



# PARENT BULLETIN

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17th November 2023



My name is Mr Cain and I am Associate Assistant Head and Head of Year 8 leading on Rewards and Enrichment Activities within the school.

In my role, my main aims are to ensure that the students' positive behaviours are recognised, celebrated and rewarded and to ensure engaging and enriching extra-curricular opportunities are offered to students that do not just support them academically but also holistically as well.

Providing positive affirmation to students for their positive contributions and behaviours supports in creating a positive culture and ethos across the school. Students are more likely to be motivated to achieve, have a greater self-esteem and therefore flourish within their environments, at home, at school and in the wider community. Achieving this consistently across the school, the students will be able to make positive contributions socially, as well as good progress academically.

As well as rewarding students, a passion of mine is providing students with extra-curricular activities and opportunities to further explore their own passions and interests. From onsite activities and clubs, fixtures against other schools, engaging with live performances to residential trips, our school enrichment programme is aimed at boosting student's confidence, encouraging them to interact socially, at times across year groups, and provide new skills away from their academic studies. Broadening our current offer to students to engage with locally based companies as well as expanding on further international residential are two key priorities.

As a keen sportsman, I enjoy spending my time either playing or spectating sport. Spending time with my family is also important to me, witnessing my son grow and develop. He begins primary school in September 2024, more exciting times ahead!

## DRAGON'S DEN– PARENTS NEEDED TO SUPPORT!

On the 5<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm-7pm, we are holding a Dragon's Den meeting for staff to come and bid to the Friends on how they wish to spend the money raised. We are looking for 7-10 parents to be part of the panel who will support our Chair for the Friends with the decision making. If you are interested in being involved, please email [agwilliam@willingdonschool.org.uk](mailto:agwilliam@willingdonschool.org.uk)

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## ILLUMINATE FIREWORKS



Thank you to the Friends and particularly Rosie and Suzy who led a fantastic fireworks event at the school last Friday. It was wonderful to see many Year 7 parents and children as well as students from years gone by. We are already talking about next year!

Another plea to parents that we want to grow the Friends of Willingdon but we can only do that with more support from our parent body. There seems to be a reluctance to join and we are keen to explore why this is felt from parents? Please do contact Rosie on [friends@willingdonschool.org.uk](mailto:friends@willingdonschool.org.uk) to give us feedback on how we can engage our parent community more. We are not expecting weekly commitments or bake sales every day. We have 3-4 big events a year that we work towards and a rotation of parent support at just one event would be enough! Please do help us keep this amazing group afloat. Our school and our community need this.

Best wishes  
Mrs May



## REPORTS

Dear Parents/Carers

Year 7 reports were printed and handed out during tutor time on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November. We hope that you have found these useful and request any feedback on these be done via our Google form <https://forms.gle/u513zfDvXVq9iPS47>. If your child was absent on this day, or has not had their report, please ask them to request this from their tutor in the first instance.

Year 10 reports will be emailed home next week in time for the Parents' Evening on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

Year 11 reports will be issued on week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> December, along with recent mock results, in time for the Year 11 Parents' Evening on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

Year 8 and Year 9 reports will be issued week commencing 11<sup>th</sup> December.

Many Thanks

Mr Dubas-Fisher

## ENRICHMENT CLUBS

**Basketball on Monday 27th November - the Sports Hall is now available on this date and so Basketball is no longer cancelled.**

**Gardening Club after school on Thursdays is now cancelled until February due to time of year and weather conditions.**

**NEW ENRICHMENT CLUB COMMENCING WEDNESDAY 22ND NOVEMBER**

**AMONG US - SC5 3pm-4pm with Miss Timms**

In this club, gamers will be playing the interactive and fun game 'Among us'. Students are encouraged to interact, discuss, play and hang out together. Join us as we play, complete tasks and uncover the imposter among us. This is meant to be a relaxing environment where students can interact with one another and gain valuable social skills while sharing a common interest. Phones are necessary and all games will be monitored closely

# PEARSON NATIONAL TEACHING AWARDS



Could it be our community celebrating the Pearson National Teaching Awards on BBC One's The One Show next year? It is FREE to enter and entries for 2024 are now open. Nominate your school or teachers.

Don't forget to watch this year's awards live on BBC One's The One Show from the 20th-24th November.

