



June 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back to the final half term to the academic year; a year which has been dominated by restrictions in the way that we all have had to work. We are all hoping that next academic year will go back to some sort of normality so that students are able to experience all Wood Green has to offer.

Congratulations to all our Year 11 and 13 students who have now completed all of their assessments for their GCSE and A Levels. We wish them all the best for the future.

Learning Hub

The Siobhan Dowd Trust is a small charity that works to give all young people the opportunity to experience, read and enjoy literature. They fund groups to help bring the joy of reading to children and teenagers and it is the money earned through royalties and foreign sales of Siobhan Dowd's books that allows the trust to support deserving projects.

Wood Green Academy has been granted £500 to spend on new books for our Learning Hub and the selection of books will be made by our very own students. Students who have engaged with the Learning Hub and enjoy reading have been selected to take part. Unfortunately, due to current restrictions, it has not been possible to give our students the opportunity to go to an independent book shop and make their choices in person, however, we are in the process of ordering online and soon our Learning Hub will be updated with a range of new, exciting fiction for all ages to enjoy. If any students want to request any books for our Learning Hub, they can contact us by emailing learninghub@woodgreenacademy.co.uk.

Smile for Joel

On Friday 25th June we will be having our annual Smile For Joel day. This will be a non-uniform day where students may bring £1 in order to wear their own clothes at school for the day. Students, however, must not be in ripped jeans, 'subtle' make-up is allowed, no dangly earrings or hoops, and no low-cut tops. Students that who have PE on this day, must have:

- Suitable trainers for sport (No Converse/Vans)
- Shorts/tracksuit bottoms for running around in.

Joel Richards was an ex-student who tragically lost his life along with his Uncle, Grandfather and 27 other British tourists in the Tunisian terrorist attack of 2015. Since then, his mum Suzy and brother Owen have set up a charity in their honour called the 'Smile For Joel' charity.

We all miss Joel greatly and try to take part in events each year to raise money. This year the event is called 'Jump for Joel' where members of the community will be jumping out of plane to raise money for this great cause. Miss Bruton will be carrying the flag for Wood Green and we wish her all the best.

You can support Miss Bruton in her jump by donating, using the link below to raise money for this fantastic charity.

Student Leadership Team

The student ambassadors have been working this half-term at creating a cleaner school site by encouraging proper disposal of rubbish and recycling. Year 11 Head Ambassador Nyindia McNaughton-Williamson, Shakespeare, designed the brand 'Bingulls' with the catch-phrase "bin your litter and the seagulls will disappear" and student ambassadors have been promoting this message to their forms to cut down on litter and the number of seagulls that are around the site at break and lunch times.

Looking ahead through this half-term, Student Ambassadors will be running fundraisers across each year group supporting various humanitarian charities. Year 7 will raise support for UNICEF's India Covid relief appeal. Year 8 will raise support for Charity: Water. Year 9 will raise support for Doctors Without Borders. Year 10 will raise support for World Vision on their Child Protection appeal. Lastly, Year 11 and 6th Form will raise support for the relief effort in Gaza

Home Testing

Just a reminder that the home testing kits are LFD (Lateral Flow Device) tests and have been designed to be used for those people who **DO NOT** have any COVID symptoms therefore if your child or anyone in the household has COVID symptoms they **MUST** get tested via a PCR (polymerase chain reaction) test and self-isolate. Your child will not be able to return to school until the self-isolation period is over (10 full days starting the day after the start of the symptoms) or the PCR test result is negative. **A negative LFD test will NOT mean that your child can return to school if they have had COVID-19 symptoms.**

The result of each test needs to be reported using the NHS Test & Trace self-report website: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>.

If a student has a positive test result, the student, their household and any support bubbles they are part of should self-isolate immediately in line with NHS Test and Trace guidance for 10 full days (starting the day after they took the test).

You should report your result to both NHS Test and Trace and the school.

You should order a confirmatory PCR test if you are testing at home.

If the result of the test is unclear (void) they will need to do another test.

