whole host of literary adventures awaits them.



Help us to share the gift of reading with your children – you might just be gifting them the entire world!

WSCA COUNSELLING SERVICES



What is School Counselling?

- School Counselling provides young people with opportunities to discuss and address their concerns and worries in a safe, non-judgmental space.
- The School Counselling Team is made up of qualified counsellors including 2 low intensity CBT therapists from MHST/OTR.

How does School Counselling help?

- Improves emotional wellbeing by encouraging young people to talk and share their feelings.
- Empowers young people to maximise their potential and reach meaningful goals.
- Explore difficulties.
- Increase understanding and the ability to address difficulties.
- Increase resilience.

What about Confidentiality?

- Counselling sessions are confidential by nature with the exception of information relating to safeguarding concerns.

How do I Access the School Counselling Service?

- Complete the orange referral form available from your Head of Year, the Safeguarding Office or Counselling Room 1.
- Hand your completed form to your Head of Year, Miss Normandale or direct to a member of the Counselling Team.
- Once your referral form has been received and processed you will be added to the waiting list and receive an appointment slip as soon as a space becomes available.

Some useful websites/apps that help with mental and emotional wellbeing:

- Samaritans
- NHS Wellbeing Apps
- Young Minds
- Childline
- Kooth
- Mind
- Off the Record



DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Mrs Burrows – Head of DT

Graphic Design encourages our students to develop ideas from a Design Brief. The ideas are visited and revisited until a successful outcome is achieved.



Year 8 Textiles students have been having fun with felt and making 'ugly dolls'. A Design Brief was given and it was up to our students as to how they met it. So lovely to see so many different 'takes' on the same set of instructions



Year 10 Hospitality and Catering Students have been busy in the kitchens. Here are some lovely examples of recently made frittatas. Students make their own ingredient choices to suit their own taste, whilst at the same time perfecting their knife skills and experimenting with shallow frying on a hob.



HEAD STUDENTS

Who are our Head Students?



Lily:

My passion is to create 'moving art pieces', which will hopefully open society's eyes to the global issues and also unspoken issues. I believe that as a society we should be able to move forward collectively, while dealing with matters such as Climate Change and I feel it is necessary for each and every person to feel inclusive. I think it's a real art,

being able to convey a message without words, as that means we can globally live in a more inclusive and safer environment.



Ginny:

Music is a massive part of my life and has been a passion of mine since I was a child. Not only has it broadened my social outlook, it has also helped me to grow as an individual and enabled me to discover new life experiences. I enjoy playing a wide variety of instruments including violin, guitar and singing, among but a few.. However, one of the best

parts about music at WCSA, for me, is being able to take part in the amazing concerts that are held during the Christmas and Summer months. It is always a pleasure doing not only solo work, but also working with others in the choirs and with my band.



Archie:

The environment has always been a massive interest of mine, as a young child I have always loved being outdoors. When I joined 'Climate Justice Revolution' (CJR) at WCSA I was unsure what we could do to help protect our planet. Since then the CJR team has achieved so much within the school and won many awards. But

personally this has helped me; I have won awards for my environmental efforts and have worked with some amazing people on sustainable projects, like the 'SEE MONSTER'.

What do we do as Head Students?

As head students we are the 'face of our school'. But within the school, we are the 'voice of the student body'. We speak to the students, ask what they think need to be improved, and also what is going well; we then take this feedback to the Leadership Team and discuss the next possible steps.

For the second year running, in collaboration with St Peter's Church in Worle, our Head Students have been wrapping Christmas boxes to distribute to local families offering a little warmth and comfort this Christmas season. Students and the wider community have brought in donations of food and gifts to fill the boxes before taking them to the Church ready for their collection.

Merry Christmas from the Student Leadership Team



SEND UPDATE

Mrs McCarthy – SENDCo



Our SEND department is located in M02 and M18. We support a wide range of students throughout the day with a range of provisions including interventions, mentoring and resetting ready for learning.

Our Base is a hub of activity; our break and lunch club is well attended and enjoyed by all our students.

Our sensory room is now up and running and proving very popular with our students. They are really enjoying having a safe space to relax and regulate.

Watch this space for upcoming events, including SEND parent coffee mornings!



Sensory Room

STUDENT COUNCIL

Mr Griffin – Vice Principal



I am delighted to announce that we have conducted our student council elections across the whole school and would like to congratulate and thank each student that has been successfully voted onto the 2022-23 council.

Every tutor group in the school was invited to have an election where one member from each tutor could be voted as the student council representative. This ensures that student voice can be heard and actions implemented school wide. The role is a very important one and last year the student council had an input in some crucial decisions such as recycling across the site and healthier options on the menu in the restaurant.

I very much look forward to working with the council this academic year.

LANGUAGES

Mrs Webb-Jones – Head of Languages

GCSE results:

We had yet another amazing year in MFL @ WCSA. We were really delighted with our GCSE results as so many students worked really hard and achieved fantastic grades. The French students smashed the national average with 100% of our students achieving grades 9-4. We also had lots of grades 7-9 in both French and Spanish which was really amazing. A really big 'well done' to all of those that took a language GCSE. We wish all of our previous Year 11's every success for their futures.

Fantastic start to term:

We've had a great start to the year with all year groups, but it's especially lovely to see Year 7s enjoying their language lessons so much. I happened to overhear a couple of students at lunch time exclaiming how much they liked languages which put a very big smile on my face!



Year 11 have just sat their PPEs and have been employing the strategies learnt in reading, speaking, writing and listening activities, recognising their weaknesses but also their potential. We are lucky to be able to offer our support to everyone with targeted P6 sessions, PO's and extra resources on Google Classroom, and 1:1 discussions. We encourage all year 11s to use the GCSE pod and www.quizlet.com where there are lots of useful resources to help with their language learning.

New Staff

We've sadly said 'goodbye' to Ms Vila as Head of Spanish but are lucky to have Ms Khole taking over the reins. She has lots of amazing ideas of how to keep moving our Spanish department forward and is working hard to create lots of exciting resources for our students.

We've also said 'Goodbye and Good luck' to Ms Garnett who has just gone on maternity leave. In her stead we've welcomed back Ms Bartosova. Ms Bartosova started her teacher training here a couple of years ago so we're delighted to have her back!



PE

Mr Thompson – Head of PE

I can not quite believe I am writing this, but... Merry Christmas to you all! How quick has the time gone? Team PE have been working their socks (or stockings if you want to be festive!) off providing the best possible opportunities for your students here at WCSA. At the time of writing this newsletter, we have both boys and girls football teams still competing in the Somerset County and the ESFA National Cup. This is incredible and we are hoping that they manage to navigate some really tricky fixtures coming up and make it far in the competitions. Some silverware would be a fantastic reward for all their efforts. Keep your eyes peeled for updates on all results via our social media platforms.

We held our annual cross-county week, which saw all our Key Stage 3 students complete a 2.5km course around the school site during their PE lessons. The weather was interesting! Some had glorious sunshine and others, well... they did not. Regardless, they were all truly amazing and we got to witness some true athletes in the making.

This term our rugby teams have been participating in friendlies and competing in the North Somerset Schools Rugby tournaments. This is a perfect opportunity for the students to put all their training into action against all the other schools in the area. We have witnessed some great

rugby and seen a real passion for the sport, which is brilliant.

Our KS3 girls have been regularly competing against the North Somerset Schools. Their progress has been awesome, with really positive outcomes regularly happening. When they play it is so lovely to watch as they demonstrate not only a great skill level but a real camaraderie and team spirit. These are great skills to possess and will serve them well when they take on a sports course in Y10.

Here are just some pictures of our amazing students doing what they do best... Enjoying Sport!



UNIFORM MATTERS

Mr Dixon – Assistant Principal

Festive greetings, one and all. I appreciate that new uniform may not be high on your child's Santa Wish List, but now is a good time to remind all of the uniform requirements, and just why uniform matters.

Below is the (revised) School Dress Code. The (minor) amendments that have been made recently are the result of consultation between students, parents and the school.

- **One** small nose studs is now allowed, **but not hoops**. This is a health and safety matter.
- Tailored shorts are now allowed during Terms 5 and 6. Please note, they must be tailored; casual, PE or sports shorts are not allowed.
- Plain black polishable shoes or plain black polishable trainers are allowed. The Nike version is just one of a number of sports companies that now produce plain black polishable trainers; alternative brands to Nike are substantially cheaper.

Expectations:

- **False or acrylic nails** and **False eyelashes** are not allowed, so please do not allow your child to have them as a Christmas gift
- A maximum of two small stud earrings are allowed to be worn per ear. **No hoops or bars**
- **All facial piercings are banned**, including septum nose piercings
- **No tattoos** should be on show.
- **Hoodies cannot be worn**, with the exception of the Year 11 Leavers Hoodie, which will be released in January (a rather fetching, light blue number this year, following consultation with the Year Group)



Finally, I would like to remind the students of the basics:

Our uniform policy states that students should be wearing:

- A WCSA blazer
- A WCSA tie
- A white, collared school shirt
- Plain, black, full-length tailored trousers. **No jeans or leggings**
- Plain, black, tailored, knee length skirt. **No elasticated tube skirts**
- Plain, black, leather (or leather look) polishable shoes or plain, black, leather (or leather look) polishable trainers. **Canvas or suede shoes and trainers are not allowed. Laces must be black**

I have highlighted some words, as these are the most common issues that we, as staff, deal with on a daily basis regarding uniform matters.

As ever, thank you for your support in ensuring that your children adhere to the school dress code.



2023

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| MARCH 2023 | | | | | | |
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| MAY 2023 | | | | | | |
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| JUNE 2023 | | | | | | |
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| JULY 2023 | | | | | | |
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| AUGUST 2023 | | | | | | |
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| SEPTEMBER 2023 | | | | | | |
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| OCTOBER 2023 | | | | | | |
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| NOVEMBER 2023 | | | | | | |
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| DECEMBER 2023 | | | | | | |
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ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/2023

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|---------------|--------|-------------------------|
| TERM 3 | Starts | Tuesday 3 January 2023 |
| | Ends | Friday 10 February 2023 |
| TERM 4 | Starts | Monday 20 February 2023 |
| | Ends | Friday 31 March 2023 |
| TERM 5 | Starts | Monday 17 April 2023 |
| | Ends | Friday 26 May 2023 |
| TERM 6 | Starts | Monday 5 June 2023 |
| | Ends | Friday 21 July 2023 |

ACADEMIC YEAR 2023/2024

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|---------------|--------|------------------------------|
| TERM 1 | Starts | Monday 4th September 2023 |
| | Ends | Friday 13th October 2023 |
| TERM 2 | Starts | Monday 30th October 2023 |
| | Ends | Wednesday 20th December 2023 |

 Term Days
 INSET Days

 Holidays
 Bank Holidays

