WORLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL







WORLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL ACADEMY MAGAZINE SPRING EDITION 2019

PRINCIPAL'S POST



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the WCSA Spring Newsletter.

I hope this magazine finds you well and warm. It certainly was a cold few weeks back in January. I was delighted that, during this chilly period, our overall attendance went up.

This really matters to us and I do write frequently about attendance to staff and parents as well as mentioning the matter to students in assemblies. I am always delighted with what I see in classrooms when I walk round the school; I really do want every member of WCSA to be in 100% of the time so that they can benefit from their years in school. As always, if you are intrigued to see what goes on during the school day, I am always more than happy to tour parents.

Terms 3 and 4 have flown past and you may well be reading this newsletter as you enjoy an Easter egg or two! As Easter is late this year, on our return at the end of April, we will have a little over two weeks left in school until the GCSE examinations begin. Our Year 11 students have been doing us proud. Indeed, many of them are in and out over Easter for the two week revision school. With a long summer holiday to look forward to, I know that many Year 11s just want to do as much as they can now to bank the best GCSEs that they can. It really is worth the effort; re-sitting at college is not particularly fun. We expect all Year 11s in school up until their final exam has taken place. Then we look forward to a farewell at the Prom. I know, from chatting to the Year 11s, that there are plans in place for dresses, suits, transport, hair and nails. This event is, without doubt, one of my favourite events of the year.

Here at WCSA, praise is incredibly important to us; we like to recognise students across all year groups. I do this weekly when I meet a selection of students and discuss their achievements. I always look forward to this particular time of the week. In addition this, many parents will have received a Friday praise phone call home from a member of staff here at WCSA. The end of March saw our Upper School Awards Evening. It was fantastic to see over 50 families celebrate with us on this occasion.

Although we are over half way through the year, we do not want to wish our time away and have a lot to get done in the coming months. Our charity work for Weston Hospicecare has been superb and students have been creative in making, doing, buying and selling. I am sure that parents have helped out as well!

Moving forward, September 2019 will see us reducing our carbon footprint. There will be one final paper copy of the newsletter in the summer. All future newsletters will be emailed to you, and available on the website.

Jacqui Scott, Principal

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World Book Day





Mr. Neville Coles EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL – THE PRIORY LEARNING TRUST



Thank you to all parents, carers and students for your great support during this first half of the academic year. Please do keep in touch through e-mail, neville.coles@theplt.org.uk. or Twitter if you so wish - @nevillecoles. I am very happy to assist **at any time** – staff are always very grateful for any feedback, and especially, I am always very happy to pass on praise and success stories.

I am very, very pleased with the way all our academies are developing and the way they look and feel. We now have 5 academies within the Trust. From April 1st this extends to 6 as we welcome Pawlett Primary School Academy. We now educate around 5,000 children within TPLT. Over the last year we have developed a very clear approach to teaching and learning which is always evolving - 'LEARN' happens in all classrooms - Link Engage Achieve Review Next Steps. Furthermore, anyone who visits one of our academies will, I hope, see a deliberate attention to detail and a certain feel with signage, buildings and site - more capital developments will follow in the coming months. Our children and staff deserve the best facilities we can manage. The £1.2million + roofing project is well ahead of schedule at TKASA (Highbridge) and the new toilets are now complete at WCSA - Worle Water World! We also have placed a further six bids for capital improvements - for example, new flooring in the sports hall at WCSA. So, once again, across all academies, we will learn in early May if we have been successful with the next stage of capital bidding – the total amount bid for is around $\pounds 2.5$ million. We are hopeful and have been very successful in the past.

Staff in all our academies have been working really hard on many aspects of schooling. For example, we have seen several lovely creative arts events at several academies -Priory produced 'Whistle Down The Wind' and Worle are in rehearsals for Monty Python's 'Spamalot' whilst King Alfred's had some great 'Battle of the Bands' evenings. As you may know, I have a particular passion about 'additionality' through sport and the creative arts - music, drama and the wider arts gives so much to each and every student. I love the idea of the new Scout troop at King Alfred's (the only secondary school in the UK with a troop - The First King Alfred Scouts - it has 60 members) and the way in which the Duke of Edinburgh award has developed. Priory are now offering Silver and King Alfred's, because of Post 16 provision, can offer Gold.

Our Trust will always be more than exam results.

Although, I do need to say that our 2018 Grade 5 (old 'B' grade and now a 'good' pass) in both English and maths were very strong. In fact, we were 10% ahead in the English and Maths 'G5 basics' than the next WSM academy outside of the Trust. This fact can be lost in new league tables which use the new term of 'Progress 8'. English and maths outcomes are so important and we are delighted with 2018 results and those expected in 2019. We will focus on English and maths outcomes in the context of a broad and balanced curriculum offer – rich with the creative arts. We will not be chasing spurious qualifications that 'count' in 'progress league tables'.

In our primary phase, I am always very happy to go to EYFS classes - it amazes me the quality of provision for our very youngest children – this provision is really strong across all three primary academies with some 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 have **Little Learners** at St Anne's and **Priory Pre-School** at PCSA. Please do contact us for places and for further information – please see page 3 for the addresses and email details of our Heads / Principals who will be more than happy to contact you with further information.

WELCOME MESSAGES

Student numbers for 2019 entry in our WSM 11+ academies are very strong. Again, thank you for your support. PCSA were delighted to receive 357 first choices in 2019 entry and they have accepted 330. The Local Authority asked PCSA to go to 330(+30) given the extra building work that has occurred. We were very happy to provide more first choice places at PCSA. We were also delighted to see 277 entering WCSA – this is significantly up on last year at this time and we think we will have 300 Year 7s by September. This is important Trust-wide as student numbers drive income.

On a similar note Mr. Jenkins at TKASA and all his staff have been driving up Post 16 numbers - SIXTH FORM.

We have 120+ applications at time of writing. I would still encourage Year 11s at WCSA and PCSA to seriously consider the academic Sixth at TKASA. It is a first-class and distinct school-based provision. Students travelling from WSM do get a travel bursary. A laptop is also provided for all post 16 students. We'd like a thriving SIXTH FORM of 150 as part of TPLT. I know, for many years, parents have asked me about opening a SIXTH FORM and whilst this provision is not within Weston super Mare this is the SIXTH FORM for our academies - PCSA, WCSA and TKASA.

I am really pleased to see that our student attendance figures are up in all our academies - I hope this is partly because of the wide range of courses and events that are available – you will see many of these great activities within the next few pages. So, again, thank you for all your support and we are always happy to receive feedback and encouragement. Please see here the key contacts for each academy - it is the Principal / Head / Senior Teacher. We pride ourselves on speed of reply so please do come back to me directly if you are not getting a speedy reply.

Do get in touch with me directly about any aspect of our work - we don't get it right all the time but we will always (without fail) try to help - we are very 'happy to assist'.

Best wishes.

Neville Coles, Executive Principal





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SIXTH FORM at The King Alfred School - An Academy

Belong - Believe - Be Proud











WWW.TKASA.ORG.UK



CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT OF WCSA STUDENTS

We are pleased to report that this term we held the Upper School Celebration of Achievement Evening on Monday 1st April. We invited parents and students who had been the most outstanding achievers in terms of attendance, progress and conduct in both Year 9 and 10 to come along and receive their well-earned certificate and badge on this evening. There were some outstanding student musical performances to enjoy and a student art exhibition.

Competition has been incredibly high this year with student achievement surpassing previous years in all categories. For those in the top 30 of their year group who received an invitation, this is truly an acknowledgement of their success: for those who didn't quite make it this time, there will be many further opportunities for students to have their successes celebrated at Worle School.

REWARD STORE UP-DATE

The newly opened "Class charts" reward store has been a resounding success with students who are gaining more progress points than ever before. Please encourage your children to keep working towards being awarded more points by checking your class charts app regularly and discussing their good work with them. "Points mean prizes" and we want to give as many away as possible to deserving students.

UPDATE ON COUNSELLING SUPPORT AT WCSA

A new self-referral system has been introduced which has meant that more students have been able to access our counselling service and students are engaging more fully with the help that is on offer. The waiting list has been greatly reduced by offering time-limited sessions and this means that waiting times are shorter with the four part-time counsellors seeing up to 30 students a week. The students who have seen a school counsellor have all given positive feedback on how they have felt supported. Anxiety Management courses will be starting this term with other courses on Wellbeing and Tolerance of Emotion to follow.

YEAR 7 EASTER DISCO

We are holding a Year 7 disco this term on Friday 5th April from 7-9 pm. This will be a first for Worle School and is going to provide a safe environment for Year 7 students to come and enjoy time with their friends outside of school hours. Tickets for the event are £2.50 and the money raised will help support the school.

A charitable organisation, assisted by our students, will be providing fresh oven baked pizza costing £1 per slice. Soft drinks will also be on sale for 50p. Please see the flyer for further information.

Tickets can be purchased via ParentPay.

Mr. Griffin, Vice Principal



TRAIN TO TEACH IN THE LOCAL AREA

Do you have a degree? Have you always wanted to train to teach? If the answer is yes then The Priory Learning Trust School Direct programme can help you achieve this goal.

School Direct is a 1 year full time programme where you train to teach in local schools, either Primary or Secondary (range of subjects available). You will spend all year developing and learning to teach, gradually taking on responsibility as the class teacher.



