







SUMMER TERM 2021

NEWSLETTER



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We Challenge and Support to Achieve WCSA



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world"

– Nelson Mandela

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THOUGHTS FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Miss Scott – Principal



As we reach the end of the summer term, I am trying to work out whether we have had more days "in" school or "out" of school" this academic year. I think most students have probably missed nearly half a year of schooling. Certainly, from reading the papers, I know that children in English schools

have really suffered this last year. GCSEs were not external examinations this year, although teachers have been able to award grades and I am looking forward to results day, in the summer on Thursday 12 August. I am hoping, as we all are, that we really are on the road back to normality now.

As I reflect on the year, there are so many successes, in spite of the trials and tribulations. Year 10 sat their PPEs a few weeks ago in June. I was really proud of this group of students who took the exams seriously and did well. Talking to teachers, it is clear that lost learning is being quickly recovered. I know that lower school students are looking forward to moving around the site again in September and being able to use specialist facilities. For me, it has been far too long without a concert or performance. Sports-wise, I know that our

students made the most of the P6 that we were able to introduce as restrictions started to lift. Here at WCSA, we are known for our sporting prowess, so I look forward to the return of team matches in September. I imagine the hardest thing for many of us has been the inability to see our loved ones. As soon as we break up, I am off to meet my new nephew for the first time. I am sure that you are all going to make the most of getting out and about in groups of more than six! I hope that we have some reasonable weather so we can enjoy ourselves over the holiday.

I know that many students have signed up for one of our summer schools. We have three running this summer. Our new Year 7s will be taking part on a program called "The Big Step". For Year 8 and Year 9 we have Mendip Outdoor who have put together a week of fun outdoor activities. I will be around for both events, so will look out for smiling faces having fun. Finally, we do still have some places left in Year 7. If you know of anyone who is not yet sorted with a school place for September, please do get in touch. It's never too late to move schools if someone is having a rethink, or if circumstances have changed. I am happy for families to email me if they think that they would like to look around over summer, with a view to joining in September; please do spread the word! Happy Holidays!

Jacqui Scott - Principal jscott@worle-school.org.uk





CEO UPDATE











Dear Parents, Carers and Students, Once again **thank you** for your super support this past year. We are now firmly, and thankfully, back to almost normal in our schools. There is no substitute for great class teaching; in person - teacher to child - none. There is also no substitute for the many face-to-face activities that staff in our Trust have always offered freely - such as the many music events, the sport matches and the Trust-wide Duke of Edinburgh Award programme. This

approach will continue at pace as we again put students first, cherish our staff and serve our community.

So, we are very, very grateful for all the parental and carer support for our hard-working staff - we now have 766 of them. Many of these will continue to work across the family of TPLT schools this summer. We will ensure that any student who is significantly behind in their learning is offered 'catch up'. We are utilising tutoring actively - please do contact our schools directly if you need further information. We are also running an extensive programme of transition activities as we welcome record numbers of Year 7s into TPLT schools in September plus summer events through Mendip Outdoor Pursuits.

As you may know, we have a new Head of School Improvement, **Nathan Jenkins** (ex-Principal at TKASA) and a relatively new Head of Primary Education (ex-Head at St Anne's), **Lisa Dadds** – both report directly to me as part of our Central Team and will be very happy to get back to you at high speed. Please do get in touch; happy to assist. Clearly, please contact schools first but please do not be shy.

- nathan.jenkins@theplt.org.uk Head of School Improvement (secondary contact)
- lisa.dadds@theplt.org.uk Head of Primary Education (primary contact)

We send all sympathies to any family in our community who has lost loved ones due to Covid.

We continue to make really strong progress as a Trust despite the pandemic. Indeed, all our schools have greatly benefitted from working together as a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) over the course of this terrible virus. As one collective and as one entity – one family of schools. There is now really strong evidence that MATs, when properly aligned, firmly aid school improvement. Many of you may have seen this link; well worth a read. It is from OfSTED looking at how MATs assisted school leaders through the most testing of times – the recent pandemic.

https://educationinspection.blog.gov.uk/2021/01/19/the-trust-in-testing-times-the-role-of-multi-academy-trusts-during-the-pandemic/.

I am delighted with the progress of TPLT since we started working with more than one school; at the old 'Worle School' in 2016. This school soon became WCSA, just 4 years ago -March 2017. We now have record numbers entering WCSA as Year 7s this September. The Trust continues to grow wisely and is now one of nine sites. The most recent joiners, in April 2021, were East and West Huntspill primaries. Each child within the Trust is, of course, equally important to us all; this is something which at times is hard to envisage when we tend naturally to think about 'our' school - where we work, or where our children attend. Our local governors are fully appraised of this way of working; it is our job centrally, and that of our governing body (The Trust Board), to ensure that this is the agreed and collaborative ethos of all. There is a very clear moral perspective here; one of being outward-facing and serving all, not just a few, within our wider community of schools.

