

# Windsor News and Information



[www.windsorhighschool.org.uk](http://www.windsorhighschool.org.uk)

[@Windsor Tweets](https://twitter.com/WindsorTweets)

[www.facebook.com/windsorhighschoolandsixthform](https://www.facebook.com/windsorhighschoolandsixthform)

15th December 2023

Issue: 14

**IMPORTANT**

## End of Term (Friday 22nd December – Early Finish) and Spring Term Information



On Friday 22nd December 2023, the finish time for all students is 12.30pm. Students will have an extended break time and Free School Meal money will be available to spend during this time.

Christmas Holiday runs from 25th December 2023 to 5th January 2024. Students are expected to return to school for registration at **9.40am on Monday 8th January 2024** in order to facilitate staff training. Students should go straight to their form room at 9.40am for a 20 minute registration period and the normal timetable will begin at 10.00am for period 2.

As staff will be in training we ask that students do not come onto the school site **before** 9.30am.

## Windsor High School and Sixth Form Christmas Card Competition



Congratulations to Thomas in Year 12 on winning this year's competition with his digital illustration. This was selected by Mr Lanckham and will be made into this year's Christmas card. Thomas's design is featured here:



Runners up were Xiang Yu (Year 12) and Kara (Year 7). Their designs are below (Xiang Yu's on the left and Kara's on the right).

Well done to everyone who entered – there were some brilliant designs and some fantastic artwork skills were shown.



## Christmas Jumper Day, in aid of Save the Children – 22nd December

Students can wear a Christmas jumper, a festive shirt or whatever they feel is suitable and will not be required to wear any of their school uniform if they are taking part.

We ask for a donation of 50p - £1 (to be paid to their form tutor) where possible and look forward to raising lots of money for Save the Children. Those students doing PE will still need their PE kit.

## Advice from Dudley Council – Measles

Measles cases are on the rise locally, with confirmed cases in Birmingham. The NHS is calling on parents and carers to check your child's MMR vaccination status and contact your GP to catch up on any missed vaccinations. Measles can lead to serious complications, but two doses of the MMR vaccine provide lifelong protection. Please see the attached guide to this newsletter for further 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](mailto:info@windsor.windsoracademytrust.org.uk).

## Free School Meal Vouchers

As per the recent Government directive Free School Meal vouchers are to be issued to families for the Christmas break. The vouchers are for £10 per week, therefore you will be receiving a voucher for £20 per eligible child.

The process is unchanged and vouchers will be sent for eligible students on **Monday 18th December 2023**.

If you are new to receiving Free School Meals the process is as follows:



**Step 1** - Click on the link received from [evouchers.com](https://evouchers.com).

**Step 2** - Enter your email address or mobile number to claim your voucher.

**Step 3** - Confirm your details if you are new to Evouchers, to create your account.

**Step 4** - You will then be sent a secure login link to your email address to verify your email.

**Step 5** - Click on the link within your email.

**Step 6** - Choose the retailer you would like your voucher for. **Please note - once selected this cannot be changed.**

**Step 7** - Click 'View Voucher'.

**Step 8** - You now have your voucher to be spent in your supermarket of choice.

## Windsor Communications Parent/Carer Charter



This guidance offers a reminder to ensure consistent and efficient communication between parents, carers and school and will help us to continue our strong home-school relationship and clarify expectations to ensure that we are mindful of staff workload and wellbeing.