Students/parents can inform the school of a positive result by emailing covidresults@woodgreenacademy.co.uk detailing the following:

- Name
- Date of Birth (DOB)
- Form Group of the student
- The type of test (Lateral flow or PCR)
- When they developed symptoms and what they were
- Date of the test
- When they were last in school
- Who the student spent time with as a close contact at break and lunch time
- If the student has any siblings at school

Enrichment programme

The Year 7 and 8 compulsory enrichment programme has been reviewed and updated for next year's Year 7 and 8 students. It will be split over two nights:

Year 7 – Period 6 every Monday 2:40pm – 3:40pm

Year 8 – Period 6 every Wednesday 2:40pm – 3:40pm

Over the two years the students will do 12 activities with Year 7 and 8 doing the same activities.

Proposed Activities for 2021-22 include Memory, Martial Arts, Leadership, Top Table, Street Dance and Word Detective. Six activities will be taking from the following for 2022-23: First Aid, Debating, Orienteering, Team building, Lingo, Yoga, Pilates, Tricks and Flicks and Oscars

Extra-curricular

It has been possible for some extra-curricular activity to resume, whilst still maintaining year group bubbles. Tuesday nights have seen approximately 150 Year 7 and 8 (on separate areas of the school site) students attending, to do two-week cycles of mixed football, mixed netball and the School Run.

This has been excellent for their Mental Health and Well Being - the department are now looking at how they can safely run sessions for older years also.

A broader extra-curricular programme should be in place for September providing the route out of COVID restrictions goes to plan.

Harley Pearson

Congratulations go out to Harley Pearson, Parks, who has become a Birmingham Hippodrome Young Advocate.

Harley applied to be a Young Advocate for the Birmingham Hippodrome back in January 2021. Over 300 young people from the ages of 14-22 registered an interest, with 150 applying to be part of the pilot project in March 2021. This was then shortlisted to 50, including Harley, who then took part in an online workshop, before having his place confirmed as 1 of the 16 Young Advocates. The Young Advocates will help shape the future of Birmingham Hippodrome's work with and for young people. They will also receive mentoring, training and skill development, building the group into future leaders of the performing arts industry.

The advocates got straight to work and have already completed a project - TedxYouth@Brum – which showcased Harley and his team as Young Advocates. The project gave the diverse group an opportunity to express their proposals for the future of young people in Birmingham.

Harley is understandably over the moon and has already been on an amazing journey in such a short space of time.

Sebastian Revan

Congratulations to former student, Sebastian Revan, Nightingale, who was a key member of the Aston Villa youth team that beat Liverpool 2-1 in the FA Youth Cup on Monday 24th May.

Year 10 Virtual Work Experience Week 14th -18th June 2021

For the first time ever Year 10 pupils will have the opportunity to take part in a Virtual Work Experience Week during the week of 14th-18th June via Speakers for Schools, who offer 1 to 5-day placements with hundreds of large and small companies nationwide.

Pupils will:

- Virtually Experience the world of work first-hand
- Gain an insight into different roles across a wide range of industries
- Find out about the various career paths available
- Build on their skills and improve their self-confidence

Already so far, pupils have gained placements with Sandwell Museum & Art Services, Wilmott Dixon Construction, GE Money, Hewlett Packard and the NHS (to name a few).

Mobile Phones

Once again please can I thank the vast majority of parents/carers that ensure that their child does not bring their mobile phone to school, however there have been a number of incidents in the last term that we have had to deal with, therefore for clarity, students in years 7 – 11 should not bring mobile phones onto the school site. If there is an emergency safeguarding reason for a student to have a mobile phone on them on the journey to and from school, that parents must request temporary permission from Mrs Bailey in writing with the understanding that the phone MUST be handed in to YL/SSM each day for the period of time that the emergency safeguarding reason is in place.

If students are found to be in possession of a mobile phone it will be confiscated and placed in the school safe. Mobile phones confiscated on a Monday or Tuesday will be held in the school safe until the end of the school week where they can only be collected by parents/carers between 3.00-3.30pm (in the event of school finishing early, phones due to be collected, can be picked up between 12.20 and 12.50pm.). Phones confiscated on a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday will be confiscated until the end of the following school week where they can only be collected by parents/carers between 3.00-3.30pm. If, however, the return of the mobile phone falls in a school holiday, the phone can be collected on the first day back to school by parents/carers between 4 - 4.30pm with the exception of the summer holiday, in which case the phone can be collected by parents/carers on the first Friday of the holidays between 3-3.30pm. **So, if a phone is confiscated after