The most valuable resource that all teachers have is each other. Without collaboration our growth is limited to our own perspectives.

- Robert John Meehan

PiXL

We always ensure that our funding is wisely distributed. In 2019 we spent 44% of all our capital funding at WCSA - a new sports hall and new auditorium look. This was much needed after some years of neglect. This year we have needed to spend at TKASA, with a £1million+ ongoing project on roofing and windows. It tends to be the case that our Special Measures schools (the very lowest of OFSTED grade possible) were unloved with facilities as well as lagging behind with teaching and learning and thus outcomes. Over time, of course, all schools in our Estate will benefit equally.

We are now in a position to pool all resources - called pooling of General Annual Grant. From September 2021 we will be in a position to further develop the facilities within TPLT - very quickly and with some agility. It is a very good time to join TPLT and I'm delighted to welcome a bulging Year 7 population in September and a massive 110 Year 12s into TPLT Sixth at TKASA.

Have a great summer - many of our staff will continue to work through the summer break and my thanks to them for all their continued commitment to our families - we will continue to put STUDENTS FIRST - CHERISH STAFF and SERVE THE COMMUNITY.

Neville Coles CEO and Accounting Officer - The Priory Learning Trust

TKASA SIXTH FORM



- The Priory Learning Trust's 6th Form is just 18 minutes by train from Worle!
- Year 12 students travelling from Worle receive a £600 travel bursary!
- To help with independent learning all Year 12 students receive a new Chromebook or £150 towards an IT device of their own choice!
- We offer a broad range of traditional A levels and vocational subjects: https://www.tkasa.org.uk/new-index
- Our gifted and talented programme includes a FREE masterclass programme and residential trip to the University of Cambridge!
- Boost employability skills by joining a range of societies, clubs and competitions: Young Enterprise Company Programme, Duke of Edinburgh Award, Law Society, Med-Soc, Debating Society, Music Club, PsychSoc, Model United Nations, Art Club etc.
- Receive excellent careers, apprenticeships and university advice and guidance and secure top quality work experience placements: Aardman Studios (Bristol), Natural History Museum (London), Bishop Fleming (Bristol)...
- Participate in our Year 12 international trip: Morocco, Iceland, New York City, Italy...

TKASA SIXTH FORM



- Former Worle student Jenna Edgar , but not her pet chameleon, studies A levels with us in Year 12: Maths, Physics and Art
- Jenna is a member of our 6th Form Student Union and leads the History of Art Society
- Jenna is participating in our University of Cambridge MasterClass programme that includes a residential trip to Trinity Hall, Cambridge
- Jenna would like to study Architecture at university and she is completing an Extended Project (EPQ) on the history of architecture

The Priory Learning Trust's 6th Form is a supportive and aspirational place to study and you will receive expert guidance and opportunities that will enable you to fulfil your potential and go up to a top university or on to a prestigious apprenticeship. The exam results at TKASA are excellent: from 2017-2020 students achieved or exceeded

their A level target grades, in 2020 54.36% achieved A*-B grades and a 100% pass rate. In 2018 92%, 2019 79% and in 2020 84% of our students went up to a university of their choice!

GOOD NEWS: There are places still available in Year 12 for September 2021! Email Mr. Gaskell, Head of 6th Form for a bespoke tour after school: jgaskell@tkasa.org.uk You can also apply via the website or pick up an application form from Ms. Cuthbertson.



THE PRIORY LEARNING TRUST

The Priory Learning Trust is an educational charity. Our purpose is to advance education for public benefit. TPLT will facilitate knowledge building for all through professional development, with a determination to improve curriculum and pedagogy.

STUDENTS FIRST - CHERISHING STAFF - SERVING COMMUNITIES

May 2021

- The mission of The Priory Learning Trust (TPLT) is to develop happy, confident and successful young people. Our underpinning values are respect for each other, creating an environment for successful learning and giving everyone the tools to maximise their potential. Our primary focus is providing great student outcomes whilst also thinking about the holistic welfare of our students. This is called **STUDENTS FIRST**
- TPLT is committed to social equality and the principles of fair access and opportunity. The priority is local families and we will retain a local focus. TPLT values its employees. It is committed to staff development and to fair and transparent dealings with all employees. Our employees are precious and they must be deployed for maximum gain for our students and their welfare. This is called **CHERISHING STAFF**
- TPLT intends to wisely grow its family of schools. There will be measured growth as we must maintain outstanding outcomes.
 Growth, therefore, will be intentionally designed. TPLT will extend business services to support great teaching and learning.
 All our academies will deliver a 'world class' modular curriculum that is relevant, dynamic, forward-looking and balanced.
 This is called SERVING COMMUNITIES

The Priory Learning Trust is an educational charity. Our purpose is to advance education for public benefit. TPLT will facilitate knowledge building for all through professional development, with a determination to improve curriculum and pedagogy.

