

Community Bulletin

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4th July 2025



📌 Community Bulletin – Celebrating Progress and Looking Ahead

We are pleased to share some recent highlights and upcoming events from across the school community.

Year 6 Induction Days

We were delighted to welcome our incoming Year 7 students for their two-day induction this week. The cohort engaged exceptionally well, demonstrating enthusiasm, maturity, and a genuine excitement about the transition to secondary school. It was a pleasure to witness their positive attitude and eagerness to embrace new challenges. We now look forward to welcoming many of them to our Summer School and to their official start with us in September.

Year 10 Mock Interviews

Our Year 10 students took part in mock interviews on Thursday as part of their career preparation programme. They approached the day with professionalism and confidence, impressing staff and external visitors alike. This was an invaluable experience, and we are incredibly proud of how well they represented themselves and the school. There are taster events upcoming at Plumpton and Bexhill. Please do book your child in.

Phoenix Event – Monday, 7th July

We are very much looking forward to our **Phoenix celebration event** on **Monday**. This promises to be a vibrant showcase of student achievement and creativity across the school. We warmly invite parents and family members to attend from **3:15pm**, with the event due to conclude by **6:15pm**. We hope to see many members of our school community there to mark this special occasion. Don't forget to bring cash for the stalls and the Friend's raffle!

Sports Day – Thursday, 10th July

Our annual **Sports Day** will take place on **Thursday next week**. This is a key event in the school calendar, encouraging participation, teamwork, and school spirit. All students are expected to take part unless medically unfit to do so. We anticipate a day filled with energy and enthusiasm and encourage all students to contribute to the success of the event.

As always, we are grateful for the continued support of our families and wider community. We look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming events and celebrating the achievements of our students together.

Mrs May



The Phoenix Festival will take place on Monday, 7th July. This will be a non-uniform day. Students are being asked to make a voluntary contribution of £1 towards the cost of the Festival. Please make your donation via ParentPay.

PHOENIX

We welcome you all to join us for our annual Music and Creative Arts Festival

FESTIVAL

7 JULY 2025

Willingdon School Field

3:15pm - 6:15pm

**Rock Bands
Musical Theatre
Choirs
Dancers
String Ensemble
Instrumental & vocal solos
Duets and trios
Staff Band**

We have many exciting stalls offering sweets, mocktails, party games and many other items. Most stalls will be cash only. Some stalls may have contactless payment.

If you are feeling hungry or need cooling down, there will be the external vans offering **hot food** and **ice creams**.
Cash only.



Willingdon
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

**Free Event
All Welcome**

Bring along a picnic blanket and deck chairs

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - TERM 6

SAVE THE DATE

PHOENIX FESTIVAL - Monday, 7th July

YEAR 10 PARENT EVENING - Wednesday, 9th July

SPORTS DAY - Thursday, 10th July

Activities Day - Monday, 21st July

INSET DAYS 2025-26

Wednesday, 3rd September 2025

Friday 3rd October 2025

Monday, 3rd November 2025

Monday, 5th January 2026

Thursday, 25th June 2026

EARLY SCHOOL CLOSURES

Tuesday 22nd July 2025

(staggered by year group from 12.20pm-12.40pm)



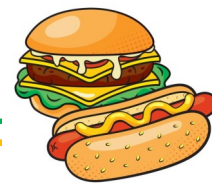
Please join us in congratulating this week's Students of the Week for their outstanding contributions to our school community. Students will be invited to a 'Treat with the Team' in recognition of their hard work.

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10
Ralph A 7ALE	Evie H 8CFR	Evie F 9GEL	Charlie T 10JHA
Logan B 7RHA	George C 8REL	Miles L 9ARA	Demi A-G 10MDU
Chloe C 7ABE	Shay H 8CFR	Daniella B-L 9AME	Alex C 10EOR
Evelynn G 7NWE	Lily-Rose B 8BMA	George K 9PHA	Zion M-H 10MJE
Bobby H 7ALE	Sailor H-R 8TST	Alfie A 9PHI	Darcy P 10MJE

WILLINGDON SPORTS DAY BBQ REMINDER

BBQ food and drink is available to purchase through ParentPay. If you would like your child to have a burger or hotdog or a milkshake or slushie, please complete the Google form, link below and make your **payment via ParentPay by Monday 7th July at 3pm.**

[Sports Day BBQ](#)



WILLINGDON SPORTS DAY FACE PAINT REMINDER

We would like the students to have the opportunity to develop team comradery in their coaching groups. We are going to be providing each coaching group with face paint which they will be able to apply during coaching time on this day.

