

Wadham School

A Church of England Community School "Life in all its fullness" John 10:10



Wednesday 28th June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Re: Headteacher's Update 26th June 2023

We're at the mid-point of our final term and with formal GCSE and A-Level exams now completed, we turn our attention to End-of Year Assessments in all other year groups, along with the other traditional activities of our Sports Day and Activities Week.

Year 10 students will finish the year with a week of Work Experience, one last push to submit all paperwork and consent forms should see record numbers out and engaged in local businesses!

Staff recruitment is secure for September and we're looking forward to welcoming new colleagues to the school this term as part of their induction process. It's a testament to the hard work of **everyone** in our community that has helped raise the profile and perception of Wadham School – during a time when all schools are struggling to recruit staff, it's encouraging that we're currently bucking this trend and have been successful with some high-quality appointments.

Without wanting to wish the summer holiday away, September is already looking good!

...which leads nicely into sharing that the new term will start for students on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September. Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> are INSET days.

Further details about our start of term arrangements will be published shortly.

Before then, we have 2 days of Industrial Action next week.

Strike action is taking place on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> and Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July.

A reminder that the school will be open for Year 10 and 12 only, with students in Years 7-9 completing online work at home, set through the Oak National Academy. Any student unable to access online learning can collect a work-pack from the Pastoral Hub at break and lunch from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

Full details of these arrangements can be found on our website and are linked below:

Partial Closure 05.07 and 07.07.23 – Letter to Parents: 432FA33AA62E348916454DE7A883D535.pdf (wadhamschool.co.uk)

Years 7-9 Home Learning 05.07 and 07.07.23: 73D2F692C8E7E2526F88E6AB90B84924.pdf (wadhamschool.co.uk)

We're doing our best to minimise the disruption strike action is causing, and with these two days completed, are looking forward to our Sports day on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July.

As ever, thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Burgas Headteacher





## **Top Achieving Students!**

Well done to everyone mentioned below. It's great to see new students being recognised for their hard work and fantastic achievements, as well as some surprise points for Year 11 - Mr Quick clearly wanting to give his tutees a final send off to clinch the top spot for all of them!

### Week Beginning 19<sup>th</sup> June

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
1	Grace L	Lewis T	George F	Louka G Sam S	11DTQ! (10 HP Each)
2	Bonnie C	Tyler C	Mollie B	Ellie-May T	Amber D
3	Ciara E	Olly M Oliver T	Lottie D	Phoebe B Matthew F Jack H	

## Dress Your Best Day – 21<sup>st</sup> June



Year 11 students and tutors came together a final time for Dress Your Best Day last Wednesday.

The event was pure class (thank you Year 11) from start to finish and this particular year group will always have a special place in my heart for embracing all the challenges they have had to cope with in recent years, not least the changes to Wadham School!

Year 11 - you've always met each challenge with a wry smile and determination to not be beaten – we will miss your spirit and love of life, and wish all of you the very best with your future endeavours. X



## Non-Uniform Day – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June

Student Ambassadors have prepared a range of activities this Friday to signify the end of Pride Month and celebrate Pride at Wadham School.

This begins with a non-uniform day for all students on Friday. For a minimum  $\pounds 1$  donation, students and staff are encouraged to wear bright colours. There will also be a bake sale at lunch, face painting, the creation of a permanent Pride Mural, and also "Pelt me with Pride" – a splat the teacher event using coloured powder rather than sponges.

All monies raised will go to support 2BU, a local charity.

### Mobile Phones and Headphones/Wireless Headphones – UPDATE

The week started with a real focus on keeping mobile phones and headphones safely tucked away in bags and pockets. Students have once again embraced this expectation and although we have had several confiscations, the numbers have been declining steadily as each day passes. Yesterday I didn't see a single headphone! This positive message has been shared with students in assemblies and they are to be congratulated for both the ease and the swiftness that they have adopted what was an existing practice and school rule. Well done!

### Wadham School Sports Day – Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July

We're excited to be launching our Sports Day with students tomorrow – they will be off timetable lesson 1 to meet in House Groups and complete the sign up sheets for the big day. Whether you're an established athlete or a dab hand with a rope, our day offers something for everyone, and we expect all students in Years 7-10 to participate in at least one event.

Sports Day will take place on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July, weather permitting! Our reserve day is Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July. Years 7-10 will be off timetable all day, supported by staff to complete a traditional range of track and field events, as well as more contemporary team based events such as 'Capture the Flag."

We've also organised an inflatable assault course, and an ice-cream van for some much needed cold treats throughout the day!

Mr Owen and his team have worked hard in planning what will be our last significant event of the year – and it looks to be a belter!

Students will be fully briefed beforehand, but as ever, they should prepare for spending time outdoors with sunscreen, a suitable hat, a water bottle, and to seek shade when not engaged in activities.

#### Keep Hydrated – Bring a Water Bottle!

Please can parents ensure that students bring a suitable water-bottle that can be refilled during the day. Water is available in the canteen before school and at break and lunch. We are looking to install a permanent water dispenser for September, but in the meantime, students need to be aware of the times when water is available, and fill-up accordingly.

Richard Burgas 28.06.23



# **FRIDAY 30TH JUNE**

Bake Sale DIY Mural Badge Sale Face Painting and Glitter 'Pelt me with Pride' (Splat the teacher) Wear the Rainbow Non-uniform Day