STUDENTS FIRST

CHERISHING STAFF

SERVING COMMUNITIES









News from The Academy Council's new Chairman – Mr. Dave Chilman

"The prime objective for the Academy Council is to support Jacqui and her team to achieve an Ofsted rating of good and make WCSA the secondary school of first choice in Weston-super-Mare"

It is a privilege to be given some real estate in this newsletter to introduce myself as the new Chair of the Academy Council commencing September 2021.

I have been an Academy Councillor at WCSA for four years, as well as chairing the School Committee which involves the monitoring of academic progress and exam outcomes. Prior to this I was a governor at Mendip Green for 4 years where my area of interest was once again academic performance. Professionally, I work for a French Software Development company. I am based in Bristol and manage a small team of Software developers and project manage the delivery of software solutions to our clients. I am married with two children; my son will graduate from WCSA this year and my daughter is completing Year 9. We are an active family and, if we

are not ferrying the kids to rugby or netball training/fixtures, we are out running, cycling or walking in the countryside.

As mentioned, I have been part of the Academy Council for a number of years which has allowed me to experience the journey since joining The Priory Learning Trust (TPLT). Since the OFSTED judgment of "special measures" back in 2016, WCSA is now deemed to be safe with improving outcomes. Indeed, the latest Ofsted report praised the way that the school develops students. The role of the Academy Council is to support the school in continuously improving for both students and staff. We meet six times a year as a full council but have additional meetings throughout the year that focus on safeguarding, student progress, finance and management of the site. Our role can be best defined as being a critical friend i.e. our prime purpose is to support the school but we also have to ask challenging questions to ensure the best outcomes for the students.

It is the Academy Council's goal, in the coming years, to support Jacqui and the leadership team to achieve an Ofsted rating of "good" and to make WCSA school of first choice in Weston-Super-Mare. We also aim to play our part within TPLT to ensure that all students across the trust receive a positive learning experience.

OPERATIONS MANAGER UPDATE

Miss Paterson - Academy Operations Manager



There have been a lot of exciting developments at WCSA over the past few months, which I am delighted to be able to share with you.

Recently, we have completed work on the installation of our new solar panel system, comprised of 1132 panels, which has been installed on most of our roof space. This will help us on the way to meet our sustainability targets, and reduce our Carbon footprint. We have also taken another leap towards becoming carbon-neutral by installing two electric car charging points on site.

The school has recently been awarded an Eco-Schools Green Flag award – the flag is now proudly displayed on our site and I believe it symbolises our real commitment to sustainability and to reducing our carbon footprint.

Plans going forward...

We have some really exciting projects planned going forward, including fully upgrading our auditorium lighting – this will take our school shows, which are already excellent, to the next level!

Our new Facilities Manager, Paul McLean, started with us in June and is already making a positive impact on our site and staff. We look forward to working together going forward to improve our facilities for our students. Upgrades are planned to many of our double glazing units, which will help us to keep our classrooms warmer in winter, cooler in summer and lower our electricity consumption by being more energy efficient.

Throughout the summer we have lots of exciting works going ahead, including some summer improvements, ground works and a new and upgraded reception area. We are also in the process of removing some temporary buildings on our site to create a useable outside space for our students and staff.

ART

Update from the Head of Art – Miss Millar



The Royal Mail's special stamp programme has, over the years, commemorated British history and achievements. Stamps have been designed and issued to honour the achievements of many British people, including athletes, scientists, explorers, artists, musicians and Prime Ministers.

At WCSA, the Art Department promoted the launch of the "Heroes Stamp Design Competition" to students in Years 7 to 9 because, like the Royal Mail, we felt it was important to acknowledge the commitment of the countless frontline workers, keyworkers, carers and volunteers who worked tirelessly to keep the supporting the country through Covid-19. Outstanding members of the community, some quite famous, could therefore be memorialized by children aged four to fourteen in a

stamp design. Eight stamps will be chosen with Her Majesty The Queen being issued with the final designs, and the winners being issued a range of fantastic prizes, along with 120 runners up prizes.

The students at WCSA have risen to the challenge by creating some outstanding designs based on heroes such as Captain Sir Tom Moore, scientists, food bank workers and the NHS. The amount of pride and dedication is clearly visible in their designs, and you can tell how grateful our students are of all the people working hard to keep them safe during these unprecedented times.

Here are just a few of the designs that were submitted by our talented students.







