

SCHOOL NEWS 17 DECEMBER 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I always seem to start my message to parents and carers with a thank you and this one at the end of a very testing year is no different. Thank you for all your support with how we have had to operate with our return and as I have said many times before, it is also a huge thanks to the staff at Worthing High School that make it possible.

We have had to implement our remote teaching for those students and staff who have had to self-isolate, this has been kept to a minimum and again largely due to our ability to respond effectively and track and trace. Our vigilance will continue and as and when cases arise we will communicate accordingly.

You may also be aware that from January, rapid-result tests will be provided to schools and colleges, starting with secondary schools and FE colleges, including special schools and alternative provision:

- for the school and college workforce to conduct weekly testing – this will help identify those who are carrying the virus without displaying symptoms, reducing the risk of transmission.
- for students and pupils as well as the school and college workforce to conduct daily testing for those identified as close contacts of workforce colleagues, students or pupils that have tested positive – this ensures that they do not need to isolate and are able to continue to benefit from high quality, face to face education.

For every group, testing is voluntary, but those who are eligible for tests are strongly encouraged to participate to reduce the risk of transmission within schools and colleges.

More on the guidance can be found [here](#)

Our Covid19 email, covid19@worthinghigh.net, will be monitored over the Christmas break and please inform us as and when your circumstances change.

Please take the opportunity to view our Christmas newsletter which showcases all the activities and opportunities we have been involved with this half term. [Click here](#)

Finally, I am fully aware of how Christmas will be very different for many of us, from myself, Governors, Trustees and all the staff at Worthing High School, we want to wish you all a very safe and happy Christmas and very much look forward to returning back to school on Wednesday 6th January.

Take care, stay safe and have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Pan Panayiotou
Headteacher

PE REMINDER – FRIDAY 18 DECEMBER

If your son/daughter has PE period 1 or 2 on tomorrow, please can they bring trainers to change into as a non-school uniform day.

Y9 TEENAGE BOOSTER VACCINATIONS - REMINDER

Please can we ask all remaining forms are returned completed by tomorrow **18 December** to the Main Office, even if you do not want your child to have the vaccination.

LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM – 18 DECEMBER 2020

The school will close to students at 1.30pm on 18 December 2020. Any student who requires food from the canteen should obtain it at morning break, including those on free school meals, as the canteen will be closed after break.

FRIDAY 18 DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

On the last day of term (Friday 18th Dec) we will be holding a Christmas Jumper day to raise money for Save the Children (<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/christmas-jumper-day>) and in support of the school. This is a week later than the official day launched but ties in neatly with the end of term.

Students are encouraged to wear a Christmas jumper or suitable Christmas attire but may wear non-uniform. We kindly ask for a minimum donation of £1.

FRIDAY 18 DECEMBER – COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS REWARD

Our student leadership team are aiming to bring a sense of community back at the end of term, whilst following the necessary guidelines to keep us all safe. The team have arranged with tutors that during periods 3 and 4 there will be a form based reward cinema. To support this there will be form based activities and the opportunity to make small purchases of food and drink items, with all profits going to charity. Please remind your son/daughter to bring in some money tomorrow.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL

Thank you to all our students and their families for such generous donations to our Christmas Hamper appeal. We have exceeded all expectations collecting dozens of amazing hampers for Turning Tides (<https://www.turning-tides.org.uk/>)

The [click here](#) to see examples of what we collected and pictures of the delivery on Wednesday 16th December.

Merry Christmas all,

Thom Izod

CHRISTMAS BAKE OFF 2020

Students have been busy baking for this Community challenge. They were asked to cook biscuits, cakes and pastries with a Christmas theme. Entries were uploaded on Twitter for everyone to see:

@WHS_Food

Please [click here](#) for link to our Newsletter which has all the results.

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

The school building will formally close at 12 noon on 24 December and we will not open again on Monday 4 January 2021 with students returning on Wednesday 6 January 2021.

YEAR 9 VIRTUAL SUBJECT REVIEW EVENING – THURSDAY 7 JANUARY 2021

Our year 9 Subject Review evening will take place virtually on the 7 January 2021 between 3pm and 7pm.

Just a reminder that **all** students will leave at 1.30pm on this day.

YEAR 9 OPTIONS

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, we have been working on a dedicated section of the website to help you and your child make informed choices, as we ask them to decide what they wish to study in Year 10 and 11. Please also see email that was sent out earlier to year 9 Parents/Carers

Please use the following link to access the relevant pages [click here](#)

YEAR 7 MFL CHOICES

In the new term, year 7 students will begin their third and final language taster, before they focus on a single language from the summer term. Once they have experienced Spanish, German and French, we will be asking students, their parents and carers to choose two language preferences. We will then decide the most appropriate language for your child to study, for the remainder of Key Stage 3. We will be sharing more information about this process in the New Year.

