



SCHOOL NEWS 11 JANUARY 2024

Dear parents and carers

As many of you will be aware, the media have dubbed next Monday as “Blue Monday,” a point in the year where it is alleged people are at their lowest. Whilst this phrase was devised by Sky Travel in 2005, as a marketing ploy, it is important to remember that the Media focus can create feelings of negativity which can have an impact on wellbeing. The cold rainy weather and short days can also make it difficult to be motivated, so we ask that students work hard to demonstrate our core value of *resilience* and they continue to attend school regularly, be punctual and remain positive about their learning. We appreciate the efforts from all of our parents and carers in ensuring good attendance and we would like to remind you that if you are worried about your child’s low mood or mental health, each year group has a pastoral leader, who will be able to offer further support.

This evening, we welcome Year 9 families to our curriculum choices evening which starts at 5pm in the Millennium Hall, where Mr Panayiotou, Mr Cook and Mr Morris will give a brief presentation on the process and the next phase of the educational journey. Please note, if you are unable to attend the talk but are available later, please do still come along to our subject market place. This will be open from 5:30 to 7:00pm and there is no need to book or register.

Thank you to our Year 7 parents and carers who attended our virtual Academic Review Evening. We hope it was useful having a check in with your child’s tutor. A reminder forthcoming Subject and Academic Review Evenings 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

Finally, we will soon be sending out a link to a survey which allows parents and carers to leave feedback about the school and your child’s experience here. Please can I ask that you find a moment to complete this, your feedback is invaluable and helps us to reflect and make improvements.

Adrian Cook
Head of School

Emergency Closure

In the event of an emergency closure, which is replicated across the county i.e. **a snow closure day**, parents and carers will be notified by means of a text message and email to all parents/carers who are down as first contact on our school database.

A notification will also be placed on our school website, school twitter and local radio stations will also be informed. Our intention is for any communication to be issued by 06.30am or the evening before.

Work for lessons will be set by each teacher on google classroom

Please see information below from Sussex Police & Adur and Worthing Safer Communities Teams - Parent Awareness Evening

Recently Sussex Police and the Adur & Worthing Safer Communities Teams asked parents and carers if they would be interested in attending an event covering key topics such as knife crime, anti-social behaviour, exploitation and substance misuse. The response was overwhelmingly positive and we are now inviting you to register your place. We are hosting two events, which Bohunt (Worthing) have kindly allowed us to hold there. To book your place, please follow the relevant registration link:

- [Monday 22nd January, 6pm-7.30pm](#)
- [Wednesday 31st January, 6pm-7,30pm](#)

Please note that places are limited so if the above forms are closed it means the event has reached capacity. Light refreshments (teas/coffees) will be provided on the evening. On-street parking is available in the residential roads surrounding the school, and there are also parking options in nearby Broadwater. The school is wheelchair accessible. The event is for parents/carers of high school aged children; however, we understand that childcare arrangements may not be possible so children are allowed to attend if other arrangements cannot be made (maximum 4 spaces per person).

We really look forward to seeing you there, but if you have any questions in the meantime, please contact safer.communities@adur-worthing.gov.uk.

Parenting Course information from Who's in Charge

This is a course to help and support parents experiencing child to parent violence and abuse.

Please see the attached poster for further information. **POSTER**

Donate Uniform

If you have any unwanted uniform that you would be willing to donate to our FOWHS please can you drop to Student Services. All proceeds from second hand uniform is used to support other families in need.

Thank you

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.**

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Club and Fixture timetable for Spring Term 1 clubs

Spring Term 1 clubs [click here](#).

The weekly newsflash can be found here [click here](#) and will be updated every Friday by 1pm.

Marie Field
Leader of PE

Student Attendance and Absence Line

To report a student absence please can you use the student absence line only – 01903 229290.
Please call before 9.00 am.

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

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