ART

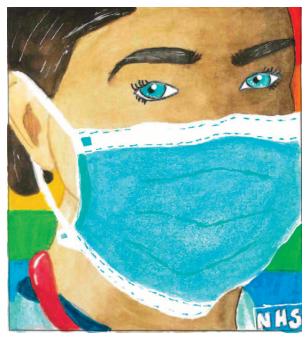






























THANK

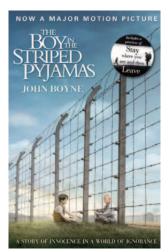






YEAR 7

News from Mrs. Brace – Head of Year 7



After a well-earned rest over the holidays, with some much needed sun and relaxation students came back raring to go.

It almost felt normal which was just wonderful! Period 6 was up and running, students were able to enjoy more of what WCSA had to offer. Year 7 students have grown in confidence and have been working well in their lessons. Science is still a firm favourite.

The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas has been another firm favourite; such a harrowing, important story that everyone should know about. If you haven't read it please do and ask your son/daughter what they think of it.



In April, we held a very successful 'Into the Light' evening where we got to meet our new families for September 2021, we were very lucky to have a beautiful, fresh, dry evening.

Students have been lucky enough to take part in two online events, these were an up-and-coming boy band who talked about cyber bullying then an online interactive science afternoon all about us being able to become "net zero" with our emissions both here at school as well as at home.



During our PM tutor time session, have programme that throughout the term. On Friday 7th May Year 7 learned all about the importance of giving blood. This is something I have only been doing for the last few years but I feel it is really important so I shared some facts with the students on the process.

Term 5 ended with a celebration of our musicians. The students took part in the Year 7 Young Musician of the Year competition. Staff were incredibly impressed with the wealth of talent in Year 7 and enjoyed listening to their wonderful performances. Miss Wadley and Mr. Sayer (previous Head of Music at WCSA) spent over 2 hours listening to their performances and each student received a certificate, feedback form and a small prize. The winner was presented with a trophy live on Zoom! Well done to everyone who entered.

Over the summer, students will be able to take part in activities here at WCSA thanks to funding released by the government due to Covid. Current Year 7s will be able to sign up for a week's activities and the new Year 7s (current Year 6) will be able to take part in 'The Big Step'. This is a week's programme specifically designed for students transferring to Year 7 from primary school. It addresses worries they



may have as well as keeping them very busy with a whole range of activities throughout the day. More details are available on our website.

As the summer term draws to a close, I want to personally thank my students for doing the best they possibly could during this tricky year. They really have settled into school life so well and I am exceptionally proud of them. Good luck to them all in Year 8!

Mrs. Brace

Don't start your day with the broken pieces of yesterday.

Every morning we wake up is the first day of the rest of our life.

CLIMATE JUSTICE REVOLUTION



News from Climate Justice Revolution student group



Increase Biodiversity with Bug Hotels

Last term, the Climate Justice Revolution team found out how easy it is to make a simple bug hotel.

You can pack cardboard toilet rolls together (either in a wooden square or a margarine tub) and fill loosely with natural material.

Feeding bugs in your garden increases biodiversity – more insects = more small mammals and birds = more larger predators.

If you enjoy seeing the wildlife in your garden – give them a little space and watch them thrive!

#NoMowMay carries into #LetitBloomJune - a great tip for lazy environmentalists

So we had a quiet mowing revolution at WCSA this term - in that CJR persuaded the site team to leave a border around all our fields unmown. Not mowing for a month allows a wide variety of habitats to develop for minibeasts, hugely increasing biodiversity in your garden - even if you only leave a small area!

BUT - not mowing for 2 months allows the developing plants to flower, feeding the minibeasts you have given a home to! Dandelions, for instance, are an incredibly rich food source for a huge variety of animals - and were once considered an amazingly important food for humans too!!!

So have a go at #letitbloomjune - please feel free to send me pics of flowers and minibeasts you discover as a result!!!





Below are a selection of books that would make great summer reads.

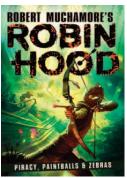
KEY STAGE 3

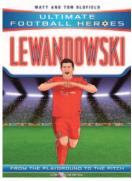




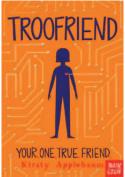


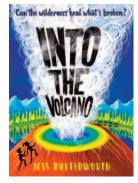


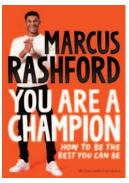


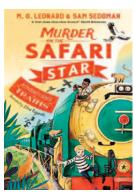






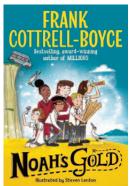






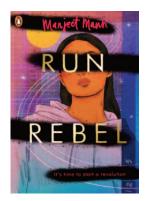


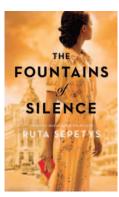






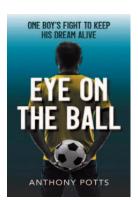
KEY STAGE 4 — AGES 13+











Head Boy/Girl

Update from Arlie Hobden and Naya Srikanth – New Head Boy/Girl



My name is Arlie Hobden, and I will proudly represent WCSA as Head Boy for 2021-22.

