## Windsor News and Information



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2nd February 2024 Issue: 19



- Monday 5th, Tuesday 6th, Thursday 8th February School Production - 'We Will Rock You'.
- Monday 12th to Friday 16th February Half Term.

#### **School Uniform and Standards**

## IMPORTANT



#### Dear Parent/Carer

We have always been very proud of the high standards students at Windsor have consistently achieved as we all understand how important future employers value progress, effort, leadership, resilience, and appearance as essential qualities.

We are also aware of the host of international research which demonstrates students who attend schools with the highest standards of uniform and behaviour attain higher levels academically. We therefore wish to continually strive for the highest standards with all students wearing full and correct uniform at all times in school.

We will therefore be paying really focussed attention on uniform once again after half term, where children can expect to receive a detention if their uniform is not worn correctly, such as having their shirts untucked or wearing trainers.

With this in mind, I would like to remind all at Windsor of our uniform expectations as found on our website and by following this link: <a href="www.windsorhighschool.org.uk/school-life/essential-information/school-uniform">www.windsorhighschool.org.uk/school-life/essential-information/school-uniform</a>

If you plan to replace missing items of uniform I would also raise awareness of our preloved website: <a href="https://www.uniformd.co.uk/windsorhigh">www.uniformd.co.uk/windsorhigh</a>. If the financial burden of replacing uniform items is a concern at this time for whatever reason, then please contact your child's Head of House and we will discreetly provide support accordingly.

Thank you.

### IMPORTANT

#### **Lunch Accounts**

Can you please ensure that you regularly check your child's lunch account online to ensure that they do not have a negative balance. Accounts can be topped up via ParentMail or by sending in enough money with your child. While we never wish to refuse a student food at lunchtime we cannot allow them to overspend on their accounts.

Please be aware that Year 11 students will **not** be allowed to enter a negative balance once we return from the Easter holidays, and any monies owing on their account will need to be cleared prior to the holiday. If you wish to receive a copy of your child's lunch account, which shows what they have purchased and the amount spent, please contact Mrs Thompson, Pastoral Secretary, who can arrange for this to be made available to you.

If you are experiencing financial difficulty in what are challenging times, please contact your child's Head of House and we will explore suitable support.

#### 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.



#### **Arbor Attendance App**



After half term we will be using a new system called Arbor to mark student's attendance in school and lessons. More information will be provided next week when we enable Parent Portal and the Arbor App. We will then send you a welcome email.

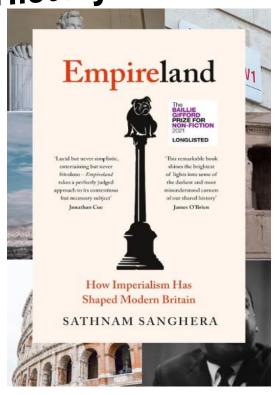
This will have your login details and a link that will take you to the browser version of the Parent Portal where you need to set up a password. You will need this if you wish to see the attendance of your child and we would therefore highly recommend doing so as we all know the importance of attending school every day.

#### Information regarding Measles from Vaccination UK



There has been an outbreak of Measles in the West Midlands. Vaccination UK have been instructed by NHSE to administer the MMR vaccination to all school aged children who are outstanding one or both doses. Please see the letter and MMR flyer (with clinic details on) attached to this newsletter for more information.

# 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:

#### **Empireland by Sathnam Sanghera.**

Sathnam Sanghera, a historian from Wolverhampton, is a UK-born child of Indian Sikh parents who migrated to Britain in the late 1960s. His book explores the legacies of the British Empire in England and the world today.

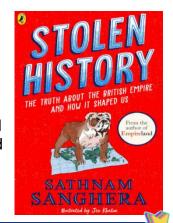
Sathnam's book shows that Britain's idea of its imperial history and the world's experience of it are two very different things. If you have ever wanted to learn more about the British Empire and how it affects the present day, this is a great read.

