



Dear Parents/Carers and Students

WGS Newsletter (13) 15th November 2021

Additional Jubilee Holiday 2022 - Tuesday 4th January

Every school nationally has been asked to identify a date next year for an additional day's holiday to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We are planning to take this day on Tuesday 4th January. We have chosen this date because:

- Many people welcome some quiet time after the New Year
- this date matches INSET days at many of our feeder primary schools, so will work well for families with children in two schools
- it is well before any exam leave starts, so all students benefit
- it is before the 7th February date when exam boards plan to tell schools about arrangements for summer GCSE and A Level exams, so we know we will not clash with any (as yet announced) plans.

Parent Governor Election

We are delighted to announce that Adam Nickson will join the Wood Green School Governing Body as a Parent Governor, following our recent request for nominations for this role. I would like to thank Adam for putting himself forward; he will be an excellent addition to our governing body.

Witney Town Remembrance Day Service – Sunday 14th November 2021 (Mrs Enright)

Our students represented the school brilliantly on Sunday morning at the Witney Remembrance Service. Year 8 house governors Evvie and Jacob laid a wreath with Eidrienne, one of our head students. Nadia, also head student, announced the wreaths along with her counterparts from Henry Box School. Well done to all who took part.

PTA Race Night – Friday 19th November 2021

The PTA are well over halfway on their £50k challenge and after the successful refurbishment of the library, they are now focusing on improvements to the main hall to benefit all students. They are planning to bring us some fantastic events this year.

The first of these is a Race Night this Friday 19th November from 7pm. The feedback from the last one was excellent so if you fancy a good night out and want to come and support the school, please go onto ParentPay and book your tickets.

Tickets include dinner (chicken or veggie curry, rice and all the sides) and **costs £12**.

Drama

We have had to make significant changes to the drama performances planned for December. The continuing number of students self-isolating was so challenging and there was a real risk of needing to cancel a performance last minute under the original plan. We were also concerned that not every parent would be able to get a ticket with reduced seating in the hall. Therefore drama has moved to recording virtual performances that are not at risk of cancellation and guarantees that everyone can see them. We very much aim to bounce back with a large live production as soon as possible, hopefully 2022.

Music – Christmas Concert (Tuesday 14th December 2021)

Currently, we can continue to prepare for a version of our live Christmas concert as this can take place in the Sports Hall, which allows for a larger audience, and the event is less susceptible to absence. However, we are making plans to adapt the usual format in order to make the event Covid-safer, for example by running two shorter concerts in one evening. We will confirm arrangements and announce how to obtain a ticket in the very near future. Keep the 14th December free for this fantastic festive feast of music.



Sport News (PE Department)

Hockey: We have great numbers for Senior hockey on a Thursday with the addition of some boys joining us who are new to the game. They have some fixtures scheduled and we will report results once these have been played.

Football: We are hosting a year 8 girls 5 a side football tournament here this week. Numbers are good and we are entering 3 teams. Alongside this there is also a bench ball tournament for year 8 girls happening at the same time.

Rugby: We were lucky to have a joint Gloucester and Witney RFC coaching master class at Wood Green School on Tuesday 2nd November for years 7-10. Activities included developing communication skills, jacking, passing and tackling.



U14 rugby club numbers are also continuing to grow as is their interest. Despite a skilful and defensive effort against a large Burford side, we were beaten 4-1 last week.

Other results this term:

RUGBY FIXTURES AND RESULTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>OPPOSITION</u>	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>RESULT</u>
20/10	U19	MARLBOROUGH	AWAY	54-36
21/10	U15	MARLBOROUGH	HOME	28-14
9/11	U15	BURFORD	AWAY	5-19
10/11	U19	BURFORD	AWAY	14-7
11/11	U13	BURFORD	HOME	5-20

BASKETBALL FIXTURES AND RESULTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>OPPOSITION</u>	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>RESULT</u>
19/10	U19 BOYS	D'OVERBROECKS	HOME	29-54
4/11	U16 GIRLS	KING ALFRED'S	HOME	30-36

Festive Thursday – 16th December 2021

Wood Green will be getting into the festive spirit even further on Thursday 16th December. The Restaurant Staff will be making a Christmas Dinner for staff and students to enjoy on this date. Further details of what is on offer and the cost will be sent out to parents/carers in the next few weeks.

Students and staff can wear their Christmas Jumpers to school instead of their school jumper on that day too. If your child does not own a Christmas jumper then a Santa hat or some tinsel is fine. Although not one of our official non-uniform days, we have registered to take part in the Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) Festive Fundraising. If you are able to make a donation to this excellent cause, they will be most grateful. All donations are to be made via ParentPay.



Switch it off Fortnight (Eco Group)

Wood Green is taking part in **switch off fortnight**, the aim being to reduce our energy and save money over the next two weeks. I am definitely going to try this at home too!



Other news

We have had a busy week last week at Wood Green, with three different external reviews – Safeguarding, Health and Safety, and Finance – all falling on the same week. I am pleased to say that all three have gone well.

Yours sincerely

Mr R Shadbolt
Headteacher