In and outside of school, some of my favourite hobbies / activities are singing and playing flute. Thanks to the help and motivation from the music teachers in school, I am also

a member of the National Youth Boys Choir of Great Britain, and I have achieved my grade 4 in flute.

When I finish my time in education, I am hoping to get into either writing / performing songs. If not, I would like to become a paramedic.

I am very grateful for all that the school has done to encourage and inspire me to achieve things in life and I cannot wait to get started with my Student Leadership Team duties.

Arlie Hobden



I'm Naya, WCSA's Head Girl for 2021-22 and this is a little introduction to who I am and what I'd like to do to develop our school community.

One of my future aspirations is to become an architect, as I've had an interest in architecture for a long time. I'm very honoured to have

received the role of Head Girl and I hope it will allow me to develop my confidence and skill in talking to groups people which will, in turn, help me in the future when I am pitching my ideas to others.

Something I care very much about is making sure people are treated equal and I want all students to feel included in our school community, especially people of different ethnicities, sexualities and gender identities. I would also like to make sure that students are better educated on issues surrounding inequality in society.

Naya Srikanth

Update from Joshua Keyes – Student Editor for The Jill Dando News Centre

Hi everyone! My name is Joshua Keyes and I will be the student editor of The Jill Dando News Centre (JDNC) for the upcoming 2021/2022 year.

I am 15 years old and during my 4 years as a student journalist for the JDNC, I have met and interviewed some incredible people, including international rugby players and astronauts!

In the next year, expect many positive news stories and action packed filled papers. I look forward to meeting some incredible students and making sure their talent is showcased within The Post! Happy reading.

Joshua Keyes



YEAR 11 LEAVERS' CELEBRATION





















MONDAY 21ST JUNE 2021























YEAR 11

News from Mrs. Pooley – Head of Year 11

What a year! What a fantastic year group!



Year 11 have had a tough time - COVID has cast a shadow over so many of our usual school activities, but our Year 11 students have emerged from the darkness brighter than

ever. We began 2021 deep in the heart of Lockdown, our on-site provision saw lateral flow tests, distance learning and bubbles of exam preparation. We knew the year would be different; we knew our Year 11s were destined for success.

When we finally left lockdown, Year 11 teachers had clear priorities: mental health, teaching of content, exam skills and assessment. It was a Herculean challenge, but one that we knew our students would rise to. They did brilliantly!

Every afternoon, mental health training was delivered via zoom - we knew that our students had to be mentally strong to overcome the lockdown blues and prepare for assessment success. A programme of healthy exercise, healthy diet, healthy sleep and healthy focus-based activities was delivered. No other generation has been so attuned to their Mental Health than our current Year 11s.

Our Year 11 staff worked diligently to deliver the last months of content and used the lockdown skills of distance learning to deliver additional Period 6 activities. Our students worked above and beyond: they were enthusiastic,



focused and positive. Maturity and drive had clearly not been held back by the virus - our Year 11s were indomitable. Students emailed work overnight, attended extra sessions during Easter school and used every app, guide and resource the internet had to offer to ensure that they were the best they could possibly be.

Presently, it was time to assess. Each morning, our students were given tea, coffee, toast and revision in the school restaurant. This was hugely successful and gave our students the opportunity to gather in small groups and engage in some last minute revision while

being supported by the Year 11 teachers and tutors. This clearly had a marked impact as behaviour and focus during the assessments was unparalleled in its excellence. All that hard-work had clearly paid off.

We finished the assessments and celebrated with end of lesson-time doughnuts and congratulations from all. Our students had worked so well during tough times and needed to be rewarded. Once the papers were all collected, we decided it was time to give back, so we tried to use the remaining weeks to give our students a taste of the employability skills, the extra-curricular opportunities and the social action that our community craves.

We were lucky enough to be able to invite the National Citizenship Service to work with our young people for the final two weeks. The weather was glorious, there was no more revision and our students were craving life skills. Where better to start than assault courses, climbing walls, axe throwing and tiktok dancing? NCS bought a level of engagement our students hadn't been used to.