#### Available in the School Library for Sixth Form readers.



Sathnam Sanghera has also brought out a children's version of this book called *Stolen History,* for readers aged 9 years old and up. This book is engaging and answers important questions about the British Empire.





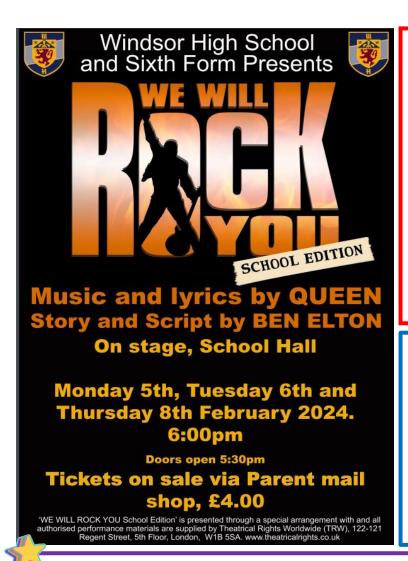
#### Spanish Year 11 GCSE - Additional Speaking Exam Booster Sessions

These sessions will take place every week in A4 on **Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes** with Ms Newton. These sessions are to help with homework and to practice speaking Spanish.

There will also be a session on **Fridays after school, from 3:15pm to 4:00pm** with Ms Dunn. This session is to focus on the Speaking Exam. Please note, the above sessions are **IN ADDITION** to the whole school revision programme.







## Reminder: Plastic cups will not be provided in school

A polite reminder that we no longer issue students with plastic cups and therefore we do not expect any students to make this request.

All students should bring a reusable water bottle into school, which can be refilled at the one of the several water dispensers. We had added additional water dispensers around school to accommodate this. A range of drinks are still available to purchase from Richmond's.

Follow the Windsor High School and Sixth Form Twitter feed and Facebook page for all the latest information including exciting updates of activities. Click the links below to take you to the relevant page.

@Windsor Tweets
www.facebook.com/windsorhighschoolan
dsixthform
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#### Well done!

One of our Year 11 students, Isabella, became the International Silks and Youth Doubles Champion at the weekend, when she competed in the International Pole and Aerial Tournament.

Congratulations Isabella! You have worked very hard and we are very proud of you.



#### **Free School Meal Vouchers**

As per the recent Government directive Free School Meal vouchers are to be issued to families for the February half term break. The vouchers are for £10 per week, therefore you will be receiving a voucher for £10 per eligible child. The process is unchanged and vouchers will be sent for eligible students on **Wednesday 7th February 2024**. If you are new to receiving Free School Meals the process is as follows:

- Step 1 Click on the link received from 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.



#### 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.

Recommended Parent/Carer Resource - Every Mind Matters

The NHS continue to add resources to the "Every Mind Matters" campaign which is a fantastic resource for parent / carers to access. The articles on anxiety, stress, low mood and sleep problems offer helpful tips and advice.

If you click the link below, it will take you straight to this recommended resource.

https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters



https://www.windsorhighschool.org.uk/school-life/studentwelfare-and-personal-development/wellbeing/



#### French News!

Attached to this newsletter is some information regarding our Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Department – specifically French. Please read this attachment as valuable information is included, including key dates for French assessments.

#### **Innovative Learning Methods in Our Teacher Training Programme**



#### Could you be part of the future of education?

Our teacher training programme is at the forefront of educational innovation, blending the latest teaching methodologies with advanced technology.

This programme equips you with unique skills, setting you apart as a modern educator. It's an ideal career shift for parents seeking to reinvent themselves in a dynamic field.

Embrace the future of teaching with our innovative teacher training programme. If you are interested in becoming a teacher then visit our website to learn more about how we're redefining teacher training.



Or contact us directly at: teachertraining@windsoracademytrust.org.uk



#### Year 7 Saturday School Sessions

Some of our Year 7 students are taking part in Saturday School Sessions. In the first session of Saturday school last week, students engaged creatively with a picture book and had fun making their own hot air balloon game for

learning negative numbers.

