



# PARENT BULLETIN

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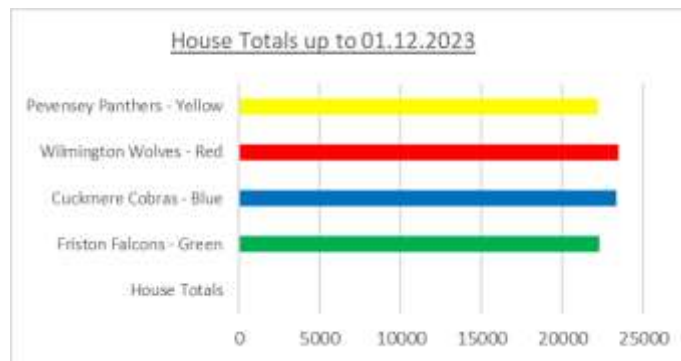


1st December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Update on the House System

We have enjoyed a fantastic start to the year and massive buy-in from the students, all of whom know their Houses and have been busy collecting achievement points towards their House Totals. These are shared with the students every term through their assemblies during house weeks. Students have been busy with their charity fundraising, working on wellbeing, collaborating on peer mentoring, running Inter-House quizzes and supporting assemblies.



The foodbank drive collected 55kg of food to donate which was gratefully received and will make a huge difference to many local families. Friston students were the overall highest contributors to that event. Well done Friston!! The bake sale for Children with Cancer raised £73.60 so thank you to Mrs Philibert-Lockyer and our students involved for arranging that! The Children in Need 'House Colour Children in Need' own clothes day raised a fabulous £349 from those students who took part. Our super baker Charlie Freeman raised another £175 for the foodbank through her and her Gran's spectacular cookery skills!

The Inter-House Quiz league has taken off brilliantly with Wilmington's 9MDU taking the Quiz Cup in Term 1 – will Pevensey, Cuckmere or Friston catch them this term? We will find out in 3 weeks' time, please continue to encourage your young people to keep watching Newsround!

The 'Thursday Rocks' Wellbeing sessions are being positively received as students practice their wellbeing techniques to support good mental health and a balanced day. Our Student Leaders have been available every Friday lunchtime for peer mentoring, helping younger students to navigate any concerns with friends or school in general. Please remind your young people of this support every week in G2 with the Year 11 Senior Student Leaders.

We are continuing to promote further student participation in the House Assemblies – thank you particularly to 9MEL for their support of the assemblies in Remembrance week. They chose and read poems for the whole year group and have hopefully inspired other students to take a leading role. We were very proud as always to support the poppy collections for the Eastbourne Branch of the Royal British Legion who collected their donations at the end of November.

To end this term in style, we are eagerly awaiting the Inter-House Christmas Classroom Door Decorating Contest and the Lip Sync Battle – the results of which will be announced in assemblies in the last week of term.

Our major event this term is, of course, the Christmas Fayre and Christmas Concert on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023. This will be full of Christmas Cheer with elves, stalls, music, drinks, mince pies, games for the young ones and a visit from Father Christmas himself. We will continue to support our local charities with the proceeds and look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible with doors opening for the Fayre from 16.30pm and the concert at 18.30pm.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mrs Collins and Mr Mortlock

House Leaders



Thank you to Mr Peckham, Humanities teacher, who leaves us this week. We wish him all the very best for the future.

**Sparx**  
*Special*

# 1 year of Sparx!

Here at Willingdon we have been using Sparx Maths for our Maths homework for a year. We have been so impressed by how our students are improving their Maths week on week.

The Sparx homework system has allowed all students to receive custom made tasks each week, targeted at their ability. It also provides consolidation of topics that they have studied throughout the year to keep them fresh.

The tasks are tailored so that students can achieve 100% each week. Support videos are available if students are unsure and we encourage all students to ask questions if they need help. We are understanding, if some weeks, this is just not possible, our expectation is that they spend the required time on their homework to complete the task. This is 30 minutes for Year 7, 8 and 9, 60 minutes for Year 10 and 11.

## IN NUMBERS

**248,880** Correct Answers since Sept

**5021** hours of Maths homework completed.

**8AM1** have achieved **100%** completion at **100%** every week since the start of term

**82** students have scored 100% on every homework since Sept.

*Special  
Shout  
Outs*



### Top 3 XP Points

1st Evie B (Y11) 23,266  
2nd Hana N (Y8) 17,813  
3rd Zac M (Y8) 12,467

### 100% Target

Evie M (Y7)  
Jaime W Y7

These students have worked exceptionally hard to fix the areas that they have found challenging.

**Enrichment: \* Chess Club (Weds Lunch Ma8) \* Card Sharks (Fri Lunch Ma1)**

## INFORMATION MESSAGE SENT TO OUR STUDENTS

Calling all leaders of the future! The elections are coming!

Do you want to make things better for young people in our community? Do you want to make a difference? Do you want to part of decision-making? Have your say and have people listen as part of the East Sussex Youth Cabinet.



Willingdon School has a really strong history of candidates for the Youth Cabinet. The East Sussex Youth Cabinet is a group of young people who are elected by and represent their local area and the voice of young people in their school, college or youth voice group.

