



PARENT BULLETIN

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10th November 2023



My name is Miss Brown and I am Deputy Head of the English Department and Lead for Whole School Literacy. My primary focus is ensuring that literacy is at the very centre of the school's approach to teaching and learning, embedding a culture where reading, writing and oracy is recognised as an essential and valuable part of every student's education.

We as teachers and parents, must encourage students to recognise the importance of literacy as being fundamental to their development and academic success, increasing their future opportunities in post-secondary education and the workplace. Students must become critical thinkers to make informed choices and to enable the application of the literacy skills acquired at Willingdon to form a foundation for lifelong learning and adaptability in a rapidly changing world.

I have been teaching at Willingdon Community School for four years, and have previous experience across other schools in East Sussex. My passion for English has led me to recently complete my Masters in Education with a focus on children's engagement in reading for pleasure and exploring the barriers, challenges and promoting opportunities for positive reading habits in secondary schools. I take every opportunity to engage with young adult fiction and I am privileged to be part of the judging panel for the UKLA Book Awards this year.

Having lived around the world, I settled in Eastbourne to raise my family nearly twenty five years ago. In my free time I like to garden, read about classical history and have completed part of my RYA Day Skipper qualification. I am also a foster parent, providing a safe, calm and supportive home for young adults in our area.



**Have
you
seen
the
angels?**

**Free family fun, activities, crafts, carols,
Angel trails + more this Advent & Christmas!**

**This year, Eastbourne's churches, charities and groups have come
together to share the joy of the angels!**

Scan the QR code below or find us online to find a full list of events!



facebook.com/eastbourneangels

www.eastbourneangels.com

Supported by the Mayor of Eastbourne and Eastbourne BID





Design the official Willingdon Community School Christmas Card!

Open to *Year 7 & Year 8*. Theme of the card: *Willingdon and local area*.
Hand in your artwork to Art teachers or email to our
competition email address: competition@willingdonschool.org.uk

1st Prize winner - £20 voucher
Runners up (x3) - £10 voucher

Closing date: **Monday (Tutor time) 20th November**



Willingdon
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are delighted to announce the launch of Willingdon Community Schools Alumni Programme. Willingdon holds community central to its ethos; our new Alumni Programme will build and connect an amazing and diverse community of former students. We want to hear about your successes post-Willingdon, with the aim of inspiring our current students and igniting their ambition.

The first part of this programme will involve creating a new website with profiles about our Alumni community. Building from this, we also wish to create the opportunity for our alumni to come in and talk to our current students about their own post-16 and career experiences. If you would like to be a part of this new and exciting initiative, please click and fill in the below form as an expression of interest. We look forward to hearing from you!

[Alumni Form](#)

Many thanks,
The Learning Mentor Team



Visits to the school during the school day

We would like to open our doors again to parents who would like to meet with a senior leader and have a tour with the school in action during the day. The times these will take place are listed below.



Friday, 17th November 8.30am-10am

Thursday, 23rd November 2023 8.30am-10am

Please click on the below link to book onto one of these tours. We will also see your child's class if you wish or we can avoid it if you would prefer! This is a great way of seeing the school, warts and all! The parent tours we did last year were very successful and we appreciated the parent feedback and observations made.

[Visits to the school during the school day - Term 2 2023](#)

Dear Parents and Carers,

Do you have any unwanted fabric you could donate to us for our Year 9 art project, The Turner Prize.

We are making our creations in our house colours so, blue, red, green or yellow would be wonderful, it can be patterned or plain.

Please leave donations in reception for Mrs Griffith to collect.

Many thanks,

Mrs Griffith



Reflect • Motivate • Support

[Click here](#)



Big shout out to the following students who had the greatest **Bedrock achievement** this month:

7AM2 - Lola M & Harrison P
7AT2 - George I
8AB2 - George D

Top 3 English classes for October:

7AT2
9AB2
7AM2





Bedrock Learning

Upcoming Event: Our first Bedrock Parents' Information Evening - 21st November, 7pm

Hello ,

As part of our mission to support our schools in achieving excellent implementation of Bedrock, we are putting on our very first Bedrock Parents' Information Evening.

We know that a child's education is not just about school, and that support from people at home can make a huge difference to their progress.

We see first-hand how valuable parental engagement with Bedrock can be for achieving your school's literacy goals, but we also understand that it can be difficult for schools to get parents/carers on board.

That's why we're putting on our parents' evening event - so that parents/carers can get to know Bedrock a little more, and understand why it's so important for their child.

We will be discussing;

- What Bedrock is
- Why it's important for your child to use Bedrock

How you can support them in their learning

A recording of this evening session will be available after the live event and will be emailed to all those who registered.

Join us:

Tuesday 21st November at 7pm

[Click here](#)

Free 
Admission

bring family and friend!

Christmas *Fair*

Date- 13th of December
in the main hall !

- Snowball sponge throwing at your favourite teachers!
- Shop for Unique Gifts 
- Live music
- Delicious Treats
- Hot chocolate
- Fun Games & Activities
- Guess how many sweets in the jar

Time: 4pm-
6pm

Lewes college, Mount
field Road, Lewes,
East Sussex, BN7 2XH

instagram-
[@escg.lewes.christmas](https://www.instagram.com/escg.lewes.christmas)



As part of Lewes Open Events, East Sussex College Lewes are hosting a Christmas Fair on Wednesday 13th December, 4pm - 6pm, and would like to invite any students that are considering going to Lewes in the coming years.

It is a great chance for students to experience more of the college and the type of events that they host. The college have said that they would also be happy to show students around a bit more if they would like.

All profits are being donated to the charity Raystede.



Holiday activities and food (HAF) - bookings now open for December holidays

You can find out what's available and book a place on the [HAF booking website](#).

Get ready for the winter holiday. The Government's Holiday activities and food (HAF) programme funds a range of exciting activities for young people. The activity sessions are free to children who receive benefits-related free school meals. Parents can check if they qualify by reading the East Sussex County Council website [Free school meals page](#).

Sessions are free to those on benefit-related free school meals. There is a great range of clubs spread across multiple venues in East Sussex. They all offer a free healthy meal, engaging activities and a safe space to make new friends. There are clubs offering sport, animation, theatre, art and crafts, forest school, music, and lots more.

You will find more information about the programme on the ESCC [Holiday Food and Fun webpage](#).

A smaller number of places will also be available to children and young people in the groups below:

- Referred to Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
- Disabled or special educational needs, including those with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)
- Young Carers
- Have a disabled sibling
- Referred to the School Mental Health Teams
- Gypsy, Roma & Traveller
- Children in Need (CiN), children on a Child Protection Plan (CP) and Looked After Children (LAC)
- LGBTQ+
- Refugees

Best regards

The HAF team



East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service

THIS WEEK



A great winning performance from the Year 8 Netball Squad this week! Fantastic play from all, particularly those who played out of position!

Year 11

REMINDER

COLLEGE APPLICATIONS NEED TO BE IN BY 1ST DECEMBER

Information on how to choose a course and apply for a college placement is again attached to this email for your convenience.