



## **SCHOOL NEWS 7 DECEMBER 2023**

Dear parents and carers

As we approach the end of term and start to think about the holidays, assemblies next week will reflect on student achievements and will have a celebratory feel to them. We want students to enjoy this and look forward to their winter break, but it is also important that students can reflect on those less fortunate than themselves. As a community we want to be mindful that this time of year can present significant challenges to people and want to help where we can. Tutors are in the process of collecting items for charity hampers which will be collected for the Broadwater support community hub. We will also be raising money for the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Appeal, which is on 15 December 2023.

On a similar note, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who have generously donated to support Worthing High families this holiday period. Also, many thanks to A C Gardens Ltd who have donated a significant number of selection boxes for our families and Wild Flor restaurant in Hove, who have donated a voucher for a meal; this will be used as a prize for a future Friends of Worthing High money raising event.

Next Wednesday, we welcome Year 11 parents for our face-to-face Subject Review Evening, a reminder that this means an early finish for students, who will be dismissed at the end of period 4 at 1:30pm. Work will be set on Google classroom for period 5 work. If you have not yet booked your appointments, the booking system is still open. Attendance to this is vital as it will enable teachers to discuss progress after the mocks and what we can do to support students to achieve their best in their summer examinations.

Finally, a reminder that the term ends next Friday 15 December. On this day, school closes for students at 12:30pm. Lessons one to three will run as normal before dismissal at the end of period 3. All students will return to school on Wednesday 3 January 2024.

Adrian Cook  
Head of School

### **Year 7 families**

We are pleased to announce that our new Year 7 Pastoral Leader, Mr Facey, will be starting on December 11. In the interim period, Mrs DeLuca, has been supporting the Year 7 cohort and we would like to thank her for her support.

We are also pleased to announce that in January, Miss James will be taking over tutor group 7T1. In the interim period, please direct any tutor group issues or questions to Mr Townsend.

### **Haircuts and piercings during the festive season**

We hope that our students have a restful and peaceful holiday period but wanted to remind you that on their return they should not have inappropriate haircuts or piercings that they cannot remove before attending school. We want them to be able to return with a focus on their learning. Avoiding unnecessary uniform and presentation issues enables them to do this.

We have attached the uniform policy for your reference.

Many thanks for your support.

S Swift  
Deputy Headteacher

### **New Free School Meals (FSM) application process**

From **1 January 2024**, there will be a new process for parents to submit their applications for Free School Meals (FSM). The process will be entirely online. The system will give parents an instant indication of their child's FSM eligibility status, with the aim of ensuring eligible children receive their FSM entitlement as quickly as possible, by helping to reduce the time for checks to be returned in busy periods. **Please see attached Booklet.**

Most parents will be familiar with this new electronic process, as it uses the same portal that parents need to use for their school admissions preferences and/or 2-year-old entitlement checks.

This process, in most cases, allows parents to receive their initial eligibility result instantly. Our Catering Services FSM team will then run further checks and confirm the outcome via email to both the parent and the school.

With the move to online applications fully functional on **1 January 2024**, we will have a one-month transitional period where paper FSM applications will still be processed by the team, to allow schools to communicate the change to their parents, and to ensure no application forms are caught between systems.

From **1 February 2024**, all scanned paper copies of FSM application forms sent to us will not be processed, and the applicant or school will be contacted and advised of the online process.

If a parent is struggling to complete the online form, and the school has been unable to support, please advise them to contact our team directly on **0330 222 5555** or at [fsm@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:fsm@westsussex.gov.uk). Links on the Council website will be updated to take parents to the new online FSM application form as of **1 January 2024**. Until then, the process will remain the same as it is currently.

### **Information from West Sussex County Council – Winter HAF 2023**

Please see the attached poster with further information regarding South coast skate club

### **Information below from Sussex Police and Adur and Worthing Safer Communities Team**

Sussex Police and Adur & Worthing Safer Communities Team would like to host a session for the parents/carers of high school aged children to explore some key themes and areas where you may have concerns, e.g.:

- Knife Crime Drugs/Vapes
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Online Risks
- Personal Safety in the Community

The event will take place on a weekday evening in mid-January. If you would be interested in attending this event, please complete [this short form](#) to express your interest.

For any comments or questions, please contact [safer.communities@adur-worthing.gov.uk](mailto:safer.communities@adur-worthing.gov.uk)

## **E-safety**

E-safety is a key priority in ensuring students and children stay safe. The following link gives practical advice and strategies for families in managing e-safety at home with their children:

<https://www.skipseducational.org/safety-net/>

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

### **Congratulations**

#### **Year 10 Rugby Team District League Double Champions**

Well done to the Year 10 Rugby team who have won the District League twice this year. Absolutely incredible achievement. We are incredibly proud of the whole team. Well done

### **Cross Country Success**

Awaiting results

### **Trampolining Success**

Well done to Aimee In Year 7 who came third in the South East Regional Schools trampoline competition at the weekend. Fantastic achievement well done. Aimee will be competing next for the School's Southern Zonal competition on 21 January.

### **Advance notice:**

Monday 11 December – no clubs will run due to staff meetings

Wednesday 13 December – no clubs will run due to Year 11 SRE

Friday 15 December – no clubs will run due to early closure for Christmas Holidays

### **Club and Fixture timetable for Autumn Term 2**

Most clubs will run 3:15 - 4:15pm; some clubs run at slightly different times, please check the New Autumn Term 2 club timetable **carefully** [click here](#) 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 at this [click here](#) and will be updated every Friday by 1pm.

Marie Field  
Leader of PE

## **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**

Wednesday 13 December 2023 – Year 11 Subject Review Evening - see above  
Thursday 14 December 2023 – School Christmas Show  
Friday 15 December 2023 – Last day of term – students finish at 12.30pm  
Friday 15 December 2023 – Christmas Jumper Day  
Tuesday 2 January 2024 – INSET DAY 5 – School closed  
Wednesday 3 January 2024 – all students return to school after the Christmas break  
Thursday 4 January 2024 – Year 7 Academic Review Evening – further information will go out shortly  
Thursday 11 January 2024 – Year 9 Options Event