The face paint we will be using is 'Snazaroo' www.snazaroo.com/uk/product/snazaroo-classic-face-paint if parents/carers wish to check the ingredients.

We will only allow students to be involved in face painting if the Google form below is complete giving parental permission. If the form is incomplete, no face paint will be allowed to be applied.

[Face Paint Disclaimer](#)

Please ensure the google form is completed by Wednesday 9th July.





Parent Governor Election

We have received two applications for the post of Parent Governor. Please read their statements below and vote for your preferred parent on the voting google form below.

Voting closes noon on Friday, 11th July.

Parent Governor Election July 2025

A paper Ballot will be held in Reception if you prefer to vote in person. One vote only per Parent/Carer.

Results will be announced in the Community Bulletin on Friday 11th July.

Alison Carr

As well as a mum to two pupils at the school, I am a Specialist Educational Psychologist. My specialism is to support school belonging and inclusion. I am also a qualified secondary school teacher and I previously taught both Science, and Health and Social Care. I believe in supporting every pupil, parent/carers, and staff member to feel valued, heard, safe, supported, understood, and fully accepted within the school community. Should I have the privilege to become a parent governor, my focus would be on wellbeing, inclusion, and flourishing for all.

James Martin

I have had the privilege of being a Parent School Governor at Willingdon for the past four years and I currently Chair the Finance Committee too.

I would love to continue my roles here supporting the SLT strive to give the best all-round education for every pupil, adding value to the Board from my wealth of experience here and professionally from my NHS finance and data background.

I have two sons at the school (Years 9 & 11) with a third due to start Willingdon in three years, so my vision and commitment to the school are very much long-term.

Student Leadership Updates

Check out our first podcast - [Click here](#)



visit our website to find out about our latest trips and events, music and promotions

<https://willingdonschool.org.uk/our-school/students-leadership/podcasts>





Summer Raffle

Prizes Include:

50p per
ticket

- £100 Cash
- EMSR Adventure Park - Entry for 4
- Jumpin Eastbourne - £20 Voucher
- Ordinary Climbers—Intro to Climbing Voucher
- Hobbycraft - Large Craft Jar x 2
- Polegate Equestrian - Voucher
- Tenpin—6 Free Games Bowling
- Taylors Sports Bar - Meal for 2
- Hand Blender donated by Tesco Eastbourne
- Drusillas—Entry for 2 x Children
- Buzz Active - Half price SUP hire
- Glenisters - Beautiful Bouquet of fresh cut flowers
- British Queen - Meal for 2
- Holly Blue - £30 Voucher
- Hailsham Pavilion—2 Tickets
- Urban Jump—£25 Voucher
- Skateworld—Entry for up to 4 people Including Skate hire
- Lite Bites—Breakfast for 2 people
- Lite Bites - £10 Voucher
- Tesco Hailsham -Snack food hamper
- Prosecco gift set x 2
- Rose Wine gift set
- Willingdon Cafe - Breakfast for 1
- Freedom Leisure Uckfield- Family Swim
- Bottle red wine - donated by Your Shop
- 3D Printed Dragon in egg
- Ladybird Beauty—Aromatherapy Facial
- Yankee Candle Gift Set
- Out of Bounds - Voucher
- Fishers Farm Park - 2 general admission
- Paradise Park - 2 Day park passes

Draw will take place online
at 5.30pm
8th July 2025!

*Tickets available
from student
support, at the
Phoenix Festival
and
Online!*

Scan me!



<https://go.eventgroovefundraising.com/willingdoncommunityschoolsummerraffle/Campaign/Details>



Head of Year

Mr Roche

Email - pastoral-7@willingdonschool.org.uk

Year 7

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the final weeks of the academic year, I would like to take a moment to share how incredibly pleased I am with our Year 7 students. They are finishing the year with great maturity and enthusiasm, and I continue to be impressed by their general behaviour, attitude to learning, and excellent attendance.

Once again, our attendance this week has averaged an outstanding 97%, a figure we always aspire to achieve. Thank you for your ongoing support in ensuring your children are in school, on time, and ready to learn every day. This consistency makes such a difference.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude for the support you have shown me as I've settled into my role as Head of Year 7. It has been a genuine pleasure getting to know your children and working alongside such a positive and engaged year group.

A big thank you must go to Mrs Naylor, Mrs Muller, and Miss Clark for their invaluable help, their guidance and knowledge of the cohort have been hugely appreciated. I am also delighted to welcome Miss Turner, who will be joining our pastoral team from next week and working closely with Year 7 going forward.

Looking ahead, we have several exciting events coming up:

- **Monday 7th July – Phoenix Festival**

A highlight of the school calendar! Students will be involved in activities throughout the day, and during Period 6 the whole school will gather to enjoy music, games, and food stalls. Parents are warmly invited to join us after school – your support is always greatly valued.