The Youth Council also help the council, and its partners, like the NHS, to make changes that will improve the lives of young children and young people and the community.

ANYONE aged 11-16 can stand in the Youth Cabinet election.

Please see the posters in school, scan the QR code, email [icollins@willingdonschool.org.uk](mailto:icollins@willingdonschool.org.uk) or see the website <https://willingdonschool.org.uk/community/east-sussex-youth-cabinet-esyc> for more information.

Kind regards

Mrs Collins

*Head of Department for Geography, RSHE and Ethics & Religion*

## Willingdon Alumni

Dear all,

We are just giving an update on the wonderful alumni programme which has been going extremely well. We have had over 50 former Willingdon students who have signed up to the alumni programme already. However, we would love to get more former Willingdon students involved and our aim is to have over 100 signed up before Christmas. The first part of this programme will involve creating a new website page 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.

So, if you're a former Willingdon student, whether that be a parent or a sibling of a current student, or whether you left 1 year ago or 25 years ago, we would love to get you involved in our alumni programme so that you can help to inspire the next generation. If you would like to be part of this new and exciting initiative, then please fill in this [Alumni Form](#).

Many thanks,

Willingdon Alumni Team





We're regularly moved by the generosity, compassion and thoughtfulness of people in our community and that was certainly the case this week when 14-year-old Charlie Freeman arrived with £175 worth of food donations. She had bought the food with money raised at a bake sale of cookies, cupcakes and other treats she organised at Willingdon. She presented the food to our Willingdon Trees Community Centre satellite leader, Karen Walker. Thank you so much Emma!

### **Keeping warm during PE lessons**

If your child feels the cold during their PE lessons, please see the list of items that can be added to their kit as extra warmth:

- Plain black base layer to be worn underneath PE t- shirt/ jumper.
- Gloves
- Beanie hat
- Football socks
- WCS PE sweatshirt
- WCS PE waterproof jacket
- WCS PE zip jacket

Thank you,

Team PE

We will be serving our school Christmas Dinner on Friday 8th December. Payment for this can be made on ParentPay from Tuesday, 28th November.



Tickets on  
ParentPay

# Christmas

• Concert & Fayre •

Tuesday **12<sup>th</sup> of December**  
**4.30PM to 8.30PM**

The fayre part is free for all. If you wish to attend the concert at 6.30pm, the tickets are as follows:

**Adults: £5** (each ticket comes with raffle tickets) **Under 16: £3** **Toddlers on laps: FREE**

There will also be an interval with a bar for the adults and treats for the children.

A celebration of the wonderful musicians and performers we have at Willingdon.

From soloists to large ensembles; The String Ensemble to a High School Musical Teaser.

We have Christmas magic and cool bands, all presented by our Year 11 music students.

This year the student leadership team are organising the Christmas Fayre to fall before the concert.

You can come and shop for Christmas,  
buy refreshments and immerse yourselves in the jolly Christmas spirit before the concert.



**Willingdon**  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

**Tickets available for purchase on ParentPay now!**



# FLAG FOOTBALL (MULTI-SPORTS) Hellingly Hound Dogs



“Flag” is a five a side, non-contact invasion game - with key skills of throwing, catching, and evasiveness that transfer to most sports! It also has the backing of the **NFL**, and will make its Olympic debut at the **2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games (and yes there are GB teams!!!)**



**Summer** training at Lower Horsebridge Recreation Ground  
**Bowl season** March to September (*South of England competitive tournaments*)

**Winter** training at **Willingdon Community College**

email [hellinglyhounddogs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:hellinglyhounddogs@hotmail.co.uk) for details and dates (times 7-8.15pm for U11, 7.45, 9pm for U14/16/adults on Weds evenings) and to confirm places at training – first 3 sessions free! (boys, girls, inclusive)

**U11 – Years 3, 4, 5, 6 – WINTER TRAINING = BASKETBALL, HANDBALL,  
FLAG FOOTBALL, DODGEBALL**

**U14 – Years 7, 8, 9**

**U17 – Years 10, 11, 12**

**ADULT – 16+**



*Reflect • Motivate • Support*



*Family games*

[Click here](#)

# THIS WEEK



Well done to Dylan and Toby—Year 7, who are both super proud to have been selected for East Sussex Schools FA. They represented the school on Saturday 25th November in their first match against West Sussex.

0-0 result, but amazing football by all and a clean sheet for Dylan as Goal Keeper.

The next match is on 16/12 against North Sussex. Good luck to you both!



On Monday, students in Years 10 and 11 heard from one of Willingdon's alumni, Ben Shoesmith. Ben left Willingdon in 2019 and kindly offered to come in to give a talk on his career path via college and an apprenticeship with Virgin Media. Ben has many accolades including Future Careers Apprentice of the Year 2023 and joining Rishi Sunak on Business Connect to discuss future apprenticeship opportunities.

# YEAR 11



The Year 11 Parents' Evening is on Thursday 7th December. This is the best opportunity to discuss your child's mock exam results, progress, concerns and offer ideas on how we support, leading up to the summer exams. Bookings can be made on Edulink for an in person meeting or an online appointment. Please see our website for further information

<https://willingdonschool.org.uk/key-information/our-letters>