# STATE OF SCHOOL

#### **SCHOOL NEWS 22 JUNE 2023**

Dear parents and carers,

As you may have heard, the National Education Union has announced two further dates for Industrial Action on 5 and 7 July. This is due to a lack of resolution between the Government and Teacher's Union over pay, conditions and funding and is a continuation of the dispute that has impacted schools across the country on numerous occasions throughout the Academic Year. Unfortunately, this means there will be disruption to our school day on 5 July and 7 July.

On 5 July, we have taken the extremely difficult decision to close to all of our students, except vulnerable students. This is also our transition day, where we welcome our new Year 6 students for the day. This provision will still take place.

On 7 July, we have our third Focus Day. On this day, we will ensure the Year 9 trip to Henfield Lakes still takes place and is appropriately staffed. As planned, Year 10 students will be offsite on work experience, or engaging with our remote work experience package at home. Year 7 and 8 will work at home, where work will be set.

More information about these days and the work students need to do will be shared nearer the time.

We apologise for the inconvenience this will cause your family and we thank you once again for your patience and on-going support as the dispute between the Government and the Education Unions continue.

Pan Panayiotou Adrian Cook
Executive Headteacher/ Head of School

**CEO South Downs Education Trust** 

Huge congratulations to all of our Worthing High community for last Monday's Sponsored Walk, 19 June 2023.

The weather was an absolute bonus compared to recent years and our students were excellent role models as they walked through Broadwater and onto the downs up to Chanctonbury Ring.

Special thanks to Mr Fenlon for his organisation and to The Sussex Search and Rescue Team who provided volunteers to support our whole school charity event.

We are looking to raise as much as possible this year for Chestnut Tree House and if you are able to support in any way it would be greatly appreciated.

Please use the information below to make payments

- 1. The preferred way to collect sponsorship this year is on Line on our Just Giving Page
- 2. ONLINE WISEPAY This can then be paid to school via Wisepay rather than the student bringing in lots of cash.

3. CASH – A completed sponsor form can be completed and returned to school. PLEASE ONLY USE CASH IF UNABLE TO ACCESS ONLINE PAYMENTS.

Thank you for your continued support it is greatly appreciated and will make a huge difference to the lives of the children in the hospice

More information on the charity can be found on www.chestnut-tree-house.org.uk.

Pan Panayiotou
Executive Headteacher
CEO South Downs Education Trust

Congratulations to our Year 11s on completing their final GCSE examination this week. They have done remarkably well to showcase all of our core values *resilience*, *excellence*, *community*, *integrity* and *respect*. The rest of the school have seen the Year 11s role model these core values and they must now show them themselves, as they undertake their end of year exams. The exams are key for our teachers to plan curriculum and give us a clear understanding of what we can do to support students in future lessons.

Any kind of assessment can be stressful, if you have any concerns about your child's wellbeing, please contact their Pastoral Leader who will be able to support.

# **End of Year Assessments**

Please use the following link to access the timetable for KS3 end of year assessments in core subjects and Year 10 assessments in Maths and Science. These assessments will take place under invigilation in the Sports Hall and will simulate what it is like to be in a public examination. Whilst we understand some students may worry about sitting assessments in this environment, I would like to emphasise how important it is that students become accustomed to this type of experience. It will help build their resilience and stamina in exams and also help us identify students who may require additional support. Assessments in other subjects will be taking place in classes throughout the latter part of term, teachers will provide revision materials and support students prepare during lessons time. To support your child, we recommend that you encourage and support your child with revision tasks in our Revision guide which you can access here. These activities are specifically designed to develop memory and are appropriate for students of all ages and abilities. Our message to students is very clear: the good study habits needed at KS4 should begin as early as possible and memory is a skill, and like any other skill, it can be developed with practice.

Year 10 Students will not be completing formal end of year exams. This is because they will do mocks in the autumn term of year 11. In science, they will be completing Walking-Talking mocks (WTM). This will allow the Science Department to specifically focus on key content and skills that students will need in the exam. This will also give us the opportunity to model and show students how to respond to key questions and enable students to be more ready for next year. Throughout the year, the Science Department have regularly completed end of unit tests allowing us to track the progress of students over the year.

These Walking-Talking mocks will be completed in halls, in exam conditions, so students can practice examination routines they will face in the Mocks and GCSE's next year. Year 10 students will not need to revise for the Walking-Talking mocks.

Adrian Cook Head of School

# **Early Closure on Thursday 29 June 2023**

On Thursday next week students will be leaving site at the end of P4 at 1:30pm. The South Downs Educational Trust will be hosting the second Female Leadership Conference in West Sussex, open to all staff who work in the education sector. During the afternoon staff from in and around West Sussex will be taking part in a number of workshops to encourage leadership, with this year's theme being "Kicking Imposter Syndrome into Touch". We are delighted to have Vivienne Porritt OBE as our keynote speaker and look to continue supporting equality in education.