If you'd like to find out more please contact: Denise Hurr Email: denise.hurr@theplt.org.uk Phone: 01934 510777 ext 206





UNIFORM MATTERS

As Easter looms on the horizon (I know, I can't believe how quickly this year has gone, either) I felt it was an opportune moment to remind students of a few uniform matters. To this end, Tutors have shared a PowerPoint with their Tutees this term, on uniform, lifted straight from the School Dress Code; a full version of which can be found on the website. Below is a version of the PowerPoint.

Parental support regarding uniform, and uniform matters, is truly appreciated...

THE BASICS

- A Worle Community School blazer, to be worn at all times, only to be removed with permission from a member of staff. Blazer sleeves should be worn at full length, and not rolled or folded up
- Hoodies cannot be worn at any time in school, except Year 11 leavers' hoodies from Term 3
- A white, collared school shirt with sleeve (long or short) with the top button done up. Shirts must be tucked into trousers or skirts
- Plain, black full-length trousers, worn on the waist, or plain, black, knee length skirt
- A Worle Community School tie to be worn knotted at the collar and navel/waist length
- Plain, black, V-neck knitted jumper worn under the blazer: sweatshirts or round necked jumpers are not permitted

SHOES AND SOCKS

- Plain, black, flat, leather or leather-look polishable closed shoes are to be worn at all times
- There are currently thirteen students in the school with a medical condition that requires a 'soft shoe' (trainer). Anybody else wearing trainers will be asked to swap them in Student Services for a pair of plain, black polishable shoes
- Socks must be black, white or grey

JEWELLERY

- A maximum of two small stud earrings are allowed to be worn per ear
- All facial piercings are banned: nose, eyebrow, tongue, lip or face studs, rings, bars, chains, ear plugs, tunnels and stretchers are not allowed to be worn and will be confiscated

Mr. Dixon, Assistant Principal



Firstly, I would like to welcome Miss Massey to the SEND team who started working as a Learning Support Assistant (LSA) in February.

INTERVENTIONS

Miss Fitzgerald, Mrs. Kane and Mrs. Stockham have been busy reviewing the interventions on offer to students to ensure their needs are met closely. Progress in intervention is checked and when students progress well then they are able to complete and finish the intervention. Sometimes a student moves on to a different type of intervention to support other areas of need that has been identified.

Our students talk positively about their intervention work in the SRB:

Y7 SPELLING INTERVENTION STUDENTS HAD THIS TO SAY:

"I am more confident having a go at spelling a word, especially -cious and -tious words."

"I learned about prefixes and suffixes and how they change a root word."

"I need to stay a little bit longer to improve more, but I don't mind as I have gotten better already!"

KS<mark>3 FRESH START READING</mark> STUDENTS HAD THIS TO SAY...

"It is fun and helpful."

"It helps me learn my spellings and understand my English lesson better and has built my confidence in learning."

"We do a lot of games, sounds, spelling and reading. I enjoy this lesson."

"We have 'a star in the jar'. This is to reward us for great answers and contributions."

"We practise 'hold a sentence' and this helps us to remember more if you find it tricky to remember things. We also focus on punctuation and adjectives."

"Fresh start has helped me with my reading and how to understand words. The reading modules also help with writing and it is easier to answer questions now. Also, it has helped me to read books. I didn't used to enjoy that, but the stories make sense now."

Y8 MATHS INTERVENTION STUDENT HAD THIS TO SAY...

"In my maths intervention we do adding, subtracting, dividing and multiplying. Sometimes we use dice, timetables grids and sometimes playing cards. It helps me remember the maths I need in class. I enjoy my intervention and I get to work with a friend."

Y<mark>9 STUDENT WHO ACCESSES</mark> VARIOUS INTERVENTIONS HAD THIS TO SAY...

"I enjoy all my interventions. I do reading, touch typing and booster. In booster we go over English and maths, it's very useful. I do more work as it ties in with the English / maths lessons in class. I like that booster goes over what we have learnt. I also use my touch typing at home. It is easier to do homework and revision that way."

LEGO CLUB

Mrs. Turnbull has also started running Lego Club after school on a Tuesday in the SRB. This club is on offer to a select group to ensure that communication and interaction is relaxed and purposeful. The focus is Social Interaction and Communication.



Each week a task is carried

out. This may vary from individual builds to pair or group constructions. The group then share their build at the end of the session and questions are asked.

Conversation is encouraged throughout the session and often discussions are had about issues from the student's day while they build. Sometimes our models are used to represent situations and thoughts. Each week's task is tailored to the particular needs of the group.

The group stay together as a team and during this time friendships develop as their confidence grows. Parents are very much on board and keep in touch via email discussing progress and any concerns that we could bring into the session - for example: friendship issues, work load etc.

Miss Fitzgerald, SENCo.





NEW HEAD OF YEAR 7

I am happy to introduce myself to you all as the new Head of Year 7. I have worked at Worle Community School for 19 years and am looking forward to my new role. I have worked alongside Mr. Whittaker and already know many of the Year 7 students. I look forward to supporting your children through their time here at Worle and wish them all the greatest success.

Mrs. McGill - Head of Year 7

It has been an extremely busy year and a crucial one for the Year 7s with the transitional period behind us and the beginning of the WCSA journey well underway. There have been a tremendous amount of highlights across a number of departments, including lots of sporting, music, drama and science successes, to name a few. Some of my favourite moments this year have been the occasions when I have met the students of the week with Miss Scott and even Mr. Coles; I have been able to share their highlights and what is important to the students at WCSA.

So far this academic year, the Year 7 team have managed to achieve well over 200,000 positive points at an average of over 700 points per student, which is a monumental amount. This shows me how much excellent work has been going on across the year group throughout the year and how well students have responded to the possibility of buying items with their points, especially the Xbox!. We have a number of individual students who have managed to achieve over 1,000 positive points, which is staggering and well done to those students. When I see and read about these sorts of numbers I am extremely proud to be the Head of Year working with the year team and the team of tutors.

During Term 4 we will have a key date in the calendar: the Year 7 Parents' Evening. Here there will be a chance to see individual teachers and have conversations about your child in the specific subject areas across the school. If you do have any questions or queries in the meantime please do send an email to the subject teacher or your child's tutor so any questions can be answered.

Throughout the year, during assemblies and through conversations in tutor time there are a number of key messages that we focus on and stress to the students: attendance, uniform and conduct are all incredibly important. I would like to thank you for the support you have given during the first four terms and please do continue to help and support your child as we move through the school year. The vast majority of Year 7s are brilliant in so many ways and achieve so much; this really does begin with the excellent support that they receive from parents and the family network that surrounds them.

Now we have passed the midpoint of this academic year and hopefully approaching a long warm summer I would like to thank the students, parents, teachers and everyone who has worked with the Year 7 team. You have been really supportive in helping us to achieve so much this year and preparing us all for the beginning of Year 8 which will soon be upon us.

Mr Whittaker, Assistant Principal



Year 8



Year 8 have continued with the positive start that we saw at the beginning of the year. Since we returned from Christmas we have had two very busy terms and have welcomed several new students to Year 8.

Our busy tutor time continues with our experienced team of tutors who have built positive relationships with their tutees. We continue to cover numeracy, literacy, data and citizenship. Tutors have been monitoring both attainment and attendance of their tutees and have had conversations around this. Where necessary tutors have also contacted home with calls to offer support and guidance. If you have any questions please contact the tutors or myself. We are here to help.

We value attendance and know how important it is for students to be in school every day and on time. We have presented awards to Year 8 for top tutor attendance as well as recognising individuals. In term 4 we saw the launch of a new rewards scheme for tutor groups. A drinks voucher has been given to all tutees in the top tutor group each week who have the top attendance in Year 8. The tutees do enjoy a free hot chocolate on these cold mornings.

We continue to promote correct uniform, punctuality and students being ready to learn. Thank you for your support - it makes a huge difference. Tutors check each morning that uniform is to a good standard and that every student has the equipment required. If students have missing equipment they can go to Mr. Tong and purchase this using their achievement points.

Around the school it is always great to see members of our year group taking part in whole school events and representing WCSA. They have helped out several times with student voice and several Year 8s are very active members of the Jill Dando student journalist group. Our sports teams have also done really well and are now looking forward to the summer term sports. Several Year 8s went away with the school ski trip and had a really good time. We are just finalising and really looking forward to the PGL trip for Year 8s which will take place in July. It is on trips like these that memories are made!

Mr. Pickles led an options information evening for Year 8 parents which was well attended and explained the options available for Year 9. If you still have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me.

After half term we had our parents evening which again was very well supported. I hope you enjoyed meeting your child's teachers and discussing their progress. If you have any queries all staff are available to contact at any time.

We celebrated World Book Day in March which was Harry Potter themed. There were lots of competitions and prizes for students which were well supported. All Year 8 students were given a £1 book token to encourage them to buy a book. Several staff also enjoyed the day by dressing up as famous book characters.

Another main event this term was Year 8 Science Fair. Students made amazing efforts in producing some outstanding pieces of work. Individual students were also awarded for exceptional work. Well done to all the students. I am sure they enjoyed participating in this activity.

Once again Year 8 have been brilliant and have had many notable achievements. They continue to make me proud as each term passes.

I hope you all have a wonderful Easter break.

Mrs. Pratlett, Head of Year 8



Year 9



Year 9 are having a great year in school. I visit the students in lessons every day and have seen them all working hard in their classes. The standard of work being produced is very good. We have had two very busy terms since Christmas and we have also welcomed several new students to Year 9.