- **Thursday 10th July – Sports Day**

I'm particularly looking forward to seeing our talented Year 7 athletes in action. We are proud of their sporting abilities and the enthusiasm they bring to these events.

- **Monday 21st July – Activities Day**

A chance for students to enjoy a day of enrichment and celebration to mark the end of the year.

- **Tuesday 22nd July – Final Day of Term (Half Day)**

Please note that school will finish at lunchtime on this final day (*staggered by year group from 12.20pm-12.40pm*).

This week's winners of treats with the team were:

Ralph A 7ALE

Logan B 7RHA

Chloe C 7ABE

Evelynn G 7NWE

Bobby H 7ALE

The coaching group with the highest attendance were: 7EMC with an amazing 99.57%.

Thank you again for your continued support. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Kind regards,

Mr Roche & The Year 7 Team



The My Health, My School Survey 2024/25 - Years 7 & 8 only

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are writing to inform you that your child's class/year group will be completing the **My Health, My School Survey**, a survey created, developed and managed by the Health & Wellbeing Service (Leeds City Council). The survey asks children and young people questions about their health and wellbeing and about their school/education setting, in order to gather their honest views and opinions on these significant topics. This data can then be used to target specific interventions to improve areas of life for these children and young people. It can also be used to highlight where they are performing well.

The survey will be completed by pupils/students in class on individual computers and they will be supported by a member of school staff who can answer any questions they may have. To help your child answer some of the questions included in the survey, their teacher may also ask them to complete a **pupil diary** a week before completing the survey.

As the survey is **confidential and anonymous**, this means your child **will not be asked** to give their name, date of birth or address at any stage during the survey. This also means that it **will not be** possible for anybody, including any member of the school or Leeds City Council, to know which pupil gave any of the information.

How will the results be used?

Individual school results can be used by the school (schools will only have access to their own data), East Sussex School Health, East Sussex County Council and Leeds City Council. In addition, the survey may also be shared with organisations, such as the University of Leeds and Leeds Beckett University. Local authority wide data (an average of all schools in a particular local authority) may also be shared between these organisations, which does not link any individual school to the data.

Will my child's survey results be secure?

We will comply fully with all data protection legislation. This means we will keep your child's data safe and secure, now and in the future.

The East Sussex School Health Service can support your child with their health needs between the ages of 4 and 19yrs. If you need help, support or advice on a wide range of health and wellbeing issues, including emotional health and wellbeing, sleep, healthy lifestyles or wetting and soiling, please contact them on:

School Health One Point telephone: 0300 123 4062

School Health One Point email: kentchft.esschoolhealthservice@nhs.net

If you **do not** want your child to take part in this survey then please email me - gstables@willingdonschool.org.uk.

If you have any further questions about the survey please visit <https://www.myhealthmyschoolsurvey.org.uk/pages/parents>

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Stables

Head of Department - RSHE



Head of Year
Mr Keast / Ms Johnson

Email - pastoral-8@willingdonschool.org.uk

Year 8

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the academic year, I wanted to take a moment to share how proud we are of our Year 8 students. They have continued to conduct themselves with positivity and maturity, and it's been a real pleasure to see them finishing the year on such a high note. Their behaviour and attendance have been really, really good, and we'd love to see this momentum carry through to the final day.

Throughout the term, we've seen Year 8 truly embody our school values. They've shown ambition in their learning, respect and courtesy towards staff and peers, and compassion in the way they support one another. We've also been impressed by their honesty and the thoughtful way they engage with the challenges and opportunities presented to them. It's clear that these values are not just words, but qualities our students are genuinely embracing.

Looking ahead, we have a couple of exciting events taking place next week. On Monday, we'll be celebrating our Phoenix Festival. Students are invited to attend in non-school uniform for a small donation, and we're looking forward to a fantastic day of activities and community spirit. Then, on Thursday, we'll hold our annual Sports Day. Year 8 will be competing in a range of events, and we're excited to see their energy, enthusiasm, and team spirit on display.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. It makes a real difference, and we're incredibly grateful to work in such strong partnership with our families.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Warm regards,

Mr Keast & the Year 8 Team



Head of Year
Mr Gordon

Email - pastoral-9@willingdonschool.org.uk

Year 9

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been another positive week for Year 9, I'm pleased to report that attendance across the year group is improving. Thank you for your continued support in encouraging your child to be in school and on time each day — consistent attendance really does make a difference to their progress and confidence.

