



SCHOOL NEWS 9 MAY 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Our Year 11 students now begin their full exams from Thursday 9 May, and I wanted to take this opportunity to wish them all the very best, and a huge thank you to the staff who have helped and supported them on their educational journeys at every level. The exams will last just over a month with some of our students not finishing until 19 June.

We all send our best wishes and thoughts to them all and if they have any concerns throughout this period, please get in touch with Mr Mashford and Mrs Gordon in the first instance.

Our class of 2024 students are amazing individuals and we are so very proud of them all. We now just need to get through the next few weeks, to support them on the next phase of their educational journey.

Good luck to all our Year 11 students, and to you, our parents and carers.

Pan Panayiotou
Executive Headteacher
CEO of SDET

The time has come to say goodbye to our Year 11 students, who will start study leave tomorrow. Whilst, very much still members of the school community, we will miss not having them in school and attending lessons as normal. Gathering yesterday, for a year group photo felt like a fitting thing to do, before the final goodbye at their leaver's assembly tomorrow. It was also fitting that their conduct throughout this process was exemplary, ending their Worthing High journeys, the same way they started as such a positive part of our community. On behalf of all the staff, we wish them the very best of luck as they now embark on their final exams.

Last Friday, you will have received a notification about litter picking after school. Thank you to the staff and tutor groups who have already taken part in this and for understanding that working together to ensure the school site is well looked after is vital in maintaining a cohesive community.

Finally, I am delighted to introduce our new student leadership team, who have all done amazingly well throughout a challenging selection process.

Head Girl – Evie Tomaso
Head Boy – Austin Russell
Deputy Head Girls – Rosie Evans and Maia Moe Myint
Deputy Head Boys – Teddy Corcoran and Charlie Russell

Thank you to all our Year 10 students who applied for these roles and to all students who applied to be prefects. We have more student prefects than ever before, which is a real

reflection on how proud they are to be part of the Worthing High Community. Successful students were introduced to the rest of the year group this morning in assembly. Thank you to Mr Beda, Miss Haslam and Mrs Hopkins for all their hard work organising the process.

Year 9 ARE

Year 9 Academic Review Evening will now take place on the 4 July, the same evening as the Year 10 ARE. Information on how to make appointments for this virtual meeting with your child's tutor will be shared nearer the time.

Adrian Cook
Head of School

Goodbye message from Year 11

Over the past 5 years, our year group has been through a lot. The global pandemic disrupted our very first 2 years at secondary school, tainting our education and resulting in us having less time to get to know our new school. However, we had the dedication to overcome this and we have excelled in recent years. Now, as GCSEs are right around the corner, it is time for us to complete our 5-year journey by handing over the role to our successors. To the school's new Head Prefects, we wish you all the best, and hope that you will continue to guide your peers through the final year of secondary school, and set an example for all students.

It has been a great 5 years here, and we have all enjoyed our time both representing the school as Head Prefects and being role models for the rest of the school.

Thank you very much for this opportunity, and good luck to next years' Head Prefects,

The Student Leadership Team 2023/24

English Department – Published Work

We would like to congratulate year 7, 8 and 10 students who entered the Young Writers 'The Glitch' creative writing competition in December 2023. 'The Glitch' invited students to write a mini saga (a story in up to 100 words) inspired by a glitch. We are very proud to see the following students published work: Sofia Hall, Alysa Dann, Oliver Parker, Alexia Panadero Brennan, Varoshan Balakumar, Maxwell Stedman, Myles Dutfield, Ava Carter, Imogen Hardy, Amelia Anderson, Harrison Wells, Dylan Mason, Holly Ewans, and Chiara Gates. We have received the latest Young Writers anthology publication called '*The Glitch. Fiction from the UK*' in which our students have been published.

These students have successfully demonstrated their creative ability to use language and structure to compose a successful mini saga. The anthology has been delivered to school this week and is available in the library for all to read. This is an amazing achievement and we would like to say a huge well done to all those involved.

English – LRC

Do you know what your child is reading?

We'd like to encourage all parents and carers to get involved and make sure your child is bringing a suitable reading book into school.