One of my favourite things to do in school is to go into tutor groups in the mornings. Tutors continue to cover numeracy, literacy, data and citizenship during tutor time. Tutors have also been monitoring both attainment and attendance of their tutees and will, where necessary contact home with supportive calls. If you have any questions or you need support, please contact the tutors or myself. We are happy to help if we can.

The school values the importance of attendance for our pupils. We have presented awards in Year 9 for top tutor attendance as well as recognising individuals with 100% attendance and most improved attendance. Term 4 saw the launch of a new rewards scheme for tutor groups. A drinks voucher has been given to all the tutees of the top tutor group each week for having the top attendance in our year group.

As a school we continue to promote correct uniform, punctuality and being ready to learn. I would like to

take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for your support, it is appreciated. Tutors will check each morning that uniform is to a good standard and that every student has the equipment required. If students have missing equipment they can go to Mr. Tong and purchase this using their achievement points.

The school also celebrated World Book Day, this year with a Harry Potter theme. There were many fantastic wizards in school that day! J.K Rowling would have been very impressed.

Many of our Year 9s have helped out several times with student voice. Several Year 9s are very active members of the drama department and are busy rehearsing for the new school production, Spamalot.

Several Year 9s went away with the school ski trip and had a really good time. We are just finalising and really looking forward to the PGL trip for Year 8s and 9s which will take place in July. The camp facilities look amazing and I am sure all who attend will have a fantastic time.

I hope you all have a wonderful Easter break and our students enjoy a well-earned rest.

Mr. Donaldson, Head of Year 9

NEWS FROM YEAR 10 - Mrs. Brace



Year 10



I always love the start of a New Year, it's a time for reflection as well as planning. I was given a wonderful diary at Christmas by a dear friend. It's a sentence a day for 5 years diary, I think it will be very interesting to see what I am up to this time next year let alone in 2024!

Year 10 have been working very hard across all subjects with a real buzz in the air for focusing on the next challenges ahead. Many of them enjoying some new found confidence and taking part in extracurricular activities, including the annual PLT Ski trip.

I have seen random acts of kindness within the school as well as within the community and have had students bringing truly solid ideas for change to the table for Miss Scott to think about implementing. All of these things make me proud to do the job that I do.

Each day I pop into lessons and check how students are doing, I find true joy in looking at books displaying the wonderful work the students produce each lesson. Being out on duty gives me the opportunity to have lots of chats about general concerns or matters in the news with the year group. It also helps me to keep fit as I regularly mange to walk up to 5 miles per day, it's no wonder I sleep so well at night!

We have had a real focus on getting all of the work experience placements sorted for term 6. I am passionate about the opportunities that are on offer and talk about my own experiences regularly to the year group. I was lucky enough to have work experience placements with a GP, a special school, a Primary School, a Nursery as well as secondary schools during my time at school and college. These defined and shaped my career path for sure as I had a broad knowledge of lots of areas but all linked to my main goal which was to work with children.

We have students going to London and Bristol, as well as staying locally on work experience; I'd like to thank all the businesses who support us with this key element of the curriculum in advance as it truly is vital. I am very much looking forward to visiting some of the Year 10s on placement as they never quite understand just how hard they are going to have to work until they get there.

As the summer months get ever closer I would like to encourage all of Year 10 to take some time to look around them and be thankful for all that they have. Go for a walk, sit and read a book, notice things that have changed and moved on and reflect on things that have not. Set targets, personal as well as academic, and plan to make them happen.

Within the blink of an eye you will be Year 11 and having to dig even deeper into your skill set to be able to cope with the pressure of GCSEs. Year 10, please be good to yourself and build resilience to help you cope with every day challenges. By doing this you will be well equipped for the next chapter of your life.

Mrs. Brace, Head of Year 10



Year 11



2019 - WHAT A YEAR SO FAR!

All Year 11 students returned to school following the Christmas break, ready to take their Pre Public Entry exams (mock examinations) These exams help students to measure how they are progressing, help teachers to prepare and deliver the right material over the coming weeks and are a good indication of expected grades for college and sixth form interviews. I am pleased to say that the majority of the cohorts hard work paid off and we had some great results. At WCSA we reward students' attitude, behaviour and performance. I was very pleased to be able to nominate forty students to receive 'Student of the Week' due to excellent effort during these examinations. We all enjoyed a chocolate treat with Miss Scott and Mr. Griffin prior to the half term break.

Students are continuing to attend their Period 6 intervention sessions. They are also benefitting from bespoke tutor time interventions and Period Zero lessons. We have a fantastic team of ex WCSA students providing one-to-one maths tutoring on a Tuesday and Wednesday evening, a popular revision school in the LRC between 4pm and 5.30pm two evenings a week, as well as Easter School. It is never too late to go up a grade! Students have benefitted from an assembly addressing the issues of mental health and wellbeing and how we can support each other during these final few weeks at school.



Fresh air is very good for concentration, and exercise will help the brain relax. It is important to balance mental and physical activity, eat well and get a good night sleep.

All students have been issued with a Pearson Revision Planner. Please do take a look at this as it contains invaluable information and a step-by-step guide to setting up a personalised revision timetable, key information regarding memory strategies, how to use time effectively and how to stay motivated by setting targets and rewards when reaching those targets; this in particular is how parents can really help! I know from past experience with my own children taking their GCSEs that rewarding hard work pays dividends. I would also suggest your children be permitted to put information up on walls around the house where they spend time. For example: key quotes from Romeo and Juliet; Lord of the Flies and a Christmas Carol; plus mathematical formulae put up in bedrooms or around the dining table will help embed information.



Some great extracurricular activities have taken place this term. Some of our geographers are currently in Iceland and on Saturday 2nd March, English staff provided a memorable trip to Shakespeare's Globe in London to see Romeo and Juliet. Staff and students across the school also enjoyed World Book Day.

Following the summer examinations, we will give the year group a fantastic send off. The Prom will be held at Rookery Manor on Friday 28th June. Students currently have the opportunity to get money off their Prom ticket with the 'Prom Reward Card' Each Department has listed subject criteria which, if met, results in £2.00 off the ticket. This means a half-price ticket is obtainable. Our Students Leaders are also currently organising a Leavers' Book. This will be a lovely keepsake to look back on for years to come.

Thank you for your continued support of the school, I look forward to seeing many of you on GCSE results day to celebrate.

Mrs. Pooley, Head of Year 11

SCIENCE - Mr. Davis





KEY STAGE 3

We have been extremely busy over in science so far this year. We have been looking into building up our key stage 3 scientist's knowledge, experience and enthusiasm. We had a group of pupils head off to Bristol University for the Science and Engineering Faraday Challenge. This was an exciting project which will allow our pupils to enter a national competition if they get through. Fingers crossed we will have WCSA represented on a national level. Another group of pupils have had a collapsed timetable day to focus on an engineering challenge involving electric cars. Their designs have been submitted to go through to a national stage and we eagerly await the results.

Science Club is still going strong and is being run by Mr. Graves. The pupils have been looking at how different wavelengths of light affect photosynthesis; pupils also

designed and made their own gas masks. Currently they have been completing an exciting asteroid impact project that can be used to go towards a Science Crest Award.



KEY STAGE 4

We have also been extremely busy with key stage 4 in science this year. The department has been running Period 0 sessions in the auditorium every Wednesday 8:30-9 with a selected cohort of pupils although we have encouraged anyone to attend who requires additional support. We have been focusing on key knowledge for double and triple science whilst walking pupils through exam questions and how to tackle them.

Our Year 11s home learning has now moved forward and has been focussing on exam technique skills. They have been using the department science website to complete 3-5 exam questions a week whilst using the exam boards mark schemes to mark their answers. This has increased their awareness of which keywords are required and how questions should be tackled. We have provided a huge bank of exam questions which cover both double science and triple science sub topics.

The Year 11s completed their latest set of PPEs and it has been really pleasing to see the amount of pupils really striving to achieve greatness. The overall picture in science has been moving in a positive direction and is giving me a real sense of optimism going into the exam season. With plenty of time left there is still ample time for our students to reach for the stars. I would like to remind you that all pupils have been given a revision guide to help with their studies, which covers all the content required for exams.

Mr Davis, Head of Science

Please also take a look at the science website here at WCSA at https://sites.google.com/worleschool.org.uk/wcsascience

The department are very proud of the resources we have put together here and feel they will make a huge difference in terms of revision and the quality of outcomes going forward for our pupils.







Year 10 and 11 Mr. Wood and Miss Neal

YEAR 11

Congratulations to our Year 11 students, who recently sat their second round of Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs). Overall, they have shown good progress since November, with some even improving by an impressive whole grade. We are very proud of the hard work and effort of our maths students and we are confident this will be rewarded in the summer. Super Teaching week gave us the opportunity to really analyse the results and all students received their own unique Hegarty QLA (question level analysis) which allowed them to conduct a RISK assessment and identify their "Top 5 Topics" for further revision.

They should be able to categorise each dropped mark as being down to one of the following;



Something not already known that needs to be learnt

Preparation continues in earnest now with many additional sessions provided to support the students own independent revision. Easter school will take place in the first week of the holidays for maths, as well as GCSE paper 2 preparation in May half term and a Saturday Paper 3 session on June 8th. There will be time available with maths teachers on the day before each exam to ensure students go in feeling as confident as possible. We will also again run our breakfast revision from 8am on the mornings of the exams. We are determined that each and every student will receive the expert support and guidance they need to help them achieve their potential in maths.