[The Pearson National Teaching Awards](#)

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



**PARENT FEEDBACK** - A parent who joined us on our parent tours this morning asked me to share this feedback with our community. She said ' It was wonderful to see students so engaged in their lessons. Students knew exactly what they needed to do and what was expected of them. They had pride in their work which was so neat and organised. Staff were very friendly and approachable. I was greatly impressed with the school's facilities. I hope more parents can take the opportunity to come and see the school. This is such a unique opportunity and kind of the school staff to give their time to reach out to us as parents. I urge other parents to come in and see the school during the day. I felt the leaders were open to discussion and transparent, prepared to take me to anywhere and everywhere I wished to go. They didn't hide anything and I felt pride in our local school as they do.' Year 7 parent 2023

### 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.

**This will take place on Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 8.30am-10am**

Please click on the below link to book. 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](#)

## Priority – Consultation on admission arrangements 2025-26



East Sussex County Council is consulting on the admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools.

The [consultation](#) will be live from 13 November 2023 to 15 January 2024. Please share with parents by adding this [link](#) to your school newsletter.

Voluntary aided schools and academies must determine their admission arrangements for 2025-26 by 28 February 2024.

Any changes will require consultation for at least six weeks between now and 31 January 2024. Consultations will be displayed on our website as we receive them.

For more information, please [email](#), or call 01273 481911.





# 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](mailto: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 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.

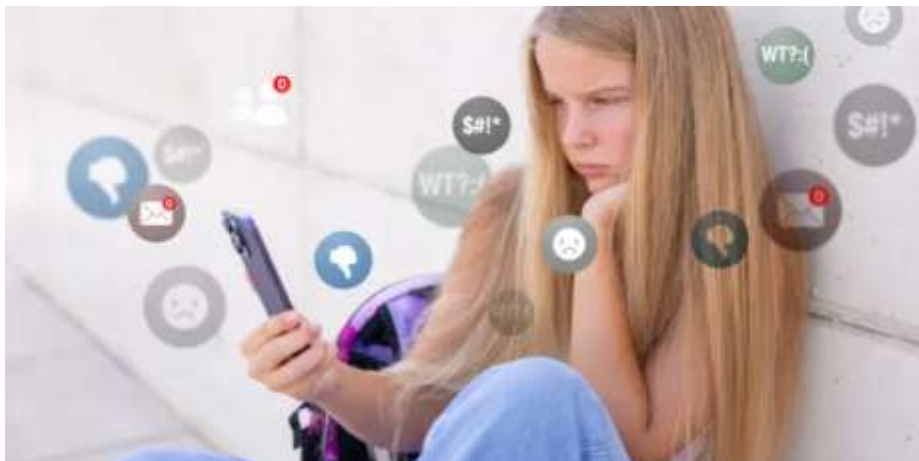
Please leave donations in reception for Mrs Griffith to collect.

Many thanks,

Mrs Griffith



*Reflect • Motivate • Support*



**Making a Noise**

[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.



# THIS WEEK



2 x fantastic results so far this week - our Year 8 Netball Team winning 7-1 and the Year 7 Football Team winning 7-0.

Well done to all of the students involved.



*The Year 7 netball squad have had an excellent two weeks with their netball league matches, winning both games! One with a win of 18-1. Despite netball being new to some of them, they have shown excellent commitment to training and real determination to improve! The more confident players have been excellent role models, demonstrating our personal excellence values. Well done to all involved!*

# THIS WEEK



48 of our students went to Glyndebourne to see Don Giovanni. It was an incredible opera and tale of wickedness and consequences. The staging and costumes were incredible, especially the giant cake and real flames when Don Giovanni was faced with his sins. Very dramatic indeed. No cameras were allowed so here we are on the coach!

## YEARS 10 & 11



Students in Year 10 and Year 11 study 'A Christmas Carol' in preparation for their GCSE English Literature exam.

The story is being brought to life at the Hailsham Pavilion and at Printers Playhouse over the first weekend of December. You may wish to take your child to see the play, to help consolidate their knowledge of the text.

# YEAR 11

YEAR 11 PARENTS PLEASE READ



## GCSE students in England to get Covid support

[Click here for further information](#)



**YEAR 11 CAREERS DROP IN  
with Mrs Rooney**

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November**  
**Lunch time in IT2**

Please come along if you would like help with:

- \* Personal statements
- \* College courses & applications
- \* Apprenticeships