# ACTIV8 DAY - Friday 14 July 2023

We are pleased to announce details of this year's Sports Day at Worthing High School. Our Activ8 day will take place on **Friday 14 July**. Students will compete for their tutor group and community in five different activities throughout the day (weather permitting). **Please see the attached letter for further information and how to book Food.** 

#### **Worthing High School Play**

Tickets are on sale for 'Brainstorm' the insight into the workings of a teenage brain. Pupils have working very hard to create and learn a great performance for you. Please do come along and watch Wednesday 12 July and Thursday 13 July 6pm start Mill Hall.

Many thanks for your support

Mrs J Batchelor

#### Year 10

A reminder that several local colleges will be holding Taster & Open events in the Summer Term and these can be found on our own website as well as individual college websites. https://www.worthinghigh.net/page/?title=College+Open+Day+%26amp%3B+Taster+Event s&pid=145

#### **Canteen Purchases**

We have noticed a growing number of students do not have sufficient funds on their accounts because daily spend limits are too low. This may have been because they were set when they first started WHS and have not been adjusted in line with changing prices. We have occasionally been letting some go over to ensure students can purchase food as appropriate, but we are aware that this will not suit all families who need to stick to a daily budget.

We ask that you please review the amount you have set and consider if it needs to be adjusted. Please email financeoffice@worthinghigh.net where they can change it for you.

Please locate our full price list here to help decide on a daily amount.

As an indication:

Food and snacks range from 80p to £2.40 Drinks from 50p to £1.00 Ice Iollies, now the weather is hot, £1.00.

Many thanks
The kitchen team

## **Action Your Potential**

We're always working hard to do the best by our community and this term we are offering, via our Action Your Potential Build a #NeuroNinja subscription 3 webinar courses for our parents, carers and students focused on three crucial areas of support. Please use the link here for information on wellbeing and support seminars being held.

#### **Public Examinations**

A reminder, rules and regulations are decided by the Joint Council for Qualifications, not Worthing High School. So malpractice or rule breaches are not determined by us. If a student fails to follow a rule, or misbehaves, they risk disqualification and receiving zero marks for that paper. As a school, it is highly unlikely we would be able to challenge this.

We also clarified the importance of punctuality. If a student is late, they are at risk of not being able to sit the examination. They <u>will not</u> be able to catch up with the examination, at a later date and will receive zero marks for that particular paper.

Finally, students were reminded of the importance of pre-examination checks. Ensuring things like notes, mobile phones, watches, calculator lids etc. are removed from their person and left in a bag. We will of course, remind students before every exam, but if they bring a banned item into the exam venue, they risk disqualification and receiving zero marks for that paper.

For a comprehensive guide to examination conduct, please visit our website. Worthing High School - Arrangements for GCSEs 2023

# **Message from Student Services**

Student Services have a number of unclaimed winter coats of various sizes, makes and all unnamed. If you think your child lost a coat could you please come in and see if it is here. At the end of the term all unclaimed items will be taken to a local charity shop

## **SEND Activities Event message from Out of Bounds**

Out of Bounds are holding an exclusive open activity event for children with special education needs and disabilities (SEND) on Saturday 8 July from 6pm - 8pm.

The cost for activity participation is only £10 each and adults, siblings and carers are all welcome to come along and join in too.

For more information and to book your place, please **click here** to visit our website.

#### **Physical Education**

#### **Clubs Summer Term 1**

Most clubs will run <u>3:10-4:10pm</u>; some clubs run at slightly different times, click here for further information all students are welcome to attend clubs. Registers will be taken weekly therefore there is no need to sign up to a club prior to it starting. If students are attending clubs please can we remind you that they must be in their full WHS PE kit. The weekly newsflash can be found here click here\_and will be updated every Friday.

# **PE kit Expectations**

As part of the school uniform code we have expectations on appropriate kit for PE lessons. In recent weeks we have had several students wearing inappropriate shorts. The kit in question are shorts, which are not of a suitable length and not appropriate for PE as too tight. We would like to remind that all students black shorts of an appropriate length for PE lessons. Track suit bottoms should also be black and leggings are also not part of the school PE kit.

## Year 11 PE kit donations

If your child has left the school and no longer needs their PE kit please can donations be dropped into student services. Thank you

Marie Field Leader of PE

# **VACANCIES AT WORTHING HIGH SCHOOL**

We advertise staff vacancies on our website under Join Us/Vacancies.

#### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Thursday 29 June – Students finish at 1.30pm
Wednesday 5 July – Strike day 1
Friday 7 July – Strike day 2
Friday 14 July – Activ8 Day
Thursday 20 July – Last day of summer term – Students finish at 12.30

#### **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