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WETHERBY

SENIOR SCHOOL

27th September 2019

Autumn Term Week 4



Dear Parents,

Although we have settled into term, there is no sense of things slowing down and it has been another busy week for the community. There have been strong sporting results on the football and rugby fields, a taboo busting talk for the Sixth Form from Emma Cole who was diagnosed with HIV in 1991, the PTA AGM (thank you to all the volunteers!) and the Sixth Form Information Evening. It is important for the Year 11 that they set their sights high for the exams in the summer and beyond and, for those of you who did not attend, I also took the opportunity to pass on some key messages from the exams analysis meetings with the Heads of Department that have been going on for the first few weeks of term. It will not come as a surprise that good attendance at school (over 95%) and good attendance at catch up sessions has a positive impact on the final results. It is important that whatever age the boys, we work together to ensure that they make the most of the opportunities on offer.

Personal highlights for me this week have been trying the chicken liver and lentils prepared by the Year 12 (under the supervision of Mr Leverage) as part of the A Level+ course, a Year 8 boy asking permission to draw me holding an ice cream for the Gold Note postcard competition (more about this later) and finally getting all members of the Ancient Greek club, who are keen to work towards the GCSE, in one room.

Next week sees the boys in Year 7 & 8 off to do some Bushcraft and consolidate the friendships that they have built in the first few weeks of term and, at the end of the week, our annual Open Day. We have had more enquiries than we have places and we expect to be busy on the day so please encourage your son to sign up to become a tour guide. The boys are by far our best ambassadors and I always receive a good number of emails praising the boys who have acted as guides. Many have already signed up, but it is a case of the more the merrier and a fantastic moment for the community to show all it has achieved.

I hope you have a good weekend.

Best wishes, Seth



MR SULLIVAN WRITES:

I have ordered 50 WSS 'Oddballs' hats which are available to staff, boys and parents. They are excellent quality and perfect for Games/Activities for the boys and indeed, fantastic for keeping warm whilst supporting the boys on the touchline at Wetherby Sports Grounds. The hats are part of a campaign to raise awareness about testicular cancer.

"The aim of the bobble hats is to get sport and schools teams across the UK wearing our bespoke, personalised bobble hats. We want to get teams talking about testicular cancer and raise awareness, as at the moment it is still a taboo subject and many are uncomfortable talking about it. We are trying to change that and with entire squads and clubs wearing our bobble hats we feel it is a big step in the right direction."

The hats retail at £12 so if you would like to place an order, please let me know by emailing – james.sullivan@wetherbysenior.co.uk



MRS SKINNER WRITES: Year 7 & 8 Bushcraft Residential

The Year 7 and 8 boys are going on a bushcraft residential next week from 2-4th October, staying in Knebworth woods in Hertfordshire.

A reminder to parents that we will be departing from **Hannah House**, Manchester Street, on **Wednesday 2 October** at **07:45 hrs** and will return to school on **Friday 4 October** at **17:00 hrs**. Please check the kit list that was previously emailed to you.

Boys will only be allowed to use their mobile phones during the journey to and from the Bushcraft centre as we want them to engage in the activities as much as possible. I would strongly encourage them not to bring too much food as they will not be allowed to keep it in their tents over night due to animals.

It should be a brilliant trip and I hope your boy is looking forward to it!

Initial Consent Forms for Trips:

All parents should have received an email from Evolve, our online school trip platform, asking to complete a consent form for all compulsory day trips and off-site events that take place during the school year.

If you haven't already, please can you follow the link on the email to complete the consent form as soon as possible. If you haven't received the email from Evolve, please let me know. Thank you!



NOTICES:

Notice from Ms Twomey: A reminder that these actors will need to be in school for Open Day (Saturday 5th October) please:

- *Axel Magee* - Max Pozzi
- *Walter* - Sacha Ross
- *Ambassador Magee* - Robert Bektas
- *Father Drobney* - Tobi Adesanoye
- *Krojack* - Jack Kastner
- *Kilroy* - Monty Cortazzi
- *Burns* - Edward Piazza

Notice from Mr Warner: Volunteers for Open Day on Saturday 5th October

The role of Open Day guide is an opportunity for boys to show off their school to prospective families on a key date in the school admissions calendar. Every year I receive emails from families commenting on how impressed they were with the Wetherby Senior boys they met, confirming my belief that the boys' role on Open Day is invaluable to its success.

If your son would like to volunteer as a guide, please email Mr Warner: henry.warner@wetherbysenior.co.uk

Water Bottles:

In a bid to increase our practical commitment to a sustainable environment at School we will remove single use plastic cups at water stations next week. Please ensure that your son brings a water bottle to school so that he can fill up from the bottle fillers and water coolers.

Wet weather:

Please ensure that the boys have a waterproof coat for rainy days as many boys this week seem to have been poorly equipped. A small foldable, lightweight umbrella in your son's bag would be a good addition to his School kit.

On **Tuesday 8th October**, Rachela Leonello, our Wellbeing Coach, is giving a parent/guardian seminar titled, **How to Facilitate Peak Performance in our**

Children. The talk will be in **Hannah House Hall**, from **6.15pm** until **7.30pm** and parents of boys from all year groups are very welcome.

If you would like to attend, **RSVP** to tessa.stewart@wetherbysenior.co.uk

CALENDAR:

Monday 30th:

Football U13 A/B/C/D WSS vs Eaton Square (A) 14:30

Sixth Form Lecture - *Law & Civil Services*, Mr Hill, Crown Prosecutor, Francis Holland, Regents Park 15:00

Tuesday 1st:

Football U14 A/B/C WSS vs Eaton Square (A) 14.30

Wednesday 2nd:

All Year 7 & 8 Residential Trip to Bushcraft, Kent (returning Friday 4th)

Thursday 3rd:

Football ISFA Cup U15A WSS vs Winchester College (H) 15:00

Year 11 GCSE Graphic Design Trip to Museum of Brands

Friday 4th:

Year 11 Geography Field Trip, Oxford Street

Trib Assemblies 15:30-16:00

GCSE PE Boys Table Tennis, Hannah House Hall 16:00-17.00

Saturday 5th:

Wetherby Senior Open Day 10:00-14:00



100 Marylebone Lane London W1U 2QU | Tel 020 7535 3530 | www.wetherbysenior.co.uk

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