These are the GCSE exam dates for maths;

Paper 1 (non-calc)	21st May 2018	am	1h 30m	
	HALF TERM			
Paper 2 (calc)	6th June 2018	am	1h 30m	
Paper 3 (calc)	11th June 2018	am	1h 30m	

YEAR 10

Year 10 students have also begun their journey towards PPEs by completing a past GCSE Paper 1 (non-calculator) at the end of Cycle 1, followed by a Paper 2 at the end of Cycle 2 (calculator). They will sit a Paper 3 (calculator) at the end of Cycle 3. This should all mean that when they are faced with a

full set of GCSE papers in their summer PPEs there will be few surprises. I am reminded of the old adage...

This ethos forms the basis for all we do in the maths department; from aligning starter questions to homework sheets and common exam topics, to open Proper planning and preparation prevents poor performance

booklet assessments to encourage pride, good notes and workings in exercise books, Hegarty homework revision sheets to promote independence and self-study and ultimately to final exam preparation. We want to leave nothing to chance in our aim to support your child to reach their potential. Thank you for your support.

KEY STAGE 3

an update from Mrs. Smith

We have had a fantastic response so far from Year 7 to our online learning package Hegarty Maths with thousands of hours of learning hegartymaths

completed so far. Some Year 7 pupils have already completed over 20 hours of learning on their own ensuring their full understanding of the work being taught. Well done everyone and keep up the good work.

Every term we select the top three users of Hegarty for each year and reward them as our Hegarty Heroes. Their names can be seen on the displays outside the maths department.

For anybody that would like some support in maths outside of their normal lessons, don't forget we run a Maths Clinic every Wednesday after school in L09. There will always be maths teachers there to help as well as access to chromebooks to complete your Hegarty homework or any other online learning.

In the same room at the same time we also run 'The Mathia'; this is a club for problem solvers, logical thinkers and people who like tackling puzzles. Come along and get involved!



MATHEMATICS - Mr. Wood



CALCULATORS

Knowing how to use a scientific calculator is specifically tested in the GCSE exams and the best way to gain familiarity is by students having one with them every lesson. Please can you remind your child to pack it with the rest of their equipment each night. If you would like to purchase one, our recommended model (Casio fx83



GT PLUS) is available to purchase on ParentPay for £7. Your child then needs to collect their calculator from the finance office. Please feel free to try and find it cheaper elsewhere as occasionally supermarkets run offers, but it normally retails upwards of £10.

ENRICHMENT AND EXTENSION

an update from Miss Symes

This term forty students from Year 9-11 took part in the UK Junior Maths Challenge. It is the UK's most popular mathematics competition with over 300,000 students taking part each year. The results are due into school very soon so we will keep our fingers crossed that many of our students will have gained certificates. The Year 7 and 8 event will take place on Tuesday 30th April this year.

We also had twelve of our Year 8 students graduate from a 6 week Mathematical Masterclasses programme at the University of the West of England in Bristol. The students investigated topics such as Cryptography, Matrix Transformations and met Chris Budd who saves whales in Canada by using Pythagoras. This was all voluntary and the students did WCSA proud!



Year 8 students at the University of the West of England

We currently have the WCSA team in training for the UKMT Team Maths Challenge ready for the competition at Millfield School in March. This year we have a very competitive team and hope to make it to the Regional Finals! This is a fantastic opportunity where our students will compete against other schools in the South West. We wish them the best of luck!

Mr Wood, Head of Maths

MATHS RESOURCES

Maths Department Home Page

https://worle-school.org.uk/mathematics

Follow our department twitter feed for news, revision resources and information.

@WorleMaths

Aumeracy@Worle

This website aims to support students at WCS in developing their key number skills. These skills are not only vital for success in GCSE Mathematics, but also for success in life. The site includes resources for students and parents.

http://numeracy.worle-school.org.uk/

methodmaths

This site allows you to answer past exam questions on a specific topic and check your work instantly. There are 10 years' worth of past exam questions available – practising past exam questions is one of the best ways to improve your grade at this stage.

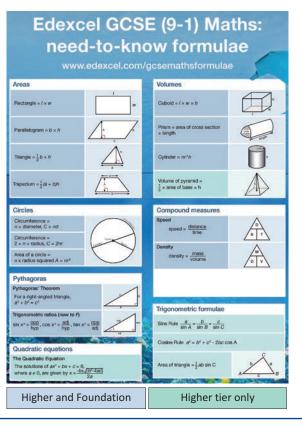
www.methodmaths.com Centre ID: worle Username: [normal network username] Password: hexagon



This site contains lots of online lessons on all topics. It also has online tasks that can be used for practice; you can then check your answers.

To log in click on 'Existing Users', enter the information required and use the password set up when you first logged in.

https://hegartymaths.com/

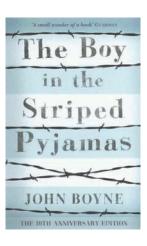






KS3 ENGLISH

Throughout learning cycle 3, students in Year 7 have been engaged in their study of 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' by John Boyne. The emotional story offers many learning opportunities through the narrative perspective of Bruno, a young German boy living at Auschwitz and the unusual friendship he forms with a Jewish boy called Shmuel. Students have responded with maturity and sensitivity to the story, whilst developing their analytical writing skills.





Year 8 students have travelled back in time to the time of the Bard. Through their study of William Shakespeare's romantic comedy 'Much Ado About Nothing'. Students have enjoyed their investigation into the society of Messina and their romantic exploits. Through their study students have developed their knowledge of writer's craft and further developed their ability to use PETER paragraphs as part of their analytical writing.

Students continue to work exceptionally hard within the Accelerated Reader Programme. Students in Years 7 and 8 have a weekly reading session in the LRC where they are encouraged to access the thousands of books and iPads to take quizzes. Students are continuously working to improve their literacy levels and their engagement in the Accelerated Reader Programme is a large part of their success; KS3 teachers would like to thank parents and carers for their continued support of the programme.

Finally, students continue to work incredibly hard on their homework booklets. As always, we would encourage students to attend Whoosh for help with homework after school in the LRC or contact their class teacher if they require any help with the independent learning tasks. Listed opposite are a number of websites that could also help with Year 7 and Year 8 units.



YEAR 7

Learning Cycle 3:

The boy in the striped pyjamas

Assessments: narrative writing/ language analysis and responding to a text

Understanding of the play, key themes and characters https://www.enotes.com/topics/the-boy-in-the-stripedpajamas and

https://www.shmoop.com/boy-in-the-stripedpajamas/summary.html

Narrative Writing https://www.bbc.com/education/guides/zwjsyrd/ revision/1

Learning Cycle 4:

Shakespeare - The Tempest

Assessments: extract analysis/speaking and listening

Understanding of the play, key themes and characters https://www.rsc.org.uk/the-tempest/the-plot and

http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/english/shakespeare _summaries/the_tempest/revision/1/

Speaking and Listening

https://www.bbc.com/education/guides/zthc9j6/revisio n/1

YEAR 8

Learning Cycle 3:

Shakespeare - Much Ado about Nothing

Assessments: extract analysis/speaking and listening

Understanding of the play, key themes and characters https://www.rsc.org.uk/much-ado-about-nothing/

Speaking and Listening https://www.bbc.com/education/guides/zthc9j6/revisio n/1

Learning Cycle 4:

Novel - Trash

Assessments: narrative structure analysis/narrative writing

Understanding of the plot

http://www.supersummary.com/trash/summary/ and http://www.bookrags.com/studyguide-trash/#gsc.tab=0

Narrative Writing https://www.bbc.com/education/guides/zwjsyrd/ revision/1



KS4 ENGLISH

With only a few months to go before our Year 11 students sit their GCSEs in English Language and GCSE English Literature, we are working hard in our final preparations for the summer examinations. The highly successful Period 6 programme continues to support students in their endeavours, as well as a range of Period 0 and optional revision sessions that are on offer; both attitude and engagement with these initiatives, as well as within lessons, has been very positive this year, so well done to all involved! Students are showing off their voracious appetites for vocabulary, their talents for terminology and their fantastic knowledge of their Literature texts by quoting Shakespeare, Dickens, Golding and a range of poets at every available opportunity. If you haven't yet done so, come along and join in the brain work out at revision: the more the merrier!

In February, our Year 10 students witnessed a fantastic performance of 'Romeo and Juliet' from the Young Shakespeare Company in preparation for their GCSE Literature studies of the text next year. Students were enraptured by the immersive performance of the play which was performed 'in the round'. The interactive acting approach allowed students to experience the play in a way that was akin to the experience of Elizabethan theatre goers at The Globe. The performance focussed on the key ideas and themes of Shakespeare's original text up-to-date, whilst managing to make Shakespeare's original language accessible for all. We would like to thank all parents and carers of Year 10 who contributed towards the cost of this exceptionally enriching experience.

Elsewhere in the KS4 classrooms, Year 10 students have started the study of their second GCSE Literature text, 'Lord of the Flies'. Golding's novel provides a political microcosm for the concerns facing the world in the wake of World War Two. Students will explore the nuances of characterisation and the use of motif to subtly convey meaning.



Finally, Year 9 students have started their study of the

Shakespearean tragedy 'Macbeth'. As part of their preparation for GCSE, students analyse Shakespeare's use of language and explore how the magical construction of words combine to create a meaning that has transcended the ages. As part of the Learning Cycle, students will also prepare for GCSE Language paper 2 and consider how persuasive writing can be crafted for a purpose.

