



## SCHOOL NEWS 19 DECEMBER 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As another term draws to a close tomorrow, I just want to thank you, as parents and carers, for your constant support, and how excellent your child has been in accessing all of their lessons and extracurricular opportunities at Worthing High School.

Please do take some time to read our [Autumn newsletter](#) and gain a sense of everything we have achieved during this term.

Finally on behalf of myself, Governors, Trustees and all the Staff at Worthing High School, and South Downs Education Trust, have a safe and healthy and restful Christmas break and a Happy New Year

Kind regards  
Pan Panayiotou  
Executive Headteacher  
CEO South Downs Education Trust

Just a short note wishing you all a very merry Christmas and happy new year. Please have a look at our termly newsletter for a detailed look into our memories and achievements over the term. As always, staff and students have been brilliant and have so much to be proud of.

A reminder that tomorrow is Christmas jumper day, so please ensure your child has paid their £1 if they are wearing non-uniform/Christmas jumper.

Finally, students return on Tuesday 7 January at normal time.

Wishing you all a safe and restful break.

Adrian Cook  
Head of School

### **Period 0/6 After Christmas**

#### **Year 11:**

After Christmas year 11 students will be invited to period 0 and 6 for the core subjects. The respective subject leaders and teachers will invite students with the aim of supporting them with targeted intervention. Please support us in ensuring their attendance as we know that these sessions can have a significant impact on their final outcomes at GCSE.

#### **Year 10:**

After Christmas selected students will be invited to period 0 and period 6 for the option subjects. We know that early intervention has a huge impact on final outcomes. The respective subject leaders and teachers will invite students with the aim of supporting them with targeted intervention. Your support is much appreciated in ensuring their attendance.

### **Protocol regarding students requiring medical support at school**

As we enter a period of high rates of infection, I wanted to share the rationale behind our approach to dealing with students presenting as ill during the school day. We understand the impact that missing a school day can have on a young person's education and well-being and would like to thank parents and carers for encouraging your child to come to school when they are not feeling 100%.

If one of our students feels unwell during the school day, they should report to student services where a member of the team will assess their symptoms (this may include taking their temperature to assess if they have an elevated temperature). If we feel that the student is able to cope with the remainder of the school day, we will ask them to return to their lessons and report back if they feel worse. If we believe that the student is not able to remain in school, we will contact parents and carers (according to SIMS priorities) and ask for them to be collected. This ensures that students only miss school when they are not well enough to attend.

Students are not permitted to use their phones during the school day and if they do, to contact parents to collect them because they feel unwell, there will be a consequence for their actions. We want to work together to ensure that your child is happy at school, but sometimes this will mean encouraging them to remain in school to complete their school day.

We hope that you understand and will support us in ensuring that students maximise their educational potential, which may mean asking for greater resilience at times when they do not feel 100%.

Mr Swift  
Deputy Headteacher

### **Instagram actively helping to spread self-harm among teenagers – study suggests**

I wanted to share a recent article which has been published for your information. We recognise the positive impact social media can have, but also the need for parents and carers to regularly monitor their child's use of social media to ensure that they are viewing appropriate content.

Please may I remind parents of year 7 and year 8 that the legal age for social media apps continues to be 13 years old. Which would discourage students below this age from having social media due to the emotional maturity required to navigate the content of these apps.

I would urge parents and carers to read the below article and consider how often you monitor your child's usage of social media to ensure they are not exposing themselves to inappropriate or harmful content.

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2024/nov/30/instagram-actively-helping-to-spread-of-self-harm-among-teenagers-study-suggests>

If you have any worries or concerns after reading the article, please contact the pastoral leader for your child.

Many thanks  
Mr Swift  
Deputy Headteacher

### **Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 20 December**

The school will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 20 December 2024 prior to the Christmas holidays. Please see the attached letter for more information.

### **A Request for Help**

The DT Club is building a go-kart for the annual Soapbox Race in London. If you have any spare wheels, preferably BMX-sized but we're not fussy, smaller or larger wheels could also work, and we can make it work with four of the same size or a mix of two big and two small; we'd be really grateful for your help! Please contact Mrs. Knight [mknight@worthinghigh.net](mailto:mknight@worthinghigh.net) if you're able to assist.

### **Year 9 parents: The Tempest Workshops in school**

On Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th 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 £5.65 per child, which can be paid on WisePay by the 8th January 2024. Although payment is voluntary, the event may not be able to take place without sufficient funding. Full details are on WisePay.

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### **Winter HAF Places**

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme is offering children who are accessing benefits related free school meals the opportunity to attend 4 free sessions this winter holiday, all sessions include a free meal.

More information about Audio Active can be found on their [website](#)

Families can book using the online system: [HAF Booking Service](#)

To register they will need their HAF code which can be found on the award letter received from the FSM team or by contacting us on [HAF@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:HAF@westsussex.gov.uk)

## **Physical Education**

### **Club timetable and fixtures Autumn Term 2**

Please click the link to the [Spring Term 1 Clubs Timetable](#).

Marie Field

Leader of PE

## **Non-Sports Clubs**

Please find the [Non Sports Clubs](#). If you have any questions, please get in touch with the member of staff running the club.

## **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**

*No current vacancies*

## **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**

Christmas Jumper Day	20/12/2024
Last Day of Term – 12:30pm Finish	20/12/2024
Christmas Break	23/12/2024 – 03/01/2025
INSET Day	06/01/2025
School Returns	07/01/2025

## **INSET Days for Academic Year 2024-25.**

**The school will be closed to students on these days:**

Monday 06/01/2025

Friday 20/06/2025

Monday 21/07/2025

Tuesday 22/07/2025