



Dear Students, Parents and Carers

Newsletter (5) – 18th September 2020

Covid Arrangements

Having run for two weeks now, I am pleased to say that students have settled back into school very well. Behaviour is much improved as students get back into their lessons. Also, having run a complete two-week timetable now, we have identified some adjustments to our Villages Model and one-way system that will help to make the school even safer. We will explain these to students on Monday. The basic guidelines remain the same:

- Students will mostly learn in their villages
- No student should enter the village of another year group
- Students moving to lessons outside of their villages should wear masks unless they have asked for an exemption

Please do continue to reinforce the importance of us all following our guidelines; we have students who live with extremely vulnerable family members who are understandably nervous about coming to school. Seeing everyone cooperating with the guidance makes everyone feel able to be in school and keep their families safe.

Library – Update

We are so excited to have students safely borrowing books from the library again. Our top priority is making sure that every student is able to enjoy reading without worry. Because of this, we have introduced a few new ways of borrowing books this year.

For our year 7 and 8 students who participate in Library Lessons, we have designated shelves for each year group, allowing them to browse a selection of hand-picked titles. We have also started a Click and Deliver service for all year groups, in which students are able to email library@wgswitney.org.uk to request that a book be delivered to their tutor room. Our entire selection of books can be browsed through our online catalogue, Reading Cloud, but we are equally happy to give suggestions!

It is great to see so many students participating in these schemes, and we hope they lead to a fantastic year of reading.

Please also see our Library Website page, which we will be updating with all relevant details.

Library - Homework Club

Homework Club will be running for 1 hour after school on Mondays and Wednesdays, and to the following schedule:

WEEK A:

Monday - 7s and 8s

Wednesday - 9s and 12/13s

WEEK B:

Monday - 7s and 10s

Wednesday - 11s and 12/13s

Students can do their homework in a relaxed atmosphere and they can use the resources and computers available.

Reminder: Catering Top-ups

There are usually two ways to top up lunch accounts in school: either via ParentPay or by students bringing cash into school and putting it into a revaluation machine located near Finance. Due to the current circumstances, we are not able to handle cash in school. Therefore, the revaluation machine will not be available. All lunch accounts should be topped up in advance, via the online ParentPay system. If you have not yet activated this account, if this creates any problem or if you require any further assistance, then please contact the finance office on the following email.

financeoffice@wgsnitney.org.uk

Educake – New Homework and Revision System for Science

We are pleased to share information regarding a new online homework and assessment tool we are using in the Science department at Wood Green School that is aimed at improving independence and question practice for students.

The website is www.educake.co.uk and each student will soon have their own username and password to access questions that are specific to the course they are studying at school. Please [click here](#) for a letter from Educake that explains this further.

By using Educake, students are able to answer targeted homework questions from their teachers which are set regularly, as well as setting themselves questions on areas they wish to develop. This will help them to prepare for any end of unit assessments, GCSE exams or mock exams they may be doing in school.

When a student logs in they can see what homework and tests have been set by teachers, when the deadlines are and their scores and progress through the tests. Educake also produces a report of a student's strengths and areas for development - please help support your child by asking to see the report online and helping quiz the areas for development with their revision guide. Studies show that achievement is greatest when parents are involved in their child's learning.

We're encouraging parents to go through Educake with their child and see the benefits of the assessment tools.

Yours sincerely



Mr R Shadbolt
Headteacher