

Windsor News and Information



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12th January 2024

Issue: 16



- Thursday 25th January - Year 11 Parents Evening.
- Monday 5th, Tuesday 6th, Thursday 8th February - School Production - 'We Will Rock You'.

Reminder: System for Lateness



A polite reminder that we introduced a new system in March 2023 regarding lateness. Lateness can be classed as:

- Students who arrive after 8:40am (they are officially late to school).
- Students who are arriving late to lessons (officially after the majority of other students have entered the classroom).



Students who arrive at school after 8:40am are required to sign in at the Science foyer between 8:40am and 9:10am. This will result in a 30 minute lunch-time detention.

Students who are late to two or more lessons in a day will attend a 30 minute detention after school on the same day. We appreciate your support in ensuring we maintain our high standards and expectations.



Mobile Phone Reassertion

A polite reminder regarding mobile phones:



There will be zero tolerance regarding mobile phones in school. Phones should not be seen or heard at all within the school gates. This includes: at any time in the day including before and after school, anywhere on the school grounds/within the school gates, something we have described as phones not being allowed to be seen or heard anywhere from "gate to gate".

We encourage students to hand phones in during PE, but if the phone is turned on it will be confiscated. Phones confiscated will be returned after school via Mr Morley, but if it is repeatedly seen or heard and therefore confiscated, parents/carers may need to collect the phone.

Free Speech vs. Hate Speech



Contentious or provocative viewpoints are shared every second of the day online. That's not to say, however, that an opinion is less valid simply because it's initially unpopular: just think about Galileo or Emmeline Pankhurst. With disturbing frequency, though, some individuals post damaging hate speech online under the guise of 'freedom of expression' – and unless young people can identify hate speech, there's a risk of them being influenced by such harmful content. The guide attached to this newsletter explores the crucial differences between free speech and hate speech.

Emergency Financial Support for Families – Dudley Council



To ensure families in Dudley can access emergency support, Dudley Council has set up additional out of hours provisions. Please see the attachment to this newsletter for more information.

Special points of interest:

- **PTA** – for information about joining, contact Mr A. Buckley on 0121 550 1452
- **Lost Property** is kept for two weeks. Students are notified of items via the daily message sheet.

Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed recently and you are now in receipt of benefits such as Universal Credit and Income Support, then you may be entitled to apply for Free School Meals for your child. Even if your circumstances have only changed for the short term, you still have the right to apply.



Please scan this QR code for more information on Dudley Councils website. The QR code also has a link for the application form. If you require assistance or would like support completing the form, please contact us directly by email info@windsor.windsoracademytrust.org.uk.

Year 11 Parents' Evening: Thursday 25th January



Year 11 Parents' Evening takes place on Thursday 25th January. You can book an appointment via ParentMail using your smartphone, tablet or computer. When the appointment booking system goes live, you will receive one alert advising the booking system is now live, and you will be able to select appointment times that are convenient to you.

One appointment per teacher per student can be made, therefore could families who live apart liaise with each other to arrange appointments. If you have any questions, please speak to your child's Head of House.

History Book Plug

Whilst learning about History, we come across some brilliant books that really engage readers and that help bring History to life! Below is this week's recommendation:



I Must Betray You – Ruta Sepetys



Set in Romania during the revolution of 1989, Cristian and his family fear for their lives in a country governed by isolation and repression.