The Windsor Communication Charter can be found on our website by clicking this link:

[Windsor Communications Parent/Carer Charter](#)

# History Book Plug



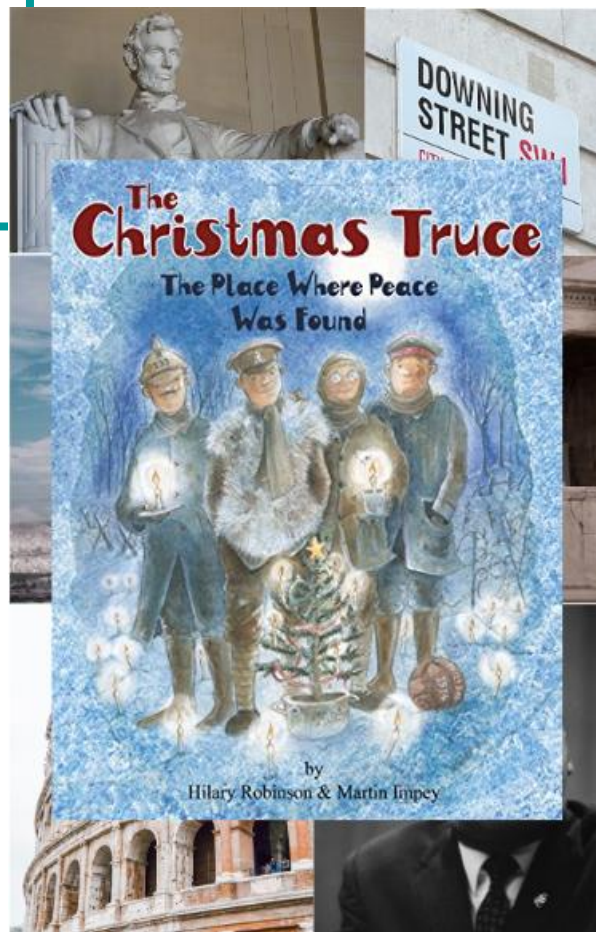
Whilst learning about History, we come across some brilliant books that really engage readers and that help bring History to life! Here is this week's recommendation:

**The Christmas Truce**, by Hilary Robinson and Martin Impey. A perfect read for Christmas.

This is the story of the first Christmas of World War One (1914) when the English and German soldiers suspended fighting to celebrate Christmas together, and even played a game of football!



Available in the School Library.





## Santa's Black Country Toy Appeal



This year, once again we have received many donations of toys, clothing and toiletry essentials for Santa's Black Country Toy Appeal. Thank you to all the staff and students who have donated to the appeal.

These gifts will help brighten Christmas for lots of local vulnerable families and go towards them having a better Christmas this year.



### Chess Tournament

Windsor's Chess Club hosted a KS3 and KS4 chess tournament this week. There were many students competing to become Windsor's Chess Champion.

After lots of close games, the eventual winners were Joseph (Year 9) and Muhammed (Year 11). Muhammed won the final match between the winners from the two key stages to become Windsor Chess Champion for the second time!

Well done to everyone who participated and, especially to the winners.



Chess Club runs Monday after school in P3 with Miss Horsewell and Mr Winfield.

All abilities are welcome!

### 12 Top Tips for Children/Young People To Enjoy A Tech-Free Christmas



There's no disputing how integral the digital world has become to modern life. It can prove difficult for many young people to stay off smartphones, tablets and other devices for a single day – even one as special as Christmas.

In fact, according to a survey by e-commerce platform Groupon, almost 80% of parents and carers would prefer a festive period that's free from technology

Going online, of course, is useful for checking in with friends and relations who we can't be with, or for arranging celebrations.

But if we allow gadgets to dominate our Yuletide break, that precious time could pass in a flash.

Please find attached to this newsletter, a handy guide from National Online Safety, providing tips on how to keep a handle on device use over the holidays.

### Sixth Form Application Deadline

Thank you to those students who have applied to Sixth Form already.

The deadline for applications is **Monday 18th December 2023.**



## THIS WEEK'S STARS ★ IN MODERN ★ FOREIGN LANGUAGES



Year 10 – Darius A, Megan B, Isaac F, Owen H, Piper H, Sadah K, Harry M, Sahil R, Sam S, Harry K

### Reminder: Plastic Cups Are No Longer Available



A polite reminder that we will no longer issue students with plastic cups.





- Monday 18th December - Winter Music Concert.
- Tuesday 19th December - Character Development Morning (Periods 1-4).
- Friday 22nd December - 12.30pm Finish (Last Day Of Term).