Thank you to Miss Tolley and Miss Horsewell for helping.









#### **U13 Girls Softball Cricket Competition**

On Wednesday some of our students took part in an under 13 girls softball cricket competition at St John's Sports Hall at the University of Worcester. Our students competed against other schools and showed great resilience. Results are below:

Windsor v Christopher Whitehead - Won Windsor v Kings School - Lost Windsor v Walkwood Middle - Lost





NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

Well done to all the girls who played – you showed some good bowling and batting skills against some very strong opposition - Mrs Rhooms and the PE Department.

#### What Parents and Carers need to know about Persuasive Design Online



Apps and sites are all competing for our attention. Over the years, strategies have been developed which are intended to influence users' behaviour – making us more likely to remain on a site, game, or platform for longer periods of time. These techniques are known as 'persuasive design'. Please see the attachment to this week's newsletter that offers some top tips for recognising and reducing its impact on young people's decision making.

5-11 FEBRUARY 2024

#NAW2024

Next week is National Apprenticeship Week!

As a school we advocate apprenticeships as a future option for all of our students and support

them in applications. Lots of employers take the opportunity of National Apprenticeships Week to reach out to students so it is an optimal week to look for apprenticeships, find out more and see what's on offer.

As a result of this, Careers Leader, Mrs Brookes, has made an interactive noticeboard on the Padlet website for you to discover lots of support for apprenticeships, live events throughout the week you may want to take part in and general information about apprenticeships such as the levels of apprenticeships, finance and myths!

Years 11 and 13 should pay particular attention to the opportunities this week holds if they want to pursue apprenticeships as a serious option! Please access the interactive noticeboard here: https://padlet.com/jbrookes12/apprenticeship-support-2024-jv4pbnv88cl5sdz2



#### **Under 16 Boys Basketball**

Our under 16 boys' basketball team played in the final against Hagley on Wednesday night, where they won 33-22 making them champions!

The team showed fantastic team work skills and worked hard right to the end of the match. The team would also like to thank everyone that came to show their support - they appreciate it!

Well done team! We are so proud of you! – Mr Yafai and The PE Department



# THIS WEEK'S STARS IN MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES



Year 7 – Quinn B, Vincent M, Zack T, Rhys T, Lucy W, Jack G, Ivy M.

Year 8 – Jessica H, Akarsha P, Amber L, Lily C, Aaliyah S.

Year 9 – Elenia H, Jenson P, Heidi H, Summer B, Alexis C.

Year 10 – Jessica B, Poppy F, Lily J, Alanah C, Sophie L, Chris C.

Year 11 - Zara E, Alyssa B, Persia C, Ava P.

#### **Activities Week and Pledge Week**

Payments were due by 31st January for Activities Week/Pledge Week. If your payment is outstanding, please make a payment via the Shop in the Payments section of ParentMail. It is important that payments are made on time so we can secure bookings with the many suppliers that we use. Please contact Mrs Edwards with any queries or concerns.

#### **Black Country Dance Hub's 'Careers in Dance' Event**

Last week, students from Year 10 and Year 12 went to Wolverhampton University to participate in the Black Country Dance Hub's 'Careers in Dance' event.

The students participated in dance workshops with LIPA, De Montfort University, Trinity Laban, and Kidderminster College. They also had the opportunity to chat to staff and students from a number of dance organisations, universities, and conservatoires within the marketplace.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and were excellent representatives of Windsor High School and our Dance department. Well done to all the students involved.





#### **Kooth - Free Online Counselling**

Kooth online counselling offers therapeutic support to young people between the ages of 11-18. There is no referral process, and importantly no waiting list or threshold a young person needs to meet. Children and young people can access support for **ANY** issue they may be experiencing. The service is funded by the Clinical Commissioning Group and local authorities so it is completely free. Our qualified counsellors are online 365 days a year. Monday to Friday, from midday until 10pm and weekend 6pm until 10pm. Young people can message our counsellors 24 hours a day, access our fully-moderated support forums, online magazines and other self-help tools.