We would like to thank all our year 7 students for their hard work and the MFL team wish you Feliz Navidad / Frohe Weihnachten / Joyeux Noël / Happy Christmas!

Ms Day

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Many thanks to those parents and carers that have supported us with our uniform adjustments this term. Please may I remind parents of the following to avoid any issues on our return:

- 1) Haircuts – should not be extreme (less than grade 2) and should be of a natural colour – if students wish to dye their hair over the holidays, please ensure it can be washed out for their return
- 2) Piercings – facial piercings are not encouraged as students are not allowed more than a single stud in each ear lobe and if students have facial piercings they will need to be removed and sanctions will be given if this is not done.
- 3) PE kit – please can we remind you that tracksuit trousers should be black and students are not allowed to wear sweatshirts and hoodies as part of their PE kit. They should be wearing the new WHS training top (or fleece/rugby shirt for students in years 8-11).
- 4) Hoodies and sweatshirts are not allowed in school, students should be encouraged to wear an appropriate coat (especially on wet and cold days) and these should be stored in bags or lockers.
- 5) Shoes – students should not be wearing trainers in place of school shoes and school shoes should be formal (with a discernible heel) as outlined in our Uniform policy.

Please refer to our uniform policy for more details [click here](#). We are committed to providing the best education we can offer and do not want to issue sanctions for non-compliance with our uniform policy, so thank you for your support with this.

Mr Swift
Deputy Headteacher

HOME LEARNING

All homework is set on Satchel One (new name for Show My Homework). All students and parents / carers have access to this platform via personal login details.

During the coronavirus pandemic, on a temporary basis, we are uploading a copy of lesson work to Microsoft Teams to allow students who are isolating the chance to keep up to date with their work. This may be the PowerPoint for the lesson, or it may be a list of tasks closely related to the work taking place in the lesson and depends on the nature of the specific subject. This work will be stored in the Files section of each Team that your child is a member of. For some subjects it can be found in the Year Group team as opposed to the individual class.

Details of how to access this material can be found here:

<https://www.worthinghigh.net/page/?title=Independent+Learning&pid=44>

If we have to move to a model where a year group or year groups are required to work remotely from home, all work will be accessed on Microsoft Teams. Students would be expected to follow their timetable and log on to the relevant Team for the lesson timetabled for that particular period. Students would be required to join the Live Meet on Microsoft Teams and their teacher would take a register, introduce the lesson and direct them to any tasks and resources as appropriate. All students have been made aware of this expectation by their form tutor and have a sticker outlining the process in their planner.

SCHOOL CANTEEN PRICE CHANGES

Our catering provider – Catering Academy are increasing the price of a hot meal and dessert to £2.40. Our FSM daily allowance will therefore increase to £2.40 per day.

There are also a few other items which will be increasing in price. Full details are on our website including the new price lists. Please [click here](#).

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Inter community sport competitions

Inter community sports competitions have been going well – it's fantastic to see so many students getting involved, keeping fit and having lots of fun! [Click here](#) to go to our Newsletter which will have all the results.

SPRING TERM 2 EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS

Please [click here](#) to go to our extra-curricular clubs for next half term. All clubs, will start on January 11 2021, are free and run for an hour.

Sport/Dance Leader applications

If your child would like to apply, please can all letters be emailed to Miss Borthwick lborthwick@worthinghigh.net for Physical Education and Miss Strudwick astrudwick@worthinghigh.net for Dance. **Applications close Friday 8th January 2021**

YEAR 11 COLLEGE APPLICATIONS DEADLINES

An important reminder that both Varndean College and BHASVIC application deadlines are Monday 4th January and it is highly recommended that any student who wishes to apply to either of these colleges and has not already done so, does not leave it until this date and completes it prior to the start of Christmas.

It is also important to ensure that Worthing College applications are submitted prior to the Christmas break.

INSET DAYS – JANUARY 2021

Please note that the school will be closed to students 4 and 5 January 2021 due to whole school INSET Days. Students are due back to school at the normal time on Wednesday 6 January 2021 on **week 1** of the timetable.

VACANCIES

We advertise staff vacancies on our website under [Join Us/Vacancies](#). Please take the time to have a look and share the information with anybody you know who might be interested in applying.

TWITTER

For up to date information don't forget to follow us on the links below:

Whole School: @WorthingHigh

Headteacher: @WorthingHigh_ht

South Downs Education Trust: @sdetrust

Trips: @worthinghighout

Worthing High Careers and Employability Service: @WorthingHighCar

Lettings: @HighLettings

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

18 December - Last day Autumn Term – students finish at 13:30pm

4 and 5 January 2021 – INSET DAYS

7 January 2021 - Year 9 Virtual Subject Review Evening – Students leave at 13:30pm

28 January 2021 – Year 9 Teenage Booster Vaccinations

Term dates for the 2020/2021 academic years are available on our website.

Link below:

[Term dates 2020/2021](#)