Further support for GCSE English Language and English Literature can be located on the following websites:

USEFUL WEBSITES

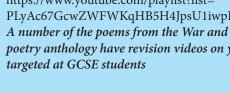
English Literature

- http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english -literature-8702/assessment-resources (specimen papers and mark schemes)
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/ english_literature/ (revision sections on Dr Jekyll & Mr. Hyde, Frankenstein, Lord of the Flies and Romeo and *Iuliet*)
- http://www.sparknotes.com/ • (Online revision guides for all of the novels and plays studied for AQA available)
- https://revisionworld.com/a2-level-levelrevision/english-literature-gcse-level (Romeo and Juliet, Frankenstein, Lord of the Flies revision resources)
- https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list= PLyAc67GcwZWFWKqHB5H4JpsU1iwpF0yHz A number of the poems from the War and Conflict poetry anthology have revision videos on youtube, targeted at GCSE students

English Language

- http://www.aqa.org.uk/examsadministration/exams-guidance/find-past-papers-a nd-mark-schemes (search for English Language GCSE, English Language (8700) for specimen papers and markschemes)
- http://www.englishbiz.co.uk/ (skills focused GCSE help)
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english/ • (sections on fiction and non-fiction texts, comparison skills and writing styles)
- http://www.educationquizzes.com/gcse/english/ • (revision quizzes on all aspects of the course)
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/english (reading and writing skills, including grammar essentials)

Mrs. Harris, Head of English





ENGLISH	- Revision	Timetable
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[31	Friday P6 - (3.00-4.00pm)	28th February 2019 Language Paper 1 Section A	6th March 2019 Language Paper 2 Section A	16th March 2019 Literature Paper 1 – Extract practise	22nd March 2019 'Lord of the Flies' themes	29th March 2019 'Lord of the Flies' quotations	5th April 2019 Exploring language and structure	26th April 2019 'Lord of the Flies' Past Papers	3rd May 2019 'Romeo and Juliet' Key quotation analysis	10th May 2019 Language Paper 2 – Text Types	17th May 2019 Literature Paper 2 – Knowledge boost	24th May 2019 Key revision tips for half term	. Domon 1	re Paper 1 ss Carol' Paper 2 oems & Unseen Poetry per 1 e/ narrative writing		e/ narrative writing rr 2 ypes writing
SSIONS WILL BE HELD IN M	Friday P0 - (8-8.30am)	28th February 2019 'A Christmas Carol' Plot	8th March 2019 'Romeo and Juliet' Plot	15th March 2019 'Lord of the Flies' Plot	22nd March 2019 Anthology Poems – Key quotes	29th March 2019 Terminology booster	5th April 2019 Language Paper 1 Section B	26th April 2019 Language Paper 2 Section B	3rd May 2019 Effective writing skills (Repeat session)	10th May 2019 Exploring language and structure (Repeat session)	17th May 2019 Literature Paper 2 – Knowledge boost	24th May 2019 Language Paper 1	Exams: Wednesday 15th May - Literature Paper 1 'Romeo and Juliet' & 'A Christmas Carol' Thursday 23rd May - Literature Paper 2 'Lord of the Flies' & Anthology Poems & Unseen Poetry Tuesday 4th June - Language Paper 1 Reading fiction texts & descriptive/ narrative writing Friday 7th June - Language Paper 2			Reading fiction texts & descriptive/ narrative Friday 7th June – Language Paper 2 Reading non-fiction texts & text types writing
H REVISION TIMETABLE – ALL SESSIONS WILL BE HELD IN M31	Thursday P6 - (3.00-4.00pm)	28th February 2019 Anthology Poems – Key Quotations	7 th March 2019 'A Christmas Carol' Plot & Context	14th March 2019 'Romeo and Juliet' Plot & Context	21st March 2019 'Lord of the Flies' Plot & Context	28th March 2019 Anthology Poems – Effective comparison	4th April 2019 'Lord of the Flies' themes	25th April 2019 Language Paper 1 Section B	2nd May 2019 Language Paper 2 Section B	9th May 2019 'Romeo and Juliet' Key quotation analysis	16th May 2019 Anthology Poetry Key quotation analysis	23rd May 2019 Breakfast revision in Restaurant from 7.30am	Tuesday 4th June 2019 P6	Language Paper 2 Top Tips	Friday 7th June 2019 PO	Breakfast revision in Restaurant from 7.30am
SCHOOL YEAR 11 ENGLISH REV	Wednesday P6 - (3.00-4.00pm)	27th February 2019 Language Paper 1 – key skills	6th March 2019 'A Christmas Carol' In-depth Characters	13th March 2019 'Romeo and Juliet' In-depth Characters	20th March 2019 'Lord of the Flies' In-depth Characters	27th March 2019 Anthology poems – Developing links	3rd April 2019 VISIT practice – Unseen Poetry	24th April 2019 'Lord of the Flies' – Plot in context	1st May 2019 Language Paper 1 Section A	8th May 2019 Language Paper 2 Section A	15th May 2019 'Lord of the Flies' Key quotation analysis	22nd May 2019 Literature P2 – drop in	Tuesday 4th June 2019 P6	Breakfast revision in Restaurant from 7.30am	Thursday 6th June 2019 PO & P6	Language Paper 2 – drop in
SCH	Wednesday P0 - (8-8.30am)	27th February 2019 'A Christmas Carol' Characters	6th March 2019 'Romeo and Juliet' Characters	13th March 2019 'Lord of the Flies' Characters	20th March 2019 Anthology poems – Linking ideas	27th March 2019 VISIT practice – Unseen Poetry	3rd April 2019 Language Paper 1 Section A	24th April 2019 Language Paper 2 Section A	1st May 2019 Effective writing skills	8th May 2019 'A Christmas Carol' Key quotation analysis	15th May 2019 Breakfast revision in Restaurant from 7.30am	22nd May 2019 Literature Paper 2 – writing effective answers	Monday 3rd June 2019 P0 and P6	Language Paper 1 – drop in	Wednesday 5th June 2019 PO & P6	Language Paper 2 – drop in

DRAMA - Mrs. Davies

In January the Drama Department announced that our next school production will be Monty Python's "Spamalot". We were delighted that nearly 100 students arrived in the studio to audition to be part of the production. Over the course of 4 weeks they attended workshops on comic imaginary horse training (equipped with coconuts!) singing and choreography. In the final week we had over 70 students audition for the show and they showcased such enormous talent and energy. This made casting the show incredibly difficult for us, however this was a real testament to the performance skills of students at WCSA. Congratulations to all who participated and thank you for entertaining us with your witty renditions of Monty Python sketches. The cast will begin rehearsing in March and I hope that many of you reading this will come to see our fantastic students when they perform in October.

Year 7 students have just completed Beowulf where they looked at Viking mythology and culture. They are now creating "Alternative Worlds" by exploring how they can transform an audience to a different world through lighting, music and staging.



Year 8 students have been "Retelling Shakespeare" by modernising Romeo and Juliet or "A Midsummer Night's Dream". Students did a superb job of bringing these plays bang up to date and did their first scripted assessment where they learned lines off by heart. They are now exploring "The Greatest Showman" in a learning cycle in which they learn about some of the key theatre practitioners and their styles of theatre.

Year 9 and 10 have concluded devising their own pieces after workshopping the story of "Everyman". They have been devising, directing and designing their piece to compliment their own dramatic intentions. They will now be moving on to explore 3 styles in more detail, culminating the unit with a performance piece in one of the chosen styles.

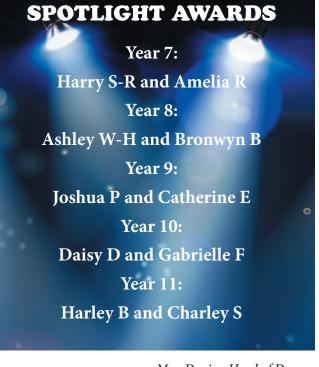
Year 11 have been busy writing mock exams which test their theatrical terminology, their ability to apply practical skills on the set text "Blood Brothers" and evaluate live theatre. They are now beginning their "Texts in Practice" unit which asks them to transform a piece from page to stage. Over the next two months they will be busily rehearsing their pieces for the exam as they undergo the entire process of a production by choosing the text, determining the extracts, casting roles, acting, directing and designing their production.



In February we had the pleasure of taking Year 9-11 drama students to the Bristol Old Vic to see Emma Rice's production of "Wise Children". This was a fascinating production full of theatrical magic which has not only furthered our students' experiences of theatre but ignited some inspiration of local theatre. We now look forward to our next trip to see "Matilda" in May and "Kneehigh" in July.

SPOTLIGHT AWARDS

Every term the drama teachers highlight 2 students from each year group for the Drama Department Spotlight award. These students have received the Spotlight award for continued excellence in the subject through their performance skills, collaboration qualities in the rehearsal process, fantastic understanding of the drama medium, a fantastic attitude to all aspects of learning in the subject and in some cases commitment to the drama department. Many congratulations to them all!



Mrs. Davies, Head of Drama



It has been a busy and productive couple of terms in the Humanities Faculty.

During the 20th/21st March over a hundred Year 11 geographers spent the day on the Quantocks carrying out a piece of fieldwork, which is compulsory for their summer exams. The aim of the day was to investigate how the River Holford changes from the source to lower downstream by taking measurements at various points, and looking at the processes creating landforms. These included v-shaped valleys, a waterfall, meanders and oxbow lakes. An enjoyable day was had by all and students should feel fully prepared for the relevant questions in the forthcoming exams.

