

Parent Bulletin

office@willingdonschool.org.uk | 01323 485254



Willingdon
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

19th April 2024



I hope you all had a lovely Easter break.

Unfortunately, one of our students was involved in a road traffic accident yesterday. We send her and the family our best wishes and hope for a swift recovery.

I have attached our Parent Engagement Strategy for parents who wish to read this. We discussed the strategy at our full governors meeting. One governor rightly pointed out that parent engagement is not always about a 'popularity contest'. Engagement is sometimes about working together through difficult conversations to help a child attend school or for a child to accept and own their choice of behaviours. We continue to work hard, side by side with parents/carers and ensure that it never feels the school is at odds with anyone's parenting choices or style. This is always going to be a difficult road to navigate through but ultimately, we all have the same goal and that's ensuring every child is happy, safe and achieves their best.

Year 11 mock results have been given and whilst there is much success, there are pockets of work to still do. We hope the tips that our experienced parent governors have been sharing with our parent body are helpful. We know this is a really tough time for many parents and students. As children are maturing to young adults, it is often easier to avoid the confrontation and keep the peace. However, our children need us more than ever to be the parents. We need to ensure there are boundaries and structure in place to allow our children to thrive. It is essential that children are working to their revision schedules, completing at least two hours of homework/revision a night alongside some top up revision at some point during the weekend. We have talked to the Year 11 students about having pride in everything they do. They have been in education since the age of four and we want them to have achieved their potential. We are so lucky that teachers are giving up weekends, holidays and after schools to offer the cohort extra intervention. The staff do go the extra mile for our students and I and we are very grateful and appreciative of this.

We said goodbye to Mrs Turpin from the English department at the end of last term. Mrs Oram, an English teacher will be joining us in Term 6. We also said goodbye to Mr Craggs, an ex student who had joined us as a Learning Mentor. It was lovely that his parting words to me were 'I may be back in six weeks!' We will shortly be recruiting more Learning Mentors and Learning Support Professionals for our next academic year. These adults are so important in our school community and we are very lucky to attract such a strong field to both roles.

Well done to all of our students on a successful Term 4. We are so lucky to have incredible young people that demonstrate personal excellence in all that they do. It was lovely to be part of a school trip to Belgium recently. One student who was lagging behind said to me, Mrs May, I just need to take a minute to reflect by myself and thank the soldiers for all that they have done for us. Another student was patting the arm of another in comfort when he had temporarily lost his wallet. They demonstrate courage, kindness and goodness in so much that they do. I'm immensely proud of them and I thank you for choosing us to further nurture and support them in their journey to adulthood.

Take care and have a great weekend.

Mrs May

Headteacher



Willingdon

COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers,

Parent Forum

We are writing to invite you to our second Parent Forum this academic year. These forums are a fantastic way to keep you updated with our school improvement plan and national educational policy.

Wednesday, 24th April 2024

6pm – 7pm - By Zoom

- 1. Teaching & Learning**
- 2. Safeguarding**

Please be reminded that these forums are not an occasion to discuss individual students. Please refer any individual issues to your child's Tutor or Head of Year.

If you would like to attend the above Zoom Parent Forum, please complete the below google form and a zoom code will be emailed to you.


Parent Forum 3 - Wednesday, 24th April 2024

If you are unable to attend this forum, we will place any relevant powerpoint slides on the school website for you to view.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs E May
Headteacher

Calling all our Year 9 and 10 students - have you got what it takes to win the 2024 Bake Off



PLUMPTON COLLEGE

Olympic themed

BAKE OFF

Building from our first successful Plumpton Bake Off last year, we are excited to launch the 2024 Bake Off for Food Tech students with a topical **Olympics theme**.

Year 9 and 10 students are to **pair up** and **submit their recipe** and accompanying drawing or photo.

Finalists will be invited to join us at our **Open Day & Spring Fair** on **Saturday 11th May** to create their masterpieces using our state of the art training kitchen facilities and be judged by some very special bakers!

