



Windsor News and Information



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20th December 2024

Issue: 15

Dear Parent/Carer

As the year draws to a close and we approach the Christmas season, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a truly remarkable term. Together, as a school community, we have celebrated achievements big and small, and overcome challenges with resilience and determination.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first month as Head of School, working alongside Mr Lanckham and our staff as we strive to unlock the academic and personal potential of your children.

As I wrote to you last month, in my first letter as Head of School, Windsor High School and Sixth Form is a truly unique school and one that it is a privilege to lead with Mr Lanckham. We are proud of our achievements in the autumn term, notably the school's success in its' Ofsted inspection; securing an outstanding grading in all five areas of judgement.

Since the inspection we have continued to focus on developing the very best teaching and learning and pastoral care in our classrooms so that your children can achieve and thrive in school. Year 11 have demonstrated a fantastic work ethic through their mock examinations and I look forward to seeing the results as we stride towards the summer examination series. Lower down the school, it is heartening to see our Year 7 students settled in school and now fully fledged members of our school family. Year 10 have made an excellent start to their GCSE course, and Year 9 are now laying the foundations for their option choices in the New Year. Year 8 have continued to build on their success from their first year at secondary school. Sixth Form students in Year 12 and Year 13 continue to show great maturity in both their learning and work in the community. Success entrenches our school and that is because of your children and our staff; their hard work, spirit and unfaltering enthusiasm for school.

Christmas is a time for gratitude, and I feel immensely thankful not only for the above but for the partnership we share with you, our parents and carers. Your support and encouragement play such a vital role in shaping the success and happiness of our students.

It has been such a pleasure to meet many of you at recent school events. In the last month alone, we have enjoyed our Christmas Carol Concert, Annual Awards Evening, Winter Music Concert, Christmas Dance Show and most recently Year 7 Parents' Evening. Each event has highlighted to me the importance of coming together as a community to celebrate student talent and champion our young people as they pursue their passion and are recognised for their success. Your attendance and support at these events makes a huge difference and is valued by students and staff alike. I look forward to seeing many more of you in the New Year.

As we head into the holiday season, I hope this time brings you and your family moments of peace, joy, and togetherness. Let's cherish the chance to pause, reflect, and reconnect with what truly matters. Thank you for being an integral part of our school community.

On behalf of all the staff, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with happiness and opportunity.

We look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 6th January for another exciting chapter in your child's journey.

Warmest Regards
Miss G Raindi
Head of School



- Monday 23rd December 2024 - Friday 3rd January 2025: Christmas Break.
- Monday 6th January 2025: Spring Term Starts.
- Thursday 23rd January 2025: Year 11 Parent's Evening

End of Term and Spring Term Information



Today, Friday 20th December 2024, the **finish time for all students will be 1.00pm**. Students will have an extended break time and Free School Meal money will be available to spend during this time.

Christmas Holiday runs from Monday 23rd December 2024 to Friday 3rd January 2025. All students are expected to return to school for registration at 8.40am on Monday 6th January 2025.

IMPORTANT

Absence Reporting



We would like to remind parents and carers that reporting student absence is a **statutory requirement**. Please ensure you report your child's absence as early as possible and **by 8.40am** (before morning registration).

From January 2025 ALL student absences must be reported via the Arbor App. Please click this link for more information on how to log absences on Arbor: [Logging absences on the Parent Portal and Arbor APP](#)

This will help us improve our processes and ensure all absence messages are received and coded appropriately. If you need a link to register for the Arbor App please send an email (stating your child's name and tutor group) to: arbor@windsor.windsoracademytrust.org.uk. Your support with this is much appreciated - Pastoral Team.

WAT-A-GALA Swimming Competition



Before breaking up for Christmas, some of our students represented Windsor High School and Sixth Form in the WAT-A-Gala swimming competition. This event was held at Cheslyn Hay School and included schools from across the trust competing in various swimming events.

Windsor High School and Sixth Form finished in second place overall! Congratulations to our students who participated. We are very proud of you!

Mr Hickman,
Ms Donnelly
and Mr Yafai



Thank you to everyone who has supported the Ronald McDonald charity by donating selection boxes.

These have been collected by Halesowen BID to send to the charity so they can be distributed to children who may not otherwise receive a selection box this Christmas.