## MFL students trip to Germany and France



On 30<sup>th</sup> November, 40 Year 10 students travelled to Aachen in Germany to visit the European Christmas markets. The students ventured into the heart of Aachen for a guided tour of the city. The tour provided insights into Aachen's rich history, including an exploration of the cathedral — one of Europe's oldest — and offered the chance to taste Printen, a renowned Aachen cake.

Saturday morning marked their transition to Lille, France. In this lively French city, students delved into its vibrancy, taking a spin on the ferris wheel and indulging in a traditional Flammekueche at a local French restaurant. On their final day in France, they visited the snow-covered Vimy Ridge Canadian memorial. Amidst the historical site, students descended into a World War One trench, gaining a poignant experience, and explored the on-site museum, rounding off their educational and cultural journey.





## World Arabic Day - Monday 18th December 2023

The MFL Department is proud that we offer Arabic GCSE to so many of our Year 10, Year 11 and Year 13 students. Thank you to our fantastic teacher of Arabic, Mrs Redman. As part of our celebration for World Arabic Day on Monday there will be a special lunchtime club in A5 - a fun introduction to Arabic, open to students in Years 7, 8 and 9. Here are some phrases that students could learn to pronounce in the special lunchtime club on Monday:

Hello مرحبًا How are you? كيف حالك؟

Goodbye مع السلامة I feel great أشعر بالارتياح



We have also included some items from Monday's canteen menu in Arabic:

برجر الدجاج الحلال و - Halal Chicken Burger With Wedges

بطاطا الودجز



البرجر النباتي - Veggie Burger



Students can also gather some interesting facts about Arabic during World Arabic Day. For example:

- Arabic is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world, used daily by more than 400 million people. It has nearly 300 million native speakers. It is the sixth most spoken language in the world. It is also the language of the Quran, which is the holy book of the Islamic faith.
- There are 25 countries that claim Arabic as an official or co-official language. Examples include: Algeria, Chad, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tanzania, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.
- It is the liturgical language in many churches in the Arab world. This means that Christian rituals are celebrated there in Arabic. And a significant part of the Jewish cultural and religious heritage was written in Arabic.
- It has a unique sound that doesn't exist in any other language (Dād) [ض]: it is the fifteenth letter of the Arabic alphabet. It is very unusual to speakers of European languages. It can be described as a very strongly pronounced 'D'. For this reason, Arabic is called "the language of the Dād".





## Spotlight on 'Politics Club'

Politics club is on every Tuesday in P2, from 3.10pm to 4.00pm. All year groups can attend. Subjects discussed can range from Brexit to the cost of living crisis (what can the Government do to help?).

Students take it turns to debate the issues as they see them and the pros and cons of each argument. So, if you would like to debate or discuss politics and the current political climate then come along!



## WAT Tag Rugby Competition

On 12th December our Year 7 and 8 rugby players (led by some of our Year 12 students) took part in the first ever WAT Tag Rugby Tournament, held at Windsor High School and Sixth Form. Our girls team won all three of their matches, finishing first in the league. Our boys team won one, drew one and lost one, finishing second in the league and both teams qualified to play Cheslyn Hay in the final.

In the final, the girls drew 0-0 and the boys drew 2-2. Both finals then went to extra time and at the end both games remained a draw. So, the deciding factor was a count back on tries scored.

The results of the tournament are as follows:

### Boys

- 1st - Cheslyn Hay
- 2nd - Windsor
- 3rd - Great Wyrley
- 4th - Kingswinford

### Girls

- 1st - Windsor
- 2nd - Cheslyn Hay
- 3rd - Great Wyrley
- 4th - Kingswinford



It was a very fun and wet afternoon of Tag Rugby, played in great spirits.

Well done to all the students involved from Years 7, 8 and 12. You showed fantastic teamwork and leadership skills and are all a credit to the school.

The PE  
Department