TIMELINE

Submit Recipe By
Friday 19th April 2024

Shortlist Announcement
Tuesday 30th April 2024

Final - Open Day & Spring Fair
Saturday 11th May 2024

Email submissions to schoolsliaison@plumpton.ac.uk by Friday 19th April 2024



UNIFORM SWAP SHOP

Donations Welcomed

If you have items of uniform which your child has outgrown, we would be very grateful for any donations.

Items are free if swapping.

Swapped items must be clean and in good condition. No zips or buttons missing and no stains.

Should your child require any items, please get in touch. We try to have a stall up at all events, including parents evenings so do come and visit us. We do not have all sizes but please email if you have any questions.

uniformswap@willingdonschool.org.uk

Purchase swap Shop items for the prices below.

	Blazer	Coat	Skirt	Trousers	PE Tee	PE Jumper	Zip PE Top
Swap Price	£15.00	£10.00	£5.00	£3.00	£5.00	£7.00	£7.00

ENRICHMENT CLUB INFORMATION

Please see attached to this email the Enrichment Club list for Term 5.

KS3 Mindfulness Intervention - Tuesday Tutor INT 1

Please remind students that Mindfulness will not take place during exam times. Students can see information on this on the door of INT 1.

Thank you for your kind contributions to the school fund at the end of Term 4. We arranged a **School Spirit Event** to celebrate the school and build some competition between our Houses, Friston, Wilmington, Pevensey and Cuckmere. We also planned to run some activity sessions for the Year 7s on the last morning of term. The weather moved everyone inside so hopefully we can recreate some of the outdoor fun later on in the year. Thank you to the tutor groups who made bunting for the Year 7 event, and to the staff and students for giving up their time. With the non-uniform contributions we raised **£562.25** which will be invested directly back in to school projects for every student.

ENRICHMENT CLUB INFORMATION

Please see attached to this email the Enrichment Club list for Term 5.

KS3 Mindfulness Intervention - Tuesday Tutor INT 1

Please remind students that Mindfulness will not take place during exam times. Students can see information on this on the door of INT 1.

Wednesday Wisdom



Sibling Influences



[Click here](#)

Social Media

X x.com/WillingdonCS

Facebook facebook.com/WillingdonCS

Instagram instagram.com/WillingdonCS



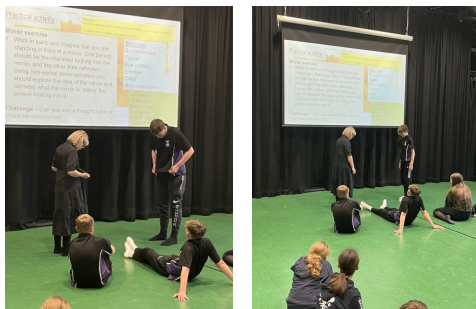
Thank you to our special guest from the Grand Hotel supporting our GCSE food and nutrition students! We welcome our experts from industry to support our students' career journeys.



Year Nine PE lesson. We are delighted to welcome some of our Chinese international students to our class today!



Music GCSE students are working on their first piece of composition.



Excellent mirroring activity in Drama. A hard skill to master and in front of an audience of peers.

This week our Chair of Governors visited a range of lessons to learn more about our students' daily experience of the curriculum. The quality of the lemon mousse made by our Y8s is definitely future MasterChef potential!



Social Media

X x.com/WillingdonCS

f facebook.com/WillingdonCS

ig instagram.com/WillingdonCS



Congratulations to Matthew W for receiving an offer from Worcester College at the University of Oxford. 🎉

Matthew has said, 'I am excited about studying music at Oxford, and I am looking forward to collaborating with a diverse and talented group of musicians. Making music with my friends, classmates, and teachers was the highlight of my time at Eastbourne College and is where I developed the skills to continue into higher education.'