Fresh out of University, the NCS staff engaged our students in understanding real world issues: Black Lives Matter, Extinction Rebellion, the Application of Further Maths at Degree level - there was no holding back. In the short time NCS were with us, we saw our



students shake off the shell of secondary school and transform into socially active, self-motivated, public speaking, wall climbing young people of the world.

Finally, we were able to give our students a shirt-signing leavers party - socially distanced, of course. We invited our students back on site for a final fond farewell. They were kind, charming and already years above their age and stage - more than a few tears were shed from staff and students alike. COVID impacted so much of the lives of our Year11s - but calm seas do not make good sailors. Our Year 11s are the most resilient, most flexible and most fortified of all the years we have seen recently. They know their worth and they know what needs to be done to make a real change in the world they have inherited. We thank them all and wish them the very best of luck for the future.

SEND

Update from Miss Fitzgerald, SENDCo - Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Miss Fitzgerald is pleased to announce that Sarah Kane (Intervention Lead) has successfully qualified (with distinction) as a Level 5 Dyslexia Specialist Teacher - CONGRATULATIONS!

The qualification is accredited by the British Dyslexia Association for Approved Teacher Status, meaning Sarah is now a Specialist SpLD Teacher.

Sarah has worked at Worle for over six years and has made a significant impact on those learners with dyslexia, which is identified as a learning difficulty that predominantly affects spelling and word reading (fluency and accuracy).

Sarah said: "I am passionate to help students to thrive with dyslexia and we are making excellent progress at our academy. My new qualification will allow me to individually tailor learning strategies for identified students and create personalised literacy programs. It is really good news for the students and the school."

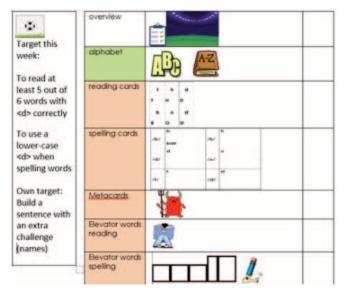
Learners with literacy difficulties, in particular dyslexia, are identified early so interventions can be implemented to support their learning and progress. Sarah's qualification means that WCSA will be able to provide and implement more bespoke provision and interventions for specific learners.

Sarah teaches Fresh Start, a phonics-based programme to students with weak literacy. She screens students for



dyslexia and creates clear strategies for teaching staff and support staff to use with the students. With successfully completing this course, Sarah has developed her expertise and is now able to offer small group interventions when she is able to put her skills into practice.

Below are some examples of the work that Sarah has done with some of her current dyslexic learners:





JILL DANDO NEWS CENTRE

News from the JDNC Journalists

About us:

The JDNC has been very busy recently, conducting online interviews with people from many industries and gathering local good news stories. We have been focusing on creating good news stories, both amongst the community and further afield and have a fantastic group of student journalists, who are very keen to continue Jill Dando's legacy in the school she once attended.



Some of our WCSA journalists in action!

Recent Interviews...

Sasha Pallari - Influencer, Make-up artist and model – 19th April. An inspirational interview with local make-up artist Sasha, who spoke about the beauty industry, social media and her role in making it more inclusive and 'real' with her recent campaign #FilterDrop.

Dan Ayers BBC Radio Bristol – 20th May. A freelance journalist who worked in local radio throughout the coronavirus pandemic and continued to keep listeners updated on the latest news and updates on air and online.



Upcoming Interviews...

A special Hollywood star (a Scottish television presenter, actor and writer) – Date T.B.C. – watch this space!

Why not have a read of some of our recent Good News stories, with this link: https://goodnewspost.co.uk/category/good-news/



Thomas, 14, wins exclusive invite to prestigious UK maths summer school



Virginia, 13, donates her lockdown locks to charity



Jack, 11, starts dream school photography



Inspirational Zak, 12, walks 238 miles staying in sub zero tent temperatures to raise over £2220



Award-winning academy wins prestigious green eco-flag



Families flock to view ambitious academy as it hosts latest 'Into the Light' event

April 26, 2021 / The Editor / No Comments

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Update from Mrs. Matthews – Head of Child Development



Friday 28th of May saw us celebrate 'World Menstrual Hygiene Day'.

Lots of our child development students are concerned about the stigma surrounding periods not just within their friendship groups but within their communities too. At WCSA, we decided to do some research and discovered there is an international day to recognise period poverty and the stigma associated with periods.

I was keen to support students with recognising the importance of this day whilst making it educational. With the power of Google, I came across various ideas around a menstrual cycle bracelet and decided to use this idea to teach our students about their own menstrual cycle.

Using beads of various colours, we created bracelets to show our periods, our ovulation day, our fertile days and most importantly highlighted the fact that a woman can fall pregnant at any point in their cycle.

We have also been researching eco-friendly period products - more info on this to follow at a later date.