This week's lesson walk-throughs have been very encouraging. I've seen students demonstrating great ambition, focus, and engagement across a range of subjects. It's clear that many are taking pride in their learning and showing a real readiness for the step up to Year 10 and the next step on their journey at Willingdon.

Looking ahead to next week, we have our annual school Sports Day on Thursday, 10th July. Coaching groups are now forming their Sports Day teams in preparation for both the athletics and inter-house events, please encourage your child to get involved, represent their coaching group and houses.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch pastoral-9@willingdonschool.org.uk

Kind regards,

Mr Gordon & the Year 9 Team

Blast off - How to Become Totally Employable



Year 9 students recently took part in a special assembly led by BBC presenter and motivational speaker John Young, focusing on the theme of becoming “Totally Employable.”

John brought his energy and experience as a journalist into the session, sharing practical tips and real-world advice to help students begin thinking about the key skills employers value — such as communication, teamwork, resilience, and a positive attitude.

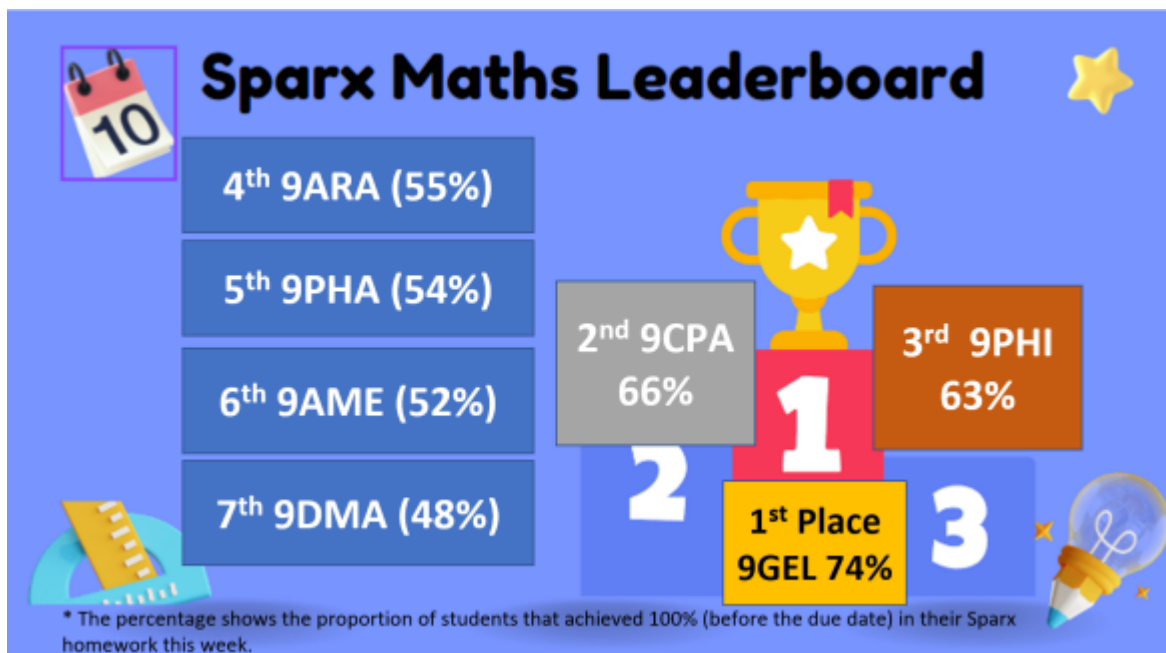
The assembly was designed to inspire our students as they start to consider their work experience placements and future pathways and how they can build their own “employability toolkit.”

We encourage you to talk to your child about what they took away from the session — it was an exciting and valuable experience which I’m confident made a lasting impression.

Congratulations!



Congratulations to Will in 9ARA who has been representing the Norwich Academy Football Team earlier this week in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria. Will competed in the Mad Cup where he competed against teams from United States, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Nigeria, South Africa, Uzbekistan and Philippines. Will and his team narrowly missed out on the final after they lost on penalties to a team from Mexico.



Well done to 9GEL for winning the Sparx Maths Challenge this week and winning biscuits for the tutor group. 9GEL had the highest amount of students that achieved 100% for their Sparx Maths homework.



Head of Year
Mr Cain

Email - pastoral-10@willingdonschool.org.uk

Year 10

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another busy week, it's great to see how much we've ticked off the to-do list — but there's still plenty left to come in the final 12 days of term!

This week, Year 10 students wrapped up their mock exams and took part in their mock interview day on Thursday. The main hall was buzzing with energy (and a few nerves!) as students met with a wide range of employers. We had fantastic feedback about how well the majority presented themselves — confident, polite, and professionally dressed in their uniform. A huge thank you to all students for their commitment and cooperation; we hope they found the experience helpful and meaningful.