ICELAND TRIP

During this Easter break (the 6th-9th April), the Geography Department at WCSA, along with PCSA, are taking 40 Year 10 and 11 students on an amazing trip to Iceland to look at the incredible sights that this island has to offer, such as Geysir, Gulfoss, black beaches at Vik, etc. This is the 6th time that WCSA students have been able to experience such a trip and we wish them a fabulous time. A special 'thank you' must be given to Miss Tipper for organising the trip. Look out for photos and more about this trip in our next newsletter!



Feedback from Y8 students about how Humanities has been taught this year has been incredibly positive. We have written some new learning cycles and students appear to have enjoyed these topics. Year 8, of course, have now chosen which humanities subject they wish to study for GCSE and we hope that they are looking forward to beginning this next year. Year 7 continue to amaze us with their philosophical understanding! They have been investigating the philosophy of religion and are trying to answer some of life's being questions such as what is the meaning of life, how was the world created and is there a God? The way they are grappling with these issues is hugely impressive!



Humanities Club continues to run every Wednesday 3 - 4pm in M04. This is a club for all history, geography and religious studies enthusiasts who have inquisitive and creative minds. The aim of the club is to pose big enquiry style questions such as: What animals were used during World War One? Do all religions celebrate Christmas? Would you know what decisions to make in a hurricane? Feedback from students who are attending is positive; they enjoy the games and activities on offer and the end of term quizzes, with prizes to be won! This club is open to all Y7 and Y8 and if your son or daughter is interested in joining this, they need to speak to Mrs. Lewis or Miss Nattee.

The Humanities Faculty also contributes to the whole school assembly programme. This term Miss Harris and Miss Clarke delivered an assembly on the theme of people who have changed the world with a specific focus on Sir David Attenborough. They looked at his contribution to TV and engaging people with the world around them.

Sir David Attenborough has spoken out about many world issues that we learn about in geography, such as climate change and plastic in the oceans. This was shared with all year groups and hopefully inspired them to do something to help the planet.



Last but not least, we would like to say 'good luck' to the Y11s as they rapidly approach their GCSEs. They have worked incredibly hard in History, Geography and RS and many have taken advantage of the revision sessions that have been on offer. More revision sessions will be offer during the Easter and may half term break and we hope that students will continue to utilise these opportunities to secure subject knowledge and increase their confidence at exam skill. Keep up the super effort, Year 11!

Miss Rand, Head of Humanities

CHILD DEVELOPMENT - Mrs. Ley-Morgan



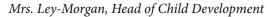
CHILD DEVELOPMENT EASTER 2019

Following on from the information in the Christmas newsletter, Child Development has completed a sustained period of activity.

Year 10 students have now finished their time with the Reality Babies with some interesting results. Comments such as "never again and "the worst time of my life" have often been heard in H16 on a Monday morning when the babies are wheeled back to their "home". To me this is an excellent outcome as they learn to fully appreciate the responsibilities, enormous effort, patience and sheer hard work involved in looking after a young baby. Top student was Katie K with an excellent score of 100%, no easy achievement. Year 9 students are now fully involved in the process with Kacie S and Lily S currently fronting the league table.

Year 11 students have submitted their first piece of coursework, RO19, where they are required to show an understanding of the equipment and nutritional needs of children from birth to five years. This is 25% of their final marks. Excellent results have been gained by some students with Hannah C dropping only 2/60 marks to gain a Level 2* Distinction (the highest grade). Similarly Hana P in Year 10 has now added to her Level 2P summer exam result with a L2D*in this task, showing tremendous dedication and commitment from a student working in her own time!

Year 11 have now started the 2nd and final coursework task, which is commonly known as the Child Study. To gain the highest marks they will need to analyse and evaluate the performance of "their" child carrying out activities which the students have themselves planned. No mean feat! It is vital that deadlines are met since we are very short of time with the necessity to revise for the final exam. This will take place on Monday 10th June with both Year 10 and 11 entered. There will be a 2 hour session during Easter School for both years and I hope to run morning revision sessions for Year 10 in tutor time starting mid March when they have finished the final examinable unit of work. For Year 11 there will be other arranged extra sessions soon to be confirmed. I wish them all well in June and will again be joining them to experience for myself the pressure of preparing and sitting a written exam!













DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY - Mrs. Burrows



KEY STAGE 3 Food

Year 7 - This year our Year 7 students learned many different skills which have enabled them to prepare and cook a selection of ingredients. They have enjoyed learning and cooking recipes for a 'Tea Party'; Cheshire Cat Cookies, White Rabbit's Rock Cakes and Alice's De'light'ful Crunch to name a few.

Year 8 - Examples of products this year were Thick Crust Pizza, Mini Cheese and Onion Pies and Carrot Cake. Year 8 Food students focussed the 'Munch-Box' module which saw them prepare and cook products which could be packed as a lunch and eaten without cutlery. There was a lot of success as our students worked independently which resulted in many successful 'bakes' and 'cooks'.

Textiles

Both Year 7 and 8 students developed projects using different fabrics and components. The Year 7 project began with the learning of basic skills which then moved on through a project based around the design and make of a sea life themed cushion cover. Year 8 students used their Year 7 skills to progress through a project focussing on problem solving, culminating in a practical piece: "Ugly Dolls". The aim was to address the market, find a gap in the market and fill it. There were many exciting 'new' designs proposed and manufactured.

Graphics

The first 'Graphic Products' project undertaken in Year 7 was for the students to be introduced to the design process whilst tackling the subject of mechanisms, manufacture and quality control in a practical exploration into the world of Pop-Up cards and books.

Year 8 Graphic students were given the opportunity to develop their CAD (Computer Aided Design) skills during the 'Branding' module, focusing particularly on Photoshop.

As Graphic Designers, students re-branded a singer/band's identity distinguishing them from their competitors. This knowledge provided our students with some skills that they can hopefully use further should they choose Design and Technology for Key Stage 4.

Resistant Materials

During Year 7 and Year 8 our students are introduced to both workshops. They are taught key skills and the need for safe working in a professional environment. A range of different resistant materials are manufactured into products; a toy train in Year 7 and a veneered trinket box in Year 8. These basic skills allow our students to recognise their own strengths and give them an insight into the subject. The intention is that they find that they enjoy this area of the curriculum and wish to continue with it through Key Stage 4.



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY - Mrs. Burrows



KEY STAGE 4

Year 9 and 10 have embarked on their GCSE/Vocational courses. This means that they will have a deeper understanding of their chosen subject: Food & Cookery, Resistant Materials Technology; Graphics. The projects so far have been and eclectic mix of skills, components and ingredients, depending on the material area.

Year 11

The Year 11 lessons in Resistant Materials Technology, Graphics Products and Textiles Technology before the summer were devoted to the design and make task, as specified by the examining board. A fifteen page design folio was created and the product was then made in the workshop and/or classroom ready to be assessed for the final qualification.

All the students that undertook the VCert Food & Cookery qualification had an exciting year and all passed. This was especially a proud year for the department.

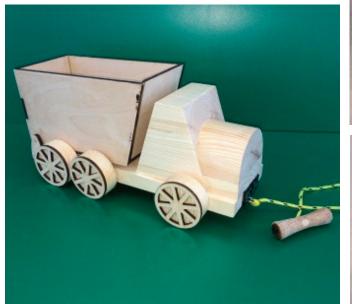
We would like to wish all our 2016-18 GCSE Design and Technology and VCert Food & Cookery students continued successes in their futures.

Mrs. Burrows, Head of DT























ARTESINA 2019 TPLT SKI TRIP



I had the pleasure of organising a ski trip for WCSA students. We had such a fantastic time! We spent a week on the quiet slopes of Artesina in the hills of Italy. The snow was amazing and the students' skiing was even better.

Our hotel offered "doorstep skiing" and was the ideal setting to take 140 students away to test their skills in a winter sport. They spent 5 hours a day honing these skills on varying levels of slope. The top groups were flying down black slopes and taking any opportunity they could to take flight off any small jump they could see. The beginners were working tirelessly to perfect their snow plough so they could finally brave the heights of the mountain.

The progress of all of our students was truly remarkable. The vast majority spent the first two days on the nursery slopes, but by the end of the week there wasn't a WCSA student to be seen on the easy runs. They were all off, dotted around the mountain seeking out adventure with their highly trained, fantastic instructors.

It was an amazing week. The planning for 2020 has already begun! Please check out @WCSAskitrips to keep up to date with next year's trip and to see all the fun that was had this year.

Mr. Thompson, Head of PE







WORLE ICT AND BUSINESS STUDIES

This newsletter edition focuses on the fantastic extracurricular opportunities that are happening within the department and to hear first-hand from our students about their experiences.

KS3 RETRO REVIEW CLUB

The Retro Review Club is running after school on Wednesdays and is aimed at KS3 pupils who are interested in the inner workings of Youtube, along with online culture itself. The pupils have been working in groups and playing retro video games that are over 20 years old! Students then must use their literacy skills to write a short review of the video game, record voice clips, and finally edit together a short video review to be uploaded to Youtube!

The group has already branded themselves creating a unique logo and name which will be used to create their own Youtube channel. The group is currently working on their first review which will be created and recorded very soon. The video game the group is reviewing is one of Mr. Connolly's favourites Crash Bandicoot 3 for the prehistoric PlayStation 1! It isn't too late to join, if gaming is your thing then please come and collect a permission slip from the ICT department.