I am pleased to say that our idea snowballed and we were being asked for bracelets by not just the Year 10s but 11s too. Members of teaching staff, our fabulous blue coats and members of our senior leadership team also came out in force to support our students in something they so strongly believe is important.

Over 270 bracelets were worn with pride by both male and female students and members of staff. Nobody should experience period poverty or period stigmas!





Nobody should experience period poverty or period stigmas!

CAREERS

Update from Ms. Cuthbertson







The annual Year 7 Interview Challenge ran shortly after the Easter break. All Year 7 students were encouraged to create a CV and research different career paths before being invited to an interview with the careers team. As always, students stepped up to the challenge and we heard all about our students' aspirations, their future goals and their successes and achievements to date.

A big well done to the students who were interviewed by the school newspaper "The Good News Post" and received a further commendation for their excellent preparation, research and CVs.



The term moved on with a project to support our Year 11 students prepare for life beyond WCSA with confidence building, leadership, communication and social awareness.

The National Citizen Service moved into WCSA, rolling out a programme of activities for students to participate in; Day 1 a climbing wall and axe throwing were set up on the playing field! All groups took part in a business challenge, classroom tasks and debates, covering many topical subjects. They also researched and planned a community social action awareness project, bravely pitching their ideas in the auditorium.



CAREERS



Year 11 A Level students also visited TKASA for a 6th Form Taster Day to enable them to understand the content of the A Level subjects on offer. They also discovered what their life in further education will look like and the opportunities that will be available to them.



In the last week of term, Year 10 students were treated to a multitude of team building activities with Mendip Outdoor Pursuits. Well done all!

Looking forward to the next school year, we are excited to arrange taster days to



Weston College, Bridgwater & Taunton College, The Winterstoke Hundred Academy and all of our local 6th forms. There will also be university taster days, employer visits, work experience and more. Please keep checking your emails from school and watch out for the monthly careers' events and activities bulletin on the WCSA Facebook page.



TEACHER TRAINING

If you are looking to train as a teacher, The Priory Learning Trust offers an alternative to traditional university-based teacher training at both primary and secondary level. With our School Direct teacher training programme you train in two schools in the Weston and Burnham area, learning on the job, while working towards a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) and Qualified Teacher Status (QTS). If you'd like to find out more please contact Denise Hurr, Head of Training School via email: tsa@theplt.org.uk



NEWS FROM THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Update from Mr. Sam Gray

Mr. Gray, supported by Mr. Griffiths, Miss Harris, Mrs. Webb-Jones and Miss Elliott, led a team of 18 students on Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award on the weekend of Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th June. The weather was mixed but some great fun was had by all!



cook the beans.







Girl Power!

The Duke of Edinburgh Award helps young people to develop resilience, team building skills and forge new friendships. It can help them develop new life chances and even to get a job. If you are interested in doing the DofE then please contact Mr. Gray for more details sgray@worle-school.org.uk



Are we there yet? Hiking the West Mendip way.



Many hands make light work.

BLUECOATS

Bluecoats, an Appreciation

Dinner ladies, as we used to call them when I were a lad (I'm from up north, excuse my vernacular), were always a mainstay of school life; serving up food with an efficiency that would put an Amazon warehouse worker to shame and then patrolling the playground admonishing anyone who dared to kick a football within one hundred yards of a pane of glass. We respected them, like we would our grandmas, but were a little bit scared of them. Like we were of our grandmas.

The role changed over the years, and, re-branded as Lunchtime Supervisors, they came into their own as a vital component of running a school during social times. Worle's Lunchtime Supervisors, or Bluecoats (so-called because they wear distinctive blue coats – see what we've done, there?), are no exception to the rule. Day in, day out, they supervise the students during Break and Lunch, ensuring they stay where they are meant to stay, do what they are allowed to do in their pursuit of leisure time, and look out for any issues that arise, pre-empting said issues with guidance and dealing with any aftermath with kind words.

Our team of Bluecoats, led by Kay Day, go above and beyond this remit; they've stepped up during the last twelve months and offered their services outside of social times to ensure the smooth running of the school during what has been an extraordinary period in all our lives. They've been there to escort students to the toilet, ensuring their safety and that of others by keeping them 'in their bubble'; they've escorted latecomers to their lessons; they've helped facilitate the testing programme, by escorting students to and from the testing centre and reassuring those who were anxious.

Being a WCSA Bluecoat is a world away from being an old-fashioned dinner lady. It involves working with the students, and working for the students, looking out for them, building relationships. And, yes, it sometimes involves admonishing them for kicking a football near a window.

So, let's hear it for Kay, Carol, Katie, Amanda, Tracey, Sarah, Natalie and Donna. Without whom, WCSA would not be the same.