Thank you again for your continued support. Mrs Hannan

THANK YOU



Lost Property is kept for two weeks. Students are notified of items via the tutor bulletin.



Dear Parents/Carers

I hope this message finds you well. As we prepare to end the Autumn Term and embark on a new academic term after the holiday, I would like to take this opportunity to re-emphasise our expectations and share some important information with you.

Uniform Expectations

At Windsor High School and Sixth Form, we believe that wearing an immaculate uniform is crucial for fostering a sense of pride and belonging among our students. Please ensure that your child comes to school in the correct uniform every day. The holiday is the perfect opportunity to replace any lost or outgrown items.

For more details on our uniform policy, please visit our website.



Attendance and Punctuality

Regular attendance and punctuality are vital for your child's academic success and personal development. We expect all students to:

- Attend school every day, unless they are genuinely unwell or have a valid reason for absence.
- Arrive on time for the start of the school day and for each lesson.

Next Steps and Additional Information

We are committed to supporting our students in achieving their best. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or any member of our staff.

Together, let's work towards making the Spring Term a successful and rewarding experience for all our students. Thank you for your cooperation, support and Merry Christmas!

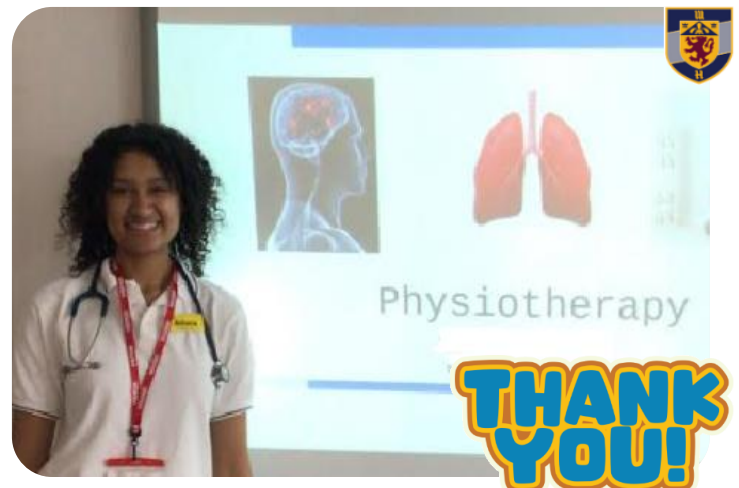
Mrs Hannan - Deputy Headteacher

Physiotherapy Talk

This week, a physiotherapist named Allora visited our Year 9 to 11 students who are interested in pursuing physiotherapy and healthcare careers.

Allora provided insights into the daily life of a physiotherapist and offered valuable advice on applying to physiotherapy programs.

Thank you, Allora, for dedicating your time to our students!



Safety on Social Media

Social media apps such as TikTok and Instagram are immensely popular among children and young people: Ofcom found that 96% of children have their own profile on at least one of these platforms by the age of 17. As parents and educators, it is vital for us to safeguard the children in our care if – or more likely, when – they use social media.

The expert-led guide attached to this week's newsletter is here to offer top-level advice on keeping children and young people safe as they navigate the digital landscape.





Spark! Book Awards



We are proud to be participating again in the 'Spark! Book Awards'. This is a book award where children decide the winners.

The longlisted titles for each category have been announced as the 12 Books of Christmas. These books are available in the library and/or on Sora. For more information, please ask Mrs Wood.

12 BOOKS
of Christmas

11+ LONGLIST

SPARK!
The Open University

Reading for Pleasure



Year 8 Football



Our Year 8 football team advanced to the next round of the West Midlands Cup last week by defeating George Dixon Academy 6-0.

Our goal scorers were: Ianis with a hat trick! Zahy netted two goals, and Jenson contributed one goal.

However, the Man of the Match award went to Seb for his impressive performance in midfield.

Well done to the team – I'm so proud of you! – Mr Price



Progress Reports



From December 2024, all student progress reports will be sent to parents and carers via email.

Please ensure the school holds a current, up to date email address for parents and carers and notify the school of any changes by emailing:

info@windsor.windsoracademytrust.org.uk



Statutory PSHE



At Windsor High School and Sixth Form we have a comprehensive PSHE programme to meet government statutory requirements and support students to achieve their academic and personal potential. Following student voice, we use an online platform for PSHE which utilises student iPads to interact with the sessions and complete assessment of knowledge.