All students from Years 7-11 are expected to have a reading book with them every day as part of their essential equipment. Students are welcome to choose their own book that they enjoy reading to bring in, and this can be a book from the school library, public library, or their own book from home. We do not want to put restrictions on this but we wanted to make you aware of a trend of putting really fun, cute illustrations on romance book covers so they look suitable for children and teenagers, when sometimes these books contain graphic and exploitative sexual content aimed at adult readers. You may find that these books mistakenly get shelved with children's and teenage books in shops, so it isn't always apparent which books they are. Tiktok has a brilliant and thriving community of people who make videos recommending books, but they don't always make it clear when a book isn't suitable for younger readers. We recommend checking the book on a website like Storygraph, an excellent tool for looking at the content of a book and making an informed decision: <https://www.thestorygraph.com/>

Even if you are happy with your child reading a book, please consider whether it's appropriate material for them to bring into a school environment. A good test of whether a book is suitable is whether a student feels they would be happy to discuss the full content of their book in a classroom setting.

If your child is struggling to find a book that they like, please encourage them to come and chat to the team in the LRC or browse the library catalogue from home here: <https://uk.accessit.online/wrt01/#!/dashboard>

Sextortion

You may have seen articles in the Guardian and on the BBC this week regarding Sextortion. Sextortion is when children are pressured into sending indecent images of themselves to others who in turn use the image to blackmail that young person. Early indications suggest that boys aged 14-18 are most vulnerable, however our entire school cohort needs to be aware that this is a concern. We will be running assemblies and information through PHSE on this topic but below are some strategies to safeguard your children at home and whilst using the internet:

- Phones to be kept downstairs and out of bedrooms at night.
- Parent safeguards on the internet.
- Parental checks of children's phones each night.
- Social media: Legal age is 13 for Snapchat, Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp.
- Ensure there is parental permission for approval of new apps on devices.
- Ensure location settings are enabled for parents but disabled for everyone else, this includes snapchat locate settings

WhatsApp

The legal age limit for WhatsApp has reduced and been brought in-line with the other social media platforms. The legal age is now 13+. There is also a relatively new feature which allows users a one-time only view of an image or text. These cannot be screenshot on the

device and disappear once viewed. Please continue to implement your parental checks and controls on WhatsApp and all social media platforms to ensure your child is safe.

Year 11 Canteen Refunds

Any monies still remaining on student accounts after 30th June 2024 will be refunded via their Wisepay accounts as long as the card used to top up, is still valid, or any balance can be transferred to a siblings account. Please email catering@worthinghigh.net if you would prefer the transfer option.

Cash refunds will only take place for those students who topped up their accounts with cash, or for those whose visa cards have expired

Any requests for cash refunds must be made to the Canteen Manager accompanied with a signed and completed form which can be found attached to this email.

Year 11 Locker refunds

All lockers are to be cleared and keys returned to the Facilities Office by 30th June 2024.

If a locker key is returned and the spare key is available, a refund of £2 will be made in cash.

Any locker keys not returned by Monday 1 July 2024 will be considered lost and lockers will be cleared out and contents disposed of.

Absence for Medical Appointments and Early leave Requests.

Can we please remind parents/carers that we need to be made aware of medical appointments or early leave requests prior to the day where possible. You can leave a message on the absence line. 01903 229 290 or email office@worthinghigh.net

Physical Education

Worthing Herald Sports Team Special

The Worthing Herald is delighted to be producing a Sports Teams Feature edition on **Thursday 16 May**. The edition will feature pictures of WHS sports teams. Copies will be on sale at all good retailers in the area from 16 - 22May.

Sussex athletics track and field championships

Good luck to all students taking part in the athletics meet at K2 this weekend.

Club and Fixture timetable for Summer Term 1 clubs

Basketball Club

Due to Year 11 examinations Basketball club will start up again in September

Summer 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

Academic Review Evenings (ARE) - all virtual	Date
ARE Yr9	04/07/2024
ARE Yr10	04/07/2024

VACANCIES AT WORTHING HIGH SCHOOL

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.

We are currently advertising for the following positions:

Teaching

No current Vacancies

Non-Teaching

EBSA Lead Practitioner

Alternative Provision and SEND Behaviour Practitioner

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

Friday 17 May – FOWHS Quiz Night

Monday 27 May – Bank Holiday

Tuesday 28 May – Friday 31 May - Half Term

Monday 3 June – School returns

INSET Days for Academic Year 2023-24.

The school will be closed to students on these days:

Wednesday 19/06/2024 - INSET day

Monday 22/07/2024 - INSET day

Tuesday 23/07/2024 - INSET day