

Family Bulletin

23rd April 2021



Each one of you has a special gift from God. Use it to serve others well. 1 Peter 4:10

Thought for the Week
'With great power comes great responsibility'
Peter Parker (aka Spiderman)

OUR PRAYER FOR THIS WEEK

Good and gracious God, I thank you for the beauty of the Earth and all Creation.

Help me to hear always the calling to be a good steward of your gifts, the caretaker of all you have entrusted to us on earth.

Let me always recognize, cherish and enjoy the goodness in all of creation. Teach me reverence for every person and all living things.

O God, help me to use your gifts wisely and share them generously. Remind me that I am but a temporary guardian of your abundance; I am called to pass your gifts on to the next generation. Let all I do be a reflection of your love and care.

Amen.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you had a wonderful Easter and some quality family time. It's great to be back at school for the summer term and we look forward with great hope to the opportunities ahead.

This half-term is the last for our Year 11s and the key feature for staff will inevitably be preparing students for their next step and securing reliable and accurate assessment judgements so that our young people receive the grades that they deserve.

As a consequence of schools taking on greater responsibility for the awarding of grades this year, more work is required of our already very busy teaching staff. As a consequence of this, we will need to create some time for teachers across the school to moderate together for a sustained period of time. Therefore we will need to close the school on May 21st to all students at 12pm in order to complete this process. A more detailed explanation is contained below from the Director of Education.

We thank you for your understanding during what is a very unique situation.

With best wishes,

Mr B E Burley
Head of School

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope this letter finds you and your families well rested after the Easter break.

We are writing to inform you of the need for a half-day Wyvern St Edmund's closure on Friday 21st May 2021.

This closure is necessary due to the cancellation of formal examinations for students in Year 11 and 13. This year, teachers are required to award grades to students based on a range of work and assessments completed by them throughout their courses.

In order to quality assure the process, so that all students receive fair and consistent grades, teachers must spend a substantial amount of time moderating the grades of every student in every subject. They will therefore need to come together with their colleagues for an extended moderation meeting on this day.

The school will close at 12pm on Friday 21st May 2021.

Shuttle buses will be running to the city centre from 12pm. No other buses will be running.

For those who cannot get home that day, we will provide a safe and supervised space for students to stay until the end of the school day. If you require your child to be at school during this time please contact Mrs Burns, Officer Manager (office@wyvernsteds.org).

Warm Regards,

Nicola Bull
MLP Director of Education

Bruce Burley
Head of School

WSE Ethos

This week students marked Stephen Lawrence Day and reflected on questions around how we can challenge injustice and racism with a focus on our core value of courage. Students have also had the opportunity this week, through the VotesforSchools topic, to discuss the issue of consent. This has been in the media and students have asked for the chance to talk about this. Please ask your child about this discussion at home. We will continue to promote the positive language and behaviours expected of our young people; challenge and educate when they fall short of expectations; and we know families will support this.

Yesterday was also Earth Day 2021 and we will mark this in our tutor time discussions and worship next week. This will centre around our core value of responsibility and what responsibility we have to the planet and each other. Students will hear the story of an African farmer who trained to become an engineer so he could help other farmers save his homeland. He promotes taking responsibility within your life as the best way to contribute to a larger goal in serving others and the planet.



Get your child's voice heard and make a difference

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, is launching a once-in-a-generation review of children's lives.

It's called 'The Childhood Commission' and it will identify the barriers preventing children reaching their full potential and propose policy solutions to address them.

At its heart is 'The Big Ask' – the largest ever consultation held with children.

In this survey the Children's Commissioner is asking children and young people what they think is important for their future and what is holding young people back. The Children's Commissioner will use what children and young people tell her to show the Government what they think and what they need to live happier lives.

It's an exciting opportunity to help us think big and it's a chance for every child in England to have their voice heard. You can hear from the Commissioner here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rHV4b5iwwmk>

Next week, in tutor time, students will be informed about this, have the opportunity for discussion and complete the survey.



This week your children will be given the opportunity to complete The Big Ask questionnaire. This is a national survey for young people that has been created by The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza.

She's keen to hear from young people about the things that make them happy, that worry them and that they would like to see in the future.

All of your child's answers will be confidential, and they don't have to answer any question if they do not want to. They will be used to inform the Government of the changes that children would like to see.



Your child will be asked to complete the questionnaire at school this week.

[Find out more information](#)

 **VOTES FOR SCHOOLS**



Children's
COMMISSIONER

Parents' Evenings (Mrs Lee)

This week we hosted online parents' evenings for students in year 10. Feedback from parents has been very positive about moving the event online. We'd like to get your feedback about your experience of using SchoolCloud to speak to teachers about your child's progress. Please take a few minutes to complete this short survey:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSceSXQQate9tV1fB4R7HRJiEP5kAUEkDxEkBJHOoPxewxanQA/viewform>

Parent's evenings for students in year 7-9 will take place in Term 6 in the following weeks:

Year 8: Tuesday 8th and Thursday 10th June

Year 7: Tuesday 22nd and Thursday 24th June

Year 9: Tuesday 29th June and Thursday 1st July

Parents/carers will be able to book video appointments with their child's teachers using the SchoolCloud video meeting platform. A letter will be sent home before each event with login details and information about how to book parents' evening appointments.



Enrichment

We were pleased to begin our summer term enrichments this week and welcome so many students to after school activities.

We do still have spaces available in several enrichments and if your child would like to sign up to one it isn't too late. Please see the website for the [enrichment booklet](#) if you do not have your own electronic copy.

We are now opening the photography enrichment to **Year 8** students, please note that this is a change to the original booklet.

Please email Ms Parry: tparry@wyvernsteds.org if you would like to more information or to register interest.



APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

Year 10 – Senior Student Leadership

In tutor time today we launched the process for selecting the senior student leadership team for next year. This process will continue over this term. In the first instance, students have been asked to write a letter of application to be part of the team. Students who are appointed to the team will be invited to apply for specific roles. We look forward to receiving their letters; hearing their ideas for their school and how they feel they can serve the school community.

More information will be posted on Satchel One.

The deadline for letters of application is Friday 7th May.

Coming soon...WSE racing team!

We are very excited to announce that in September we will be adding a WSE racing team to our enrichment offer. Mr Mathers, supported by a team of other staff, will be launching this club which will see students build, maintain and race an electric car. Actual races are likely to take place three times per year, with a practice session preceding this at a local racetrack. This will be an excellent opportunity for students to explore STEM careers and trying their hand at engineering, racing and also business procurement. We have secured a grant to help cover initial costs and will be holding a series of fundraising events over the coming months to help further. If any parents have business contacts who may be interested in sponsorship please contact Mrs Bellamy jbellamy@wyvernsted.org to discuss how we can facilitate this.

LATERAL FLOW TESTING

Thank you to all of you that are continuing with twice weekly testing at home. It is vital that students continue to test twice weekly in order to identify asymptomatic cases of COVID-19.

The Prime Minister has said: "I want to thank everybody for continuing to follow the guidance, and to thank parents and families for the incredible work you're doing to help test pupils through the Easter holidays and to encourage you to keep testing them twice a week as schools return."

The next supply of LFD home testing kits will be received by WSE during the week commencing 26th April. Once received they will be issued to all students via Tutor time. If your child does completely run out of tests and is due to take their next test there is a small stock of 3 pack test kits that can be collected from Student Reception.

1. Continue to report LFD (non-symptomatic) Home Testing results (throughout the whole Easter holiday) in the normal way:

It is really important that results of tests are reported online straight away, even if your child's result is negative or void. It's easy to do at www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result.

Results can also be reported via telephone by calling 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day, 7am to 11pm.

It is important to also report the result to WSE as well. This can be done by completing the WSE [Report a COVID-19 positive result LFD form](#)

2. Parents/carers must continue to inform the school of confirmed cases if symptoms developed within 48 hours of last being in school. If a positive LFD result is received you can advise the school via the links above. **If you receive a positive PCR result, please notify the school by emailing covid@wyvernsteds.org**

Parents/carers of pupils who were not symptomatic but tested positive within 48 hours of last being in school also need to let the school know.

3. Where a pupil tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) via a PCR test, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since last being in school, you do not need to separately advise the school of this. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

Please do continue to report LFD (non-symptomatic) results via the normal way.

4. The school will continue to report all confirmed cases to phtracing@wiltshire.gov.uk