All students are expected to complete the interactive worksheets in Form time, if a student is absent or does not complete this, then they are expected to complete the worksheet as homework. Please can you ensure your child brings their iPad to school fully charged in order for this work to take place. Thank you for your support.



Year 10 Hospitality And Catering

Year 10 Hospitality and Catering students were given a Swiss roll recipe to adapt and create chocolate logs.



Well done to all of you; we were very impressed by the different variations!
– Ms Powell



Initial Teacher Training at Windsor Academy Trust



As part of Windsor Academy Trust's (WAT) partnership with the National Institute of Teaching (NlOT) as an Associate College, applications for our Initial Teacher Training programme are now open for our September 2025 intake.

Initial Teacher Training is a fully immersive school-centred programme, with school placements available in one of our 15 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 NlOT at WAT. To find out more, please email us at:

teachertraining@windsoracademytrust.org.uk

Sparx Maths

Well done to the following classes:
(Completion in SPARX maths means answering every question correctly.)

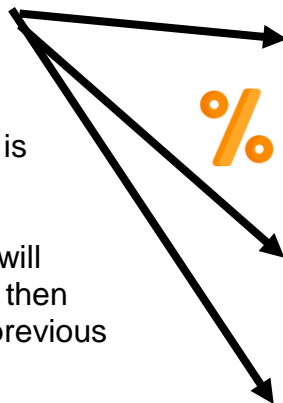
Homework is set every Thursday and is due the following Wednesday at 9am.

Homework contains some tasks they will have studied within the last week and then will also revisit some topics from the previous weeks that are personalised.

There will be a homework set on the 19th December which is due on the 8th January. This still gives a school week to complete it!

If students are still struggling after they have watched the clip on the Sparx homework and tried to answer it a few times we get a purple flag to highlight this to us, so not to panic in this instance.

You will get an email from SPARX on a Sunday to give you an update on the homework from that week.



Highest completion:

7X/Ma1 (81.3%)



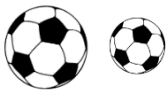
Biggest completion improvement vs previous week:

7Y/MaDOA 71.9% (+12.5%)

Highest average XP per student:

10a/Ma5 (1009 XP)





Girls Six a Side Halesowen and Stourbridge League Football Update



Well done to our under 14 girl's football team for finishing third in their league. And congratulations to our under 16 girl's football team for winning their league!

U14

- 1st Place: Earls
- 2nd Place: Leasowes
- Joint 3rd Place: Hagley and Windsor
- 5th Place: Redhill B
- 6th Place: Redhill A
- 7th Place: Ridgewood

U16

- 1st Place: Windsor
- 2nd Place: Leasowes
- 3rd Place: Earls
- 4th Place: Pedmore



All the students involved have showed excellent teamwork skills and worked very hard. We are so proud of you! The Year 7 girl's league will start in January - dates are to be confirmed soon. Mrs Rhooms, Miss Donnelly and Mr Field



Congratulations!

One of our students – Alfie has been selected for the County Football Team.

Congratulations Alfie – we are very proud of you! Mr Hickman and Mr Bevan



A polite reminder to please ensure uniform and any items brought into school have your child's name on. This is to help keep lost property to a minimum.



Good to know: Below is a list of places that have offers on for children's meals during the Christmas period.

PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING CHRISTMAS 2024

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free

MORRISONS

Spend £5 from the hot menu and get one free kids meal all day, every day.

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants

SAINSBURYS CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 All Day, Every Day at Asda cafes, with no adult spend required.

WHITBREAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

TRAVELODGE & PREMIER INN

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards Members' purchase any adult meal (Via App)

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

EMBER INNS

Kids eat for £1 from Monday 21st October to Friday 1st November 2024 (excludes weekends)

COCONUT TREE

One child (under 10) eats free every day Monday 23rd December 2024 to Friday 3rd January 2025.

LAS IGUANAS

Download the app and join 'My Las Iguanas' for free meals for mini Iguanas. Niños get a main, two sides and a dessert with every adult main (or three tapas dishes) purchased.

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Sun to Weds. All Day Thursdays

TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.