Looking ahead, next week is shaping up to be another packed one! Here's a quick overview of what is in store:

- **Monday:** Phoenix Festival (afternoon)
- **Wednesday:** Year 10 Parents' Evening 3.15pm – 6.15pm in school
- **Thursday:** Sports Day
- **Friday:** Bexhill College Taster Day

Lots still to look forward to — please keep an eye on emails and school communications for any updates or changes.

A polite reminder: Activity Day is on Monday 21st July. Staff running the trips/activities should have been or will be in touch soon with all the information you'll need, so watch this space.

As always, if you have any questions about the upcoming events or about Activity Day specifically, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the Year 10 Pastoral Team at pastoral-10@willingdonschool.org.uk.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

Mr Cain & the Year 10 Team



Year 10 & 11

Summer S and Keira L in Year 11 and Scarlett N in Year 10 attended the final event of the cheer competition season in Bournemouth recently.

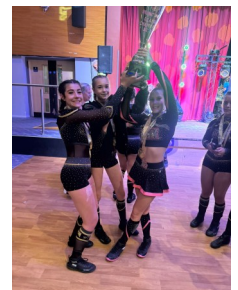
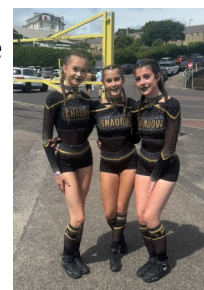
Their team, Shadow, not only won their division to become National Champions, but also took home the title of Grand Champions- with a score of 99.46!! An amazing achievement!

This season, all 3 girls have competed in 13 UK competitions up and down the country and 3 international events in the USA, winning every competition and remaining undefeated throughout.

They've secured multiple national, European, and world titles in the past 6 months

Their incredible commitment, determination, and work ethic have been nothing short of inspiring. This season's success is a true reflection of the dedication each athlete has shown from start to finish. These girls train tirelessly—week in, week out—sacrificing half terms, Easter breaks, weekends, and bank holidays.

Downtime is rare, but their passion for the sport drives them to push forward, always striving for excellence.





Head of Year
Mr Gordon

Email - pastoral-11@willingdonschool.org.uk

Year 11

Year 11 Prom – Friday 4th July at The Cavendish Hotel

Prom Schedule:

6:00pm onwards – Students can arrive at the venue and have photographs with friends and watch everyone arrive.

6:30pm–7:00pm – Mocktails served in reception of the hotel, with live entertainment from a magician.

7:00pm – Students will be seated and dinner is served, with the magician circulating tables as entertainment.

8:00pm – Speeches and prize draw.

8:30pm–11:59pm – Disco and time for students to have their complimentary professional photograph with the photographer who will be present for the whole evening. If students would like to purchase further photographs, this will be possible all evening.

If you are booking taxi's to collect your child, please can you arrange for them to be collect from 11.30pm.



Careers Page

Career of the Week



Carpenter

Day to day tasks:

- Depending on where you work, you could:
- Discuss plans and job instructions with clients or site managers.
- Cut and shape timber for floorboards, doors, skirting boards and window frames.
- Make and fit structures like staircases, door frames, roof timbers and partition walls.
- Assemble fitted and free-standing furniture.
- Install kitchens, cupboards and shelving.
- Build wooden supports called shuttering which holds concrete that has not dried yet in place.
- Fit interiors in shops, bars, restaurants, offices and public buildings.
- Construct stage sets for theatre, film and TV productions.

Carpenters and Joiners make and install wooden structures, fittings and furniture.

Routes into the industry

You can get into this job through:

College

You could take a college course like:

- Level 2 or 3 in Bench Joinery
- Level 2 or 3 Diploma in Site Carpentry
- T Level in On Site Construction

Apprenticeship

You could do a:

- Carpentry and Joinery Intermediate or Advanced Apprenticeship with a focus on Site Carpentry or Architectural Joinery.
- Wood Product Manufacturing Operative Intermediate Apprenticeship, which has a focus on furniture making.

You'll do on the job training and spend time at college or with a training provider.

Subjects

Four or Five **GCSEs** at grade 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English and Maths.

Salary*

£17,000 for a starter, rising to £38,000 for an experienced Carpenter. The average UK salary is £31,787.

Jobs

A 1.8% decline in Carpenter jobs, will result in 4,400 fewer jobs by 2027. In the same period, 50.5% of the workforce will retire, creating 12,300 job openings.

*In 2020 the average salary was £31,461, up 3.6% on 2019.

Annual pay estimates are largely unaffected by Covid-19.