P6/0 CATCH UP FOR YEAR 10 AND 11*

Day	Subject	Time	Room	Assigned Teacher
Friday	ICT & Business Coursework	3-4pm	L12	Mr. Wagland Mr. Somers Miss McCorry
Wednesday	Computer Science (Paper 1)	3-4pm	L14	Miss McCorry
Friday	Computer Science (Paper 2)	3-4pm	L13	Mr. Roberts

*Appointments with class teachers are also available

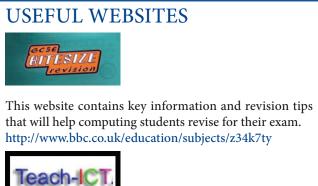
YEAR 8 GIRLS CYBERFIRST COMPETITION

Students were asked to complete a competition linked with the GCHQ. The competition ran for one week and students had to complete them in their teams. WCSA had three teams of Year 8 girls who entered the competition.

Thoughts from Ruby A, Eva C, Kirsten S, and Elle P who entered the competition: "The Cyber First challenge is a competition to get girls more involved with computer science. I found the questions very challenging however it was a lot of fun as we were able to get together and have a good time. Our group tried our best and we are happy that we gave this challenge a go as it was a great experience for us"

The ICT Department are delighted to announce that WCSA finished in the top ten for the West of England region and have been invited to enter the Independent Regional Final being held in UWE Bristol on the 30th March. Well done girls, we are really proud of you!

Miss McCorry, Head of ICT



This website covers all topics covered at KS3 this can be used as a revision tool or to support homework.



http://www.teach-ict.com/

This website gives students access to past papers and mark schemes to help prepare for the examined unit in computing

http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-computingj275-from-2012/



This website gives students access to past papers and mark schemes to help prepare for CiDA.

http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexce l-gcses/ict-

2010.coursematerials.html#filterQuery=category:Pearson-UK:Category%2FExam-materials



ART & PHOTOGRAPHY - Miss Millar



Our Year 11 GCSE Fine Art & Digital Art students have recently completed their GCSE exam and are nearing the completion of their two year course. These students have shown that they are full of exciting and creative ideas and concepts; as a department it has been brilliant to help encourage these students to develop their own creative identity.

Our GCSE Fine Art & Digital Art courses are full of innovative concepts. Students in both courses are working hard to develop their artistic ability and skill level. They are working on developing their ideas based on current affairs and artists, and they are able to create work which shows a creative journey throughout their coursework, with many having created work beyond their years.

In Key stage 3 we have covered a range of topics. In Year 7 we have looked at insects and the work of Abby Diamond and we have introduced the traditional Mexican festival "The Day of The Dead". Students have been enjoying exploring different cultures and creating art in response to the style, whilst using a range of materials and techniques.

Year 8 have looked at the art movement "Pop Art". This has helped students to see how popular culture can influence art. Students have enjoyed creating work on their favourite celebrities.

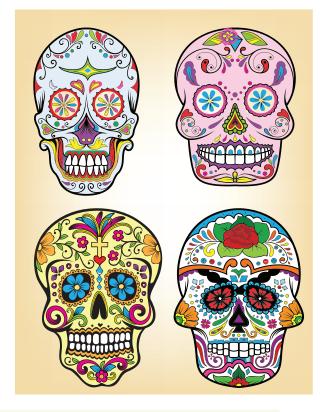
Year 9 have been working on developing their skills, with Fine Artists working on a project based on the theme of Expressions and exploring the use of a range of materials and techniques, as inspired by their artist research. Photographers are working on a project entitled "Urban Landscape", which is exploring both physical and digital editing techniques.

As a department, we are keen to nurture and enhance the development of creative talent. We are able to offer students the opportunity to receive teacher support on Wednesday between 15:00 - 17:00 for GCSE students and Art Club is on a Thursday from 15:00 - 16:00 for Key Stage 3 students with Mr. Archer.

Miss Millar, Head of Art



Abby Diamond





MFL - Mrs. Webb-Jones



KEY STAGE 3

Our Year 7 students have just finished learning about school and are really good at giving their opinion on subjects and teachers! We're now moving on to hobbies which will be really interesting to hear what everyone likes doing in their free time. Year 8 have learnt how to live a healthy life and have now started learning about holidays – one of our favourite topics!

KEY STAGE 4

Pupils are making great progress in Years 9 and 10 and really getting to grips with the GCSE content. Year 11 have completed all of their topics and we're now getting really close to our Speaking Exams at the beginning of April. The speaking exam is probably the part which students worry most about, so we've been practicing lots and will continue to do so, if as parents you can continue to support and practice with your child it will certainly make students less nervous.

KS4 EXCHANGE TRIP

We just said goodbye before the half term to our Spanish teachers and students here over at WCSA. It was our first year organising the exchange programme and the feedback has been really positive. It was a truly rewarding experience having Spanish students and staff living with our families for a week and visiting many places, getting to know about our culture and language.



parents and Teachers, students had lunch together at the Cabot to get to know one another, and then we went to the Grand Pier. Spanish students experienced what lessons are like at WCSA and they were really impressed with how

different our educational system is to theirs. On the following days of the trip we travelled to many places in the South West.

We went to Bath and visited the Roman Baths and the most iconic places; then we went to Cheddar to enjoy the caves and the views from the Gorge, always beautiful; we walked all around Bristol learning a few curiosities and students really enjoyed all the graffiti around Nelson Street.

Here are some of the moments we shared together. The exchange is not just a trip, it is an immersion within the culture that our students are studying and that is what makes it so special.





We are continuing with the programme by offering other schools in the Trust to join us so we can offer it to more pupils who will benefit from the experience. We are looking forward to next year's exchange trip already!

More important than ever for Year 11 students - A little bit of language practice every day is so much better than trying to cram it all in at the end.

DATES FOR THE GCSE EXAMS:

French				
w/c 1st April	Speaking Exams			
14th May	Listening and Reading Exams			
17th May	Writing Exam			
Spanish Exams:				
Spanish Exar	ns:			
•	ns: Speaking Exams			
•				

AWARDS!

We have all struggled yet again to pick our Praising MFL Stars from Learning Cycle 2 due to such an array of amazing talent! The successful students were invited to attend a rewards party in M24. Congratulations to you all but also to those who came so close to being picked – we are truly spoilt for choice this year!

IMPROVE YOUR LANGUAGE SKILLS AT HOME!

To work at its best, your memory needs "topping-up" regularly. Make the most of your summer break to hone your vocabulary skills or to give yourself a headstart. Download the memrise and duolingo apps or log on to these sites – 5 minutes a day will have a huge impact on your knowledge!

- Linguascope
 (www.linguascope.com)
 Username: vangogh Password: ask your teacher!
- Languages Online
 (www.languagesonline.org.uk)

Use mobile phone apps:

• BBC KS3 Bitesize French/Spanish (www.bbc.co.uk/education)



duolingo.

Memrise (www.memrise.com) Duolingo (www.duolingo.com)

Mrs. Webb-Jones, Head of MFL





SPAMALOT

Students have started working on the next school production, the musical comedy, Spamalot. Over 80 students auditioned for a part in the performance and they all did fantastically well with their singing and acting.

EXCEPTIONAL MUSICIANS

Tessa R, in Year 9, was successful in her audition for a place in the National Youth Wind Orchestra of Great Britain (NYWO) the UK's premier wind orchestra for approximately 75 young musicians aged 14 to 21. NYWO brings together some of the finest young woodwind, brass and percussion players in the country. NYWO is a special and deserving organisation which gives young musicians the opportunity to work with internationally renowned conductors and tutors, develop their musical skills in a musically-rich and safe environment, and perform with leading soloists at prestigious venues across the UK and abroad.

Arlie H, in Year 8, has secured a place in one of the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain. This is a fantastic opportunity and Arlie will take part in two amazing residential courses full of music, learning opportunities, social activities, together with 100-150 great young singers of your age.

MASS IN BLUE

On Saturday 8th June Worle Community School Youth Choir will be joining Weston Choral Society to perform Mass in Blue by composer Will Todd. Will is one of the UK's leading contemporary composers and students will work alongside Will and his jazz quartet to put on this amazing work.

CURRICULUM

Year 7 are currently learning to play the ukulele and preparing a number of different songs for a performance.

Year 8 are using their musical skills to prepare a piece of music of their choice for a GCSE performance. Many students are discovering a newfound interest in learning a new instrument, and there have been many excellent performances so far this year.

RSL students are preparing for live performances as part of the course which they will perform live in a number of different events in and out of school, as well as performing a fifteenminute set to a professional standard.

Y11 GCSE students have all completed excellent composing and performance coursework.

INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

Many of our students play an instrument in school and we have had over 30 Year 7 students start an orchestral instrument this term with the support of North Somerset Music Service. 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 and musictuition@worle-school.org.uk

RECORDING STUDIO



The recording studio is one of the best equipped of any school in the South West, and students from all year groups have been using it to produce some excellent sounding music.

Access to Music students, Tyler Cand Joel P (Year 9), have been recording

bands, while Amelia G (Year 10) has been creatively using sampling techniques by recording everyday objects and applying effects to produce an unusual musical soundscape.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

We have a wide range of extra curricular activities in the music department with something for everybody. We have numerous choirs for all year groups and vocal abilities, Swing band, and Orchestra. Some students take it upon themselves to set up their own band. If your child is interested in joining any of these groups, please contact Mrs. Burlinson eburlinson@worle-school.org.uk

WEBSITE

Check our upcoming events, use online resources to revise, and listen to recordings of students' compositions and live performances.

Please encourage your child to get involved. Our aim in the Music Department is to get as many of our students 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 rock, the opportunities are there. I am looking forward to seeing more students joining us in the Music Department.