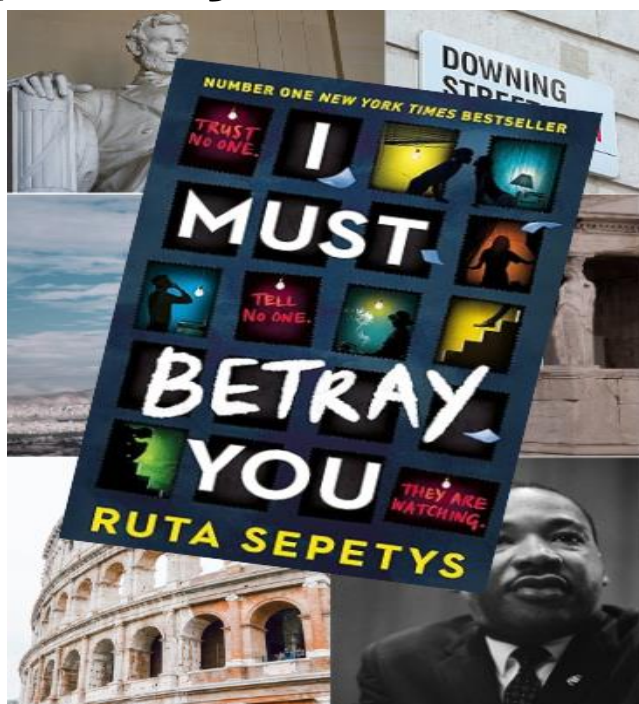


Cristian is blackmailed by the secret police to become an informer. Should he risk his life in exchange for medication for his sick grandfather?



Can he trust his own family and friends?

A wonderful read. Gripping short chapters, full of tenderness amid the horrors of the demonstrations, culminating with the execution of dictator Nicolae Ceaușescu. **Available in the School Library.**



Sixth Form Updates and Taster Sessions



Applications are now closed for Sixth Form places and we have had another record year of applications received. In order to support our Year 11 students who have applied to Windsor Sixth Form, we have organised a range of taster sessions for the students. These sessions will run in the Sixth Form after school from 3.15pm until 4pm. **The sessions will begin on Monday 15th January 2024 and run up until Thursday 25th January 2024.**

Year 11 students have been informed of the sessions and have been given the opportunity to sign up for them. If you require more information about Windsor Sixth Form, please contact the Sixth Form Team on 0121 550 1452 or email: sixthform@windsor.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

Mrs J Dhanoya - Assistant Headteacher





Winter Music Concert 2023



On Monday 18th December 2023, our very talented students held a Winter Music Concert in the school hall. They performed various songs and it was a fantastic opportunity for students to showcase their musical talents and achievements.

Well done to all the students involved – you showed confidence and worked hard in rehearsals and on the actual night.

You are all a credit to the school. The Music Department.



Religious Studies GCSE Revision Sessions

The GCSE Religious Studies Department is offering revision in the form of after school sessions, from 3.15pm to 4.15pm, led by Miss Ravenscroft in A8 on the following dates to support students with their upcoming End of Unit Assessment on Islam:

Monday 15th / Wednesday 17th - Islam Beliefs (Section 1-5)

Monday 29th / Wednesday 31st - Islam Beliefs (Section 6-10)

These sessions will incorporate revisiting content, whiteboard tasks and revision games – and of course, positive Class Charts points too!

We know from experience, attendance at these sessions will help you feel more confident engaging with the Islam section of the paper and thus increase your grade!

Updated Extra Curricular Activities List

Included with this Newsletter is an updated list of extra curricular activities that are on offer for the new term.

Clubs are free to join and students are welcome to try as many as they wish.

We hope there is something for every student to enjoy and look forward to seeing all of our students take advantage of the range of clubs on offer.





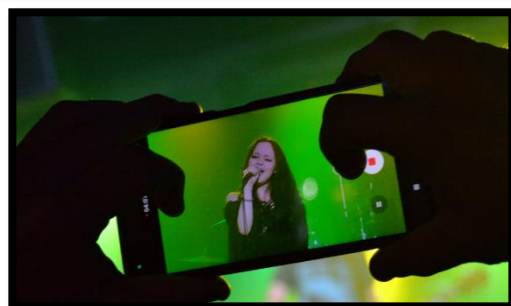
River Rooms Performance 2023



On Wednesday 20th December 2023, one of our school bands took part in another student showcase night at The River Rooms.

Megaband, made up of students from Year 11 and Year 12, sold 75 tickets between them securing the headline slot for the evening.

The band put on a great show once again. We were extremely proud to see them on stage doing their thing! The Music Department.



Initial Teacher Training at WAT

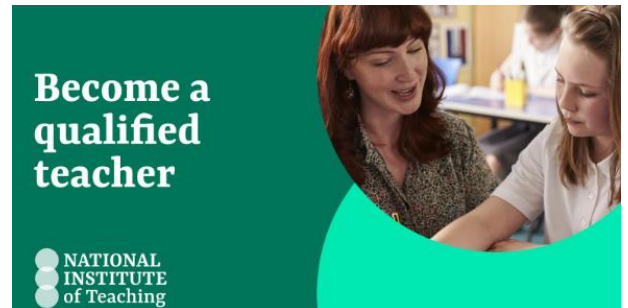
As part of WAT's partnership with the National Institute of Teaching as an Associate College, we are proud to announce that from September 2024 we will be offering our own teacher training provision.