UNIFORM MATTERS

Throughout England, the weeks before the full return to school following the second lockdown were a fraught time; children had outgrown their uniform and suppliers were inundated with requests from parents. To this end, we issued students who were struggling to obtain correct uniform with Uniform Passes, a licence to wear some non-uniform items until the suppliers got their act together. During those four weeks leading up to Easter, families slowly but surely purchased the required uniform. Your efforts did not go unnoticed. Since Term 5, uniform matters have been ironed out (so to speak) and standards are, as ever, second to none.

One change coming to an end as the unbubbling, and a return to normality, beckons, is the wearing of PE kit on PE days. Whilst this temporary policy has served a purpose, allowing students to access some PE provision, it will no longer be appropriate for students to wear PE kit all day if partaking in a PE lesson on that day. The range of PE lessons available after the unbubbling requires students to be able to change into, and then out of, their PE kit.

Secondly, as the warmer weather breaks through (slowly, but surely), there will be no need to wear a PE hoody underneath the blazer.

There has been one change to the Uniform Policy. We listened to students and parents who felt that the plastic nose studs distributed to students were, effectively, the same as the actual nose studs favoured by some students. Nose studs are now allowed. But not rings. They are a health and safety issue.

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 a plain, black, knee length skirt
- A Worle Community School Academy 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. Black Nike Air Force 1s are also allowed, in line with other secondary schools in the Trust.
- There are currently nine 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 a pair of black or white

Jewellery

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



our mission:

The idea is that parents can exchange school uniform that is too small for preloved uniform that is the correct size OR parents can give a donation for any uniform items their children might need. Parents who receive a referral to us will receive new items where we are able to accommodate or good quality second hand items. Any money we raise here will go towards buying new school uniform for this referral service. A small part of what you give will go back into the day-to-day running costs of the project, which are very low, helping many many families across Weston super Mare and surrounding areas.

DROP OFF LOCATIONS:

HOPE CHURCH, THE SCAURS WORLE TESCO, STATION ROAD, WESTON **MORRISONS**, LOCKING CASTLE DISTRICT CO-OP, HIGH ST, WORLE



If you'd like to make a financial donation to the project please see information on our facebook page.





projects@hopechurchonline.co.uk



(i) @hope_uniform_exchange



@hopeuniformexchange

Our Restaurant - led by Head Chef, Andy Davies



Pictured (from left to right) are the Restaurant staff team of Kerry, Andy, Dan, Sue, Zara & Debs

The restaurant has been very popular now that students are able to buy food at break and lunchtime. Friday is still most definitely the busiest day of the week with pasta day, Monday coming a close second. Mrs. Brace confesses that she adores the rice crispy cakes so much she has had to limit herself to only 1 a week!

The menus are quite varied – see below for an example of a summer term menu. Special dietary requirements can be accommodated – just get your child to speak to a member of the Restaurant staff. A "meal deal" is priced at just £1.85.











FOR MORE INFO VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
http://theprc.org.uk or
Call 01934319140 /
Email: info@theprc.org.uk

SIGN UP TODAY TO THE PRC GYM!

SPECIAL OFFER PROMO CODE FOR NO JOINING FEE: PLTJOIN

HTTPS://SECURE.ASHBOURNEMANAGEMENT.CO.UK /SIGNUPUK/INDEX.ASPX?FN=GRCF9



TERM DATES 2021/22



Term Days				INSET Days H					Hol	lolidays					Bank Holidays											
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TERM 1 STARTS: Wednesday 1st September 2021 ENDS: Friday 15th October 2021 Wednesday 1 September is an INSET day.											TERM 4 STARTS: Monday 28th February 2022 ENDS: Friday 8th April 2022															
	Please check with individual schools on arrangements for this day Friday 15 October 2021 is an INSET day											TE	RM	5		STARTS: Monday 25th April 2022 ENDS: Friday 27th May 2022										
	Friday 15 October 2021 is an INSE1 day											TE	RM	6		STARTS: Monday 6th June 2022										

INSET DAYS

TERM 2

TERM 3

Wednesday 1st September 2021 Friday 15th October 2021 Thursday 21st July 2022 Friday 22nd July 2022

STARTS: Monday 1st November 2021

ENDS: Friday 17th December 2021

STARTS: Tuesday 4th January 2022 ENDS: Friday 18th February 2022

Term dates have been set for 2021-2022 and once again, we will be having a two week break in October, to give parents an opportunity to take holiday time away from the more expensive traditional half-term week. We are also building in some training time for our staff in July, and so the summer term for students will end earlier than many schools. We would encourage parents to consider using these times for family holidays, rather than children missing out on education during term time.

ENDS: Friday 22nd July 2022

Friday 22 July 2022 are INSET days

Thursday 21 July 2022 and