

Family Bulletin

18th June 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

'Diversity is having a seat at the table. Inclusion is having a voice, and belonging is having a voice that can be heard.'

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a warm week it has been! Summer is well and truly here and it has been lovely to see students eating and playing on our wonderful expansive field. Fingers crossed today's rain will be shortlived. Thank you for ensuring that your son or daughter has plenty of water to drink throughout the day and for putting on a base layer of sun cream in the morning to protect them during social times. It does get very warm in some of our classrooms, so having plenty of water to sip throughout the day is of particular importance.

It's been a busy week for all of us: students have been sitting end of year exams, our exams and assessment teams have been finalising our TAGs (Teacher Assessed Grades) for Years 10 and 11 before submitting them to exam boards and further preparation has been going into our personal development days and activities days.

Like you, we heard from the Prime Minister on Monday evening about delaying the easing of COVID restrictions which was, on the one hand, disappointing, but on the other, completely understandable and sensible in light of the sharp increase in infections. We have again had to make some very difficult decisions alongside our MLP Trust colleagues with regards to the Year 11 Prom and Year 6 Transition Day/Evening. Both events were planned to take place after the easing of restrictions where there would be more freedom to put on such events unencumbered by maximum capacities and distinct bubbles. Unfortunately with the delay to easing, it makes it incredibly difficult to put on such events in a way that would give students a positive, memorable and full experience. We will be providing further details in due course about postponements and alternatives. We thank you for your understanding and feel as frustrated as you do about the continued impact of this pervasive pandemic.

We have also featured in the bulletin today key reminders about COVID systems of control and in particular regular LFD testing at home. With a rise in local and national infection we are starting to see an increase in the number of students and staff self-isolating in local schools. It is therefore really important that we continue to test our children at home twice a week and then to submit the results. Also, we must continue to maintain social distance and be mindful of the risks posed with close contact. Hand washing and sanitising need to remain a regular priority for us all. Staff will also be reminded of the same key message regarding systems of control. It is important that we are all alert to the risks and do not become complacent – as a community we all have a duty to follow the rules in order to enable greater freedom towards the end of July.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

With best wishes,

Mr B E Burley
Head of School

COVID - 19 Measures

As mentioned above, there are rising infection rates locally and we will continue to do everything possible to minimise any risk in school in line with current regulations.

Our full risk assessment, which is on our website, remains in place. The key measures are that students continue to sanitise their hands on entry and exit to every lesson and regularly throughout the day, all desks are sanitised between lessons, year groups bubbles are maintained and one way systems remain in place.

We firmly encourage students to continue taking the Lateral Flow Test twice weekly and report the results. Next week we will be issuing further home testing kits to all students, please remember to ask your child for the test kits that maybe lurking in their bags!

We currently have good supplies of test kits in school. Please email office@wyvernsted.org if at any time you need more home tests or help and advice.

LATERAL FLOW DEVICE TESTING REMINDERS

Message from the Department for Education:

To help in communicating the importance of testing and reporting, we have produced a blog on [why reporting your test result is as important as taking a test](#), featuring further guidance and common questions. This also includes details on financial support available to parents whose children are asked to self-isolate after contact with a positive case.

Please continue to report your results via the links below.

1. Continue to report LFD (non-symptomatic) Home Testing results
2. 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](#)

3. 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@wyvernsted.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.

4. 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.

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

Personal Development Days and Activities Week (Mrs Bellamy)

We confirm that all planned trips and activities this term will go ahead (subject to any further changes to government regulations). All trips have already been fully risk assessed in line with current regulations such as maintaining year group bubbles.

However, in light of the current rise in infections we will take additional measures which will include increased hand sanitisation and strongly encouraging all students to keep up regular LFD testing and in particular in advance of any trips they will be involved in.

All trip risk assessments will be available on our website once they have been updated. A full letter regarding trips and activities with more detail will be sent to you during next week. If after receiving this letter, you still have queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Year 7 Parents' Evenings

22nd June: 7ACo, 7MBa, 7AOs, 7LEV and 7MBa

24th June: 7LTr, 7JWr, 7JDo, 7JHi and 7HCI

We are looking forward to hosting our first online parents' evenings with year 7 next week. We have previously emailed you a letter which includes the login information you need for SchoolCloud, our online parents' evening platform, and guidance for how to book video appointments with teachers.