Applications for our Initial Teacher Training programme are now open for our September 2024 intake. Initial Teacher Training is a fully immersive school-centred programme, with school placements available in one of our 12 schools or at one of the six Dudley Academy Trust schools.

Applicants will be able to choose their main placement school when applying and we will endeavour to do our best to place applicants in their first choice school.

Our trainees are also mentored and have central training once a week. All of our teacher training courses lead to QTS (Qualified Teacher Status), a PGCE (Post Graduate Certificate in Education) and 60 Master's Level credits.



Interested applicants can find out more via our Initial Teacher Training [webpage](#) and can apply via the [DfE Apply website](#). You can find us using our provider code 2HE or search for NIoT at WAT. To find out more, please email us at teachertraining@windsoracademytrust.org.uk

Positive Mind.
Positive Vibes.
Positive Life.

Wellbeing Advice and Support for Parents / Carers



We have created a wellbeing page on our website where we will regularly add support materials for parent / carers to access. Please click the link at the bottom of this article to look at this guidance for mental health concerns.

Positive Mind New Year Resolutions.....

The start of a new year can begin with setting resolutions to improve our lives. Resolutions to improve our mind are also important. With this in mind, which of the below could you do to encourage a healthy and positive mind?

Switch off social media for an hour a day.

Use mindfulness techniques.

Exercise daily

Spend some quality time each week with family members.

Try to see the glass half full as opposed to half empty.

Have some "Me" time once a week.

<https://www.windsorhighschool.org.uk/school-life/student-welfare-and-personal-development/wellbeing/>



Positive Mind.
Positive Vibes.
Positive Life.

THIS WEEK'S STARS IN MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Year 7:
Jacob B,
Bella W,
Jenson J,
Chloe S.



Year 8:
Demi H,
Adam H.



Year 9:
Wasim K,
Tom B.



Year 10:
Reuben B,
Freya S,
Nehemiah S.



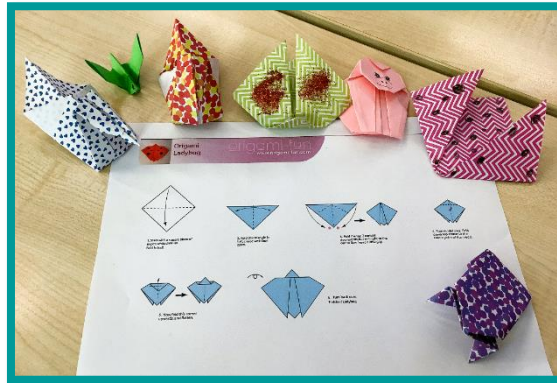
Year 11:
Dom M,
Jess F,
Kinza Z,
Tom B.

★ Spotlight on 'Origami Club' 📄

Origami is the art of folding paper. Origami Club runs every Tuesday lunchtime in the Library, and is open to students from all years.



Students can get inventive and create origami models of various things e.g. dice, jumping frogs, boats or ladybirds. One student said "I like coming to Origami Club as it gives you something creative to do during lunchtime. And I get to spend time with my friends and make new friends".



The Woman in Black Reading Group 📖

WHAT? The Woman in Black reading group

WHEN/WHERE? Every FRIDAY, from 12th January, after school in A27 from 3:15pm to 4:00pm.

WHO? With Miss Grace and Miss Rauf, open to students in Years 9-13.

WHY JOIN? If you enjoy reading scary stories, drama, and would like to experience a theatre visit!

Students who attend will have the opportunity to go on a trip to see the play live in at the Belgrade Theatre!

About the book: A young Arthur Kipps, a junior solicitor, is sent to a small village after the death of Alice Drablow. He sees a woman dressed in black at her funeral, though apparently no one else does. At Eel Marsh House, a house beyond a causeway, Arthur is haunted by noises and sightings of the woman.

Find out more by clicking this link:

<https://www.belgrade.co.uk/events/the-woman-in-black>

