



SCHOOL NEWS 4 JANUARY 2024

Dear parents and carers

I wanted to write to you all and thank you for the positive way your child has returned back to the school, especially with the foul weather we have been experiencing!!

The start of the new calendar year is always an exciting one and we look forward to celebrating your child's achievements throughout the year.

Thank you so much for the support you provide to your child and I look forward to a positive 2024.

Pan Panayiotou
Executive Headteacher

Happy New Year and welcome back to all of our staff and students. We hope you have enjoyed a restful break and the start to 2024 has been a positive one.

There are a number of events I would like to signpost that are taking place in the first couple of weeks of term.

Firstly, Year 7 Academic Review Evening will take place this evening which is a virtual meeting between parents/carers and tutors. This is an opportunity to discuss the report your child recently received and raise any concerns you may have. As with all year groups, the Academic Review Evening is a check-in and is not intended to give detailed information about each subject. A more detailed, overview for each subject will be provided at the Subject Review Evening which takes place in school. Here you will be able to make appointments with all your child's teachers. Dates for each year group are as follows:

Subject Review Evenings (SRE)	Date
SRE Yr11 - Face to face	13/12/2023
SRE Yr9 - Face to face	16/11/2023
SRE Yr10 - Face to face	08/02/2024
SRE Yr8 - Face to face	02/05/2024
SRE Yr7 - Face to face	21/03/2024

Academic Review Evenings (ARE) - all virtual	Date
ARE Yr11	18/04/2024
ARE Yr9	20/06/2024
ARE Yr10	04/07/2024
ARE Yr8	25/01/2024
ARE Yr7	04/01/2024

Next week, we welcome Year 9 families into school for our curriculum choices evening. This event will run from 5pm to 7.00pm and will start with a presentation from Mr Panayiotou, Mr Morris and myself about the curriculum choices process and some advice on choosing subjects. The talk will be followed by a marketplace event where families are free to visit the different subject areas to learn more about it at Key Stage 4. We strongly recommend all families join us, ahead of making such important choices. Confirmation of pathways will be sent early next week and instructions for

choosing the week after (w/b 15-01-24). The deadline for all decisions to be made is Friday 26 January.

Finally, a reminder that Worthing High School works alongside Action Your Potential, who work with staff, young people and their families around mental health, wellbeing and realising potential. There are a number of resources available on some very practical topics. Please use [this link](#) for more information. As a parent or carer of a Worthing High School child, this is a free resource. Students may also access these, as appropriate.

Adrian Cook
Head of School

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. 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.

Year 9 parents: The Tempest Workshops in school

On Tuesday 23 and Wednesday 24 January, West End in Schools will be coming to Worthing High to kick-start year 9's study of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. Students will attend a one-hour interactive workshop where they will explore *The Tempest* from an actor's perspective and learn to use techniques that an actor would use in a rehearsal room today.

The cost of this workshop is £4.50 per child, which can be paid on WisePay by the 8 January 2024. Although payment is voluntary the event may not be able to take place without sufficient funding. Full details are on WisePay.

Find it out Centre

If your child would like to speak to one of the Find It Out staff, they will be based in B5 on a Tuesday from 3.15-4.15. Please see the attached poster for further information.

Food Department

Please donate your empty Celebration, Quality Street, Heroes or similar biscuit and sweet tins. We recycle/reuse these and give them to students to take food home that they have cooked with us in Food lessons. Last year we received hundreds of containers - Thank you very much!! Students can bring them to T5/T4 Food rooms where they will be very gratefully received.

Mrs Whitby
Subject Leader for Food Preparation & Nutrition

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Club and Fixture timetable for Spring Term 1 clubs

Clubs will start the first full week back Monday 8 January. Spring Term 1 clubs [click here](#).

The weekly newflash can be found here [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

Thursday 4 January 2024 – Year 7 Academic Review Evening (Virtual)

Thursday 11 January 2024 – Year 9 Options Event

Monday 22 January 2024 – Year 8 HPV Vaccinations

Thursday 25 January 2024 – Year 8 Academic Review Evening (Virtual) further information will go out shortly.

Wednesday 7 February 2024 – Parent Forum

Thursday 8 February 2024 – Students finish at 1.30pm

Thursday 8 February 2024 – Year 10 Subject Review Evening – further information will go out nearer the time.

Friday 9 February 2024 – Last day of term

Monday 12 to Friday 16 February 2024 inclusive – Half Term