Further information about the Music Department can be found at our website: worleschoolmusic@wixsite.com/wcsmusic

Mrs Burlinson, Head of Music





HERO AWARDS

We continue to reward our students for their random acts of kindness. In partnership with Hutton Moor Leisure Centre, our hero campaign gives prizes and recognition to students looking to make the world a better place at home, school and the community. To nominate a hero, just email hero@worleschool.org.uk with the student's name and a brief description of why they should be rewarded.

WORLD OF WORK EVENT WESTON COLLEGE



A WOW event was hosted by Weston College which was designed to provide students from all year groups with the information they need for their choices regarding the next stage in their education. There were scheduled talks delivered by industry and education experts throughout the evening. College lecturers from all faculties, the Apprenticeship team and staff from The University Centre Weston were all available to talk to, offer information, advice and guidance. And the rumours about the great cake were all true!

WICE



Our Year 10 girls that chose to take part in Women in Construction & Engineering; a STEM initiative to get more females into the

Engineering and Construction industry, have been back at Bridgwater & Taunton College. Construction was the theme of the day at the Taunton campus; offering our students workshops to learn more about the vast industry and an employer led activity focussing on skills for the future.

WESTON GENERAL HOSPITAL -NHS CAREERS EVENING

Doctors, Nurses, Midwives, Dieticians, Radiographers and many more staff from the NHS community made themselves available to discuss career aspirations with our students.

They had the opportunity to experience hands on practical sessions and talk to staff and students about their career paths.

ENTERPRISE 4 U NICKEL ELECTRO VISIT

Enterprise 4 U is a inter schools invention competition similar

to Dragons Den. Pre competition our super clever Enterprise 4 U team have been working hard on their design and were lucky enough to visit Electro Nickel who offered to 3D print a very professional prototype.





NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK

This was a fantastically busy week, welcoming an eclectic bunch of guests from local business, colleges, Apprentices, ex WCSA students and our local singer songwriter celebrity!

OUR PLT SIXTH FORM – KING ALFRED - OPEN EVENING, WCSA TASTER AND OPEN MORNING

King Alfred's has been offering our students lots of opportunities to experience life in Year 12 & 13 in their excellent further education establishment. The WCSA Year 11s that attended the taster morning experienced A Level classes that highlighted the small class sizes and level of support available. They were also surprised to be told they would receive a travel bursary and a free laptop!

The majority of our Year 11s have now attended interviews for their chosen colleges and choices. Any indecision please do not hesitate to come and have a chat.



We have lots more planned after Easter including guest speakers, the Year 7 Interview Challenge, Year 10 work experience, the Big Bang Science Fair and lots more. Please do get involved.

Students are told about up and coming careers events and activities in tutor time and assemblies, but parent support is very important to us too. Please 'like' the school Facebook page, double check that your Email address with the school is correct and follow us on Twitter- @leezauk

Happy Easter!

Mrs. Cuthbertson, Careers Advisor



ATTENDANCE

Attendance remains one of our key priorities at WCSA. We are striving for all students to have an average of 96% attendance over the course of the year. There is no denying that attendance and success are closely linked. Put simply, you cannot learn if you are not in school.

As you walk around our school site, both inside and outside, you will find our current attendance figures. At the time of writing, as a school we are just over 94%. National average is 94.6%.

Starting in term 4 we have a new initiative which we are hoping will create a real buzz in tutor groups. There will be a weekly prize for the best tutor group in each year group. The prize will be a hot drink voucher for the restaurant, perfect for these chilly days. At the moment, these tutor groups are in the lead – we will have to see if they can be beaten! As it is a weekly prize, we are hoping that students will feel committed to working as part of a group.



This stands alongside our longstanding rewards for 100% personal attendance each term, most improved each term and the best tutor group each term. As you will also be aware, attendance is one of the criteria for the rewards trip in the summer term.

HOW DO I KNOW MY CHILD'S ATTENDANCE?

Students keep track of their attendance every week during tutor time where they record their attendance, punctuality, praise points and behaviour points. As parents, you have the ClassCharts app which shows you the attendance and conduct data for your child. You also have the Praising Stars report which is issued 4 times a year.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY CHILD IS ILL?

Before taking the decision for your child to be absent from school, you are advised to consider the following four questions.

- 1. Will this illness prevent my child from learning today?
- 2. When was the last time my child was absent?
- 3. Could there be another reason why my child doesn't want to go to school?
- 4. Would I, as a parent, take a day off work for the same condition?

If your child feels better late morning, please bring them in for the afternoon session.

If your child has vomited and you know that it is not related to a sickness bug, your child may attend school. There is no 48 hour rule. However, common sense should be applied.

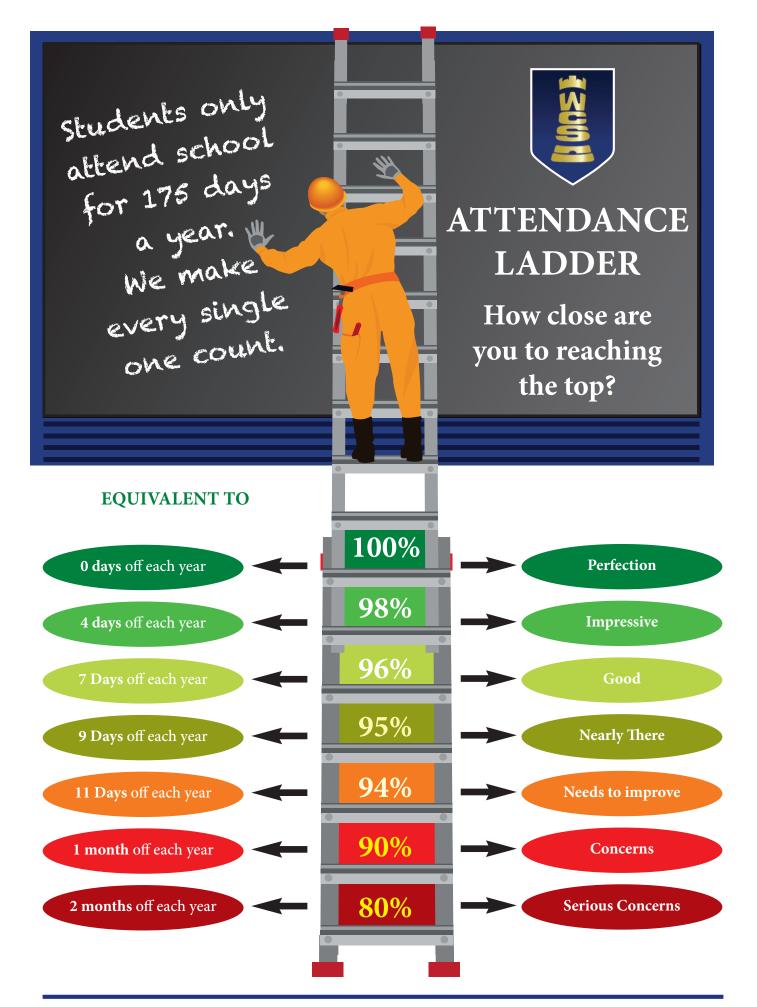
Mrs. Venn, Assistant Principal

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PHONE THE ABSENCE LINE BEFORE 9AM ON EACH DAY OF ABSENCE.

	TERM 1	TERM 2
Year 7	7B2 – Mrs. Leonard	7B1 – Mr. Winstone
Year 8	8B1 – Mrs. Day	8A4 – Miss Harris
Year 9	9A2 – Miss Mullins	9B5 – Ms Natee
Year 10	10A1 – Mrs. Bainbridge / Ms Robbins	10B2 – Mr. Green
Year 11	11B4 – Mrs. Hayes / Mrs. Smith	11A3 – Mr. Pickles

ATTENDANCE









Term 5	Starts Ends	Tuesday 23rd April 2019 Friday 24th May 2019
Term 6	Starts Ends	Monday 3rd June 2019 Wednesday 24th July 2019
		SUMMER BREAK
Term 1	Starts	Monday 2nd September 2019, Monday 2nd September is an INSET Day. School will be closed to students with the exception of Year 7 who will come in on the morning from 8.40am – 11.30am (only) All students to return to school on Tuesday 3rd September 2019
	Ends	Thursday 17th October 2019
Term 2	Starts Ends	Monday 4th November 2019 Friday 20th December 2019
Term 3	Starts Ends	Monday 6th January 2020 Friday 14th February 2020
Term 4	Starts Ends	Monday 24th February 2020 Friday 3rd April 2020
Term 5	Starts Ends	Monday 20th April 2020 Friday 22nd May 2020
Term 6	Starts Ends	Monday 1st June 2020 Friday 17th July 2020
INSET DAY	S:	Monday 2nd September 2019 Friday 18th October 2019 Monday 20th, Tuesday 21st & Wednesday 22nd July 2020

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS (GDPR)

The General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) came into force on May 25th 2018.

Worle Community School Academy (WCSA) and The Priory Learning Trust (TPLT) take the collective responsibility for the secure holding and management of the personal data of Parents/Carers and Students held by us very seriously.

Under data protection law and the new regulations, individuals have a right to be informed about how the

school/Trust uses any personal data that we hold about them. We comply with this right by providing 'privacy notices' (sometimes called 'fair processing notices') to individuals where we are processing their personal data. The TPLT Privacy Notices for Parents/Carers and Students are available to view on the school website under the Key Information tab at the top of the home page. They include the contact details of the Trust Data Protection Officer should you have any questions or queries in this regard.