Tuesday 23rd April 2023
Eastbourne Sports Park
9.30 – 11.00a.m

£9.70
per
student

Depart school at 9.10a.m for arrival for 9.30 -11.00a.m. visit.
Depart Eastbourne Sports Park at 11.10a.m. for arrival back
at school at 11.30a.m.

- Largest employability, skills and job seekers event in the area.
- 80+ employers providing interactive exhibits and guidance regarding qualifications, training and apprenticeships.
- Colleges, universities and other training providers to provide information and advice.
- Other organisations that offer personal development opportunities will also be present.
- **27 PLACES AVAILABLE FOR YEAR 9. LIVE IN PARENTPAY.**

Year 10

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Year 10 Work Experience / 13th – 17th May 2024

We are now less than a month away from the Year 10 work experience week. I do hope that your child is looking forward to spending a week with their employer.

I have received paperwork back from the large majority of the students, however there are still some outstanding. Please could you send these in with your child as soon as possible. These can be handed to their tutor, reception or directly to me in the careers office.

On Monday 22nd April, an email will be sent to the employers advising that they should have heard from the student that will be attending their setting. If your child has not yet made contact with them, please could you ask them to do so. Emails should be sent from personal email addresses only, as replies to school accounts will be blocked for safeguarding reasons. If your child would like support with contacting their placement during the school day, please ask them to come and see me.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me on 01323 485254 ext 281 or srooney@willingdonschool.org.uk

Best wishes,

Sarah Rooney

Careers Adviser

Year 10

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Year 10 Taster Days

I am writing to inform you of the Year 10 college taster days that will be taking place in June and July. These taster days will give your child the opportunity to attend a college for the day and have taster sessions on subjects that they may be interested in choosing post-16.

Students can select to attend **one** of the taster days which can be booked via the links below.

East Sussex College Group	
Lewes	Monday 17 th June
Hastings	Monday 24 th June
Eastbourne:	Monday 1 st July
	Please click on the following link to book: East Sussex College Taster Days
Plumpton College:	Tuesday 9 th July 2024
	Please click on the following link to book: Plumpton Taster Day
Bexhill College:	Friday 12 th July 2024
	Please click on the following link to book: Bexhill College Taster Day
Seaford Head Sixth Form:	Monday 24 th & Tuesday 25 th June
	To register interest in attending, please email ClareCallard@seafordhead.org

We kindly request that once a taster day has been selected you register this via Edulink, to advise you will be absent from school on that date.

There will be further opportunities throughout the year to attend open evenings with your child, to explore the colleges and meet with the staff. Details will be in the parent bulletin, and on social media, once we have further information.

If you have any questions, or would like to ask about a college that is not listed above, please do not hesitate to contact me on 01323 485254 ext 281 or email srooney@willingdonschool.org.uk.

Best wishes,

Sarah Rooney
Careers Adviser

Careers

Please see the below information from CareerDays regarding some dates where students can experience a career/work experience day. These are at a cost of £69 and take place online over the next couple of months. Students, who are aged 14-18, can register to join the online days through the website.

Students will learn all about their chosen career in the morning from applications to job prospects and then gain some online work experience to use in their applications in the afternoon.

The schedule is as follows:

- Psychology Career Day - Saturday 20th April 2024
- Business Career Day - Saturday 27th April 2024
- Architect Career Day - Saturday 4th May 2024
- Vet Career Day - Saturday 11th May 2024
- Law Career Day - Saturday 18th May 2024
- Performing Arts Career Day - Sunday 19th May 2024
- Computer Science Career Day - Saturday 25th May 2024
- Teaching Career Day - Saturday 1st June 2024
- Medicine Career Day - Saturday 22nd June 2024
- Midwifery Career Day - Saturday 21st September 2024
- Dentistry Career Day - Sunday 6th October 2024

Students can visit www.careerdays.co.uk to join a session and will receive a certificate at the end of the day confirming their work experience.

For additional information, please email The CareerDays Team on: info@careerdays.co.uk