You can find the links to the SchoolCloud sites (one for boys and one for girls) on the parent/carer links section of our new Wyvern St Edmund's website here:

<https://www.wyvernsteds.org/454/parentcarer-links>

If you have not received the email, or you have issues logging into SchoolCloud, please contact Mrs Allen: aallen@wyvernsteds.org

Booking for both parents' evenings is still open. Please log into School Cloud to make your appointments. Booking will close at 5pm the day before the parents' evening.



Monday 28th June

Dear Parents/Carers please remember that school is closed for all students on Monday 28th June for a staff development day as published in our calendar.



Friends of Wyvern St Edmund's: Uniform Exchange

Did you know that you can contact other parents/carers of WSE to exchange, sell and/or donate uniform? This is a good way to recycle uniform that is still in good condition and save money.

You can connect on Facebook via this link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/294901624779765/>

Message from Salisbury Reds: 663 Bus

Following further guidance from the Government, and subsequent discussions with Wiltshire Council, we confirm that from Monday 28 June 2021 we will no longer be operating the additional "covid extra" services listed below that have been in place since September 2020.

Service 663 - only one bus will run on the 1505 and 1545 departures from Laverstock Schools towards the City Centre/Bemerton Heath

Of course, we will continue to monitor the situation and review as required, with an ability to reintroduce if we feel there is a need.

Ethos: School Diversity Week

Our thought for the week:



School Diversity Week

Next week we will be celebrating School Diversity Week. School Diversity Week is an annual celebration of LGBT+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans) equality in education, celebrated by thousands of primary schools, secondary schools and colleges across the UK. Last year, schools and colleges representing almost 2 million students took part. It's a brilliant way to show that our school is LGBT+ inclusive, and a great step to support LGBT+ pupils who are twice as likely to be struggling to manage their emotional and mental health.

Our staff are now all wearing Progress Pride badges and we are glad to hear that these are having a really positive impact across the school. The badge incorporates the traditional "Pride" colours as well as adding the colours representing both the transgender community and people of colour. It is hugely important to us that our students are aware that we are openly and obviously inclusive and that our minority students especially, feel we are a school they belong to and a school that will champion and celebrate them.

We are always glad to hear and discuss ideas that students may have to further celebrate the diversity in our communities; local, national and global so do please encourage them to talk to us about any thoughts they may have, now or in the future.

Our daily prayer for this week:

Dear God,

We pray that you might help others know that they are loved, valued, accepted and celebrated for who God made them to be.

God so loved the world that he gave his only son that whoever believes in him will not be lost but have eternal life.

Amen.

VotesforSchools: School Diversity Week

This week, we are marking both [School Diversity Week](#) and Pride Month with a topic about the significance of uniforms - both in school and beyond.

Students will explore the question: "**Does uniform limit self-expression?**" and voters have the chance to discuss what self-expression means to them, and consider when and where uniforms are necessary.

This week's VoteTopic:

For both School Diversity Week and Pride Month, we are getting you to consider the role of uniforms in allowing us to express ourselves (or not). That's why we're asking you:

Does uniform limit self-expression?

Discussion points:

- ✓ How else can we express ourselves at school (or elsewhere) aside from how we dress or style ourselves?
- ✓ What other stories have you heard around the uniform debate in the UK?
- ✓ What would be the most appropriate celebration of Pride in your school?

Student research points:

- ✓ Explore the history of school uniform in the UK: when did it first come onto the scene and why?
- ✓ Investigate the Stonewall Riots and why they were a catalyst in LGBTQ+ rights.
- ✓ Find out about countries around the world that do not have school uniform. Is there any evidence that students learn better without it?

Please Note:

For more information or support around this topic, check out the next slide.



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SIMS Parent App



The SIMS Parent app is a convenient way for us to share information with you about your child's school life

It allows you to access information from a smart phone, tablet or PC, any time....any where



To sign up, please email office@wyvernsteds.org



Term Dates

Did you know that you can find our term dates on our new website?



There is also lots of other useful information about school life available on the new website, please do take a look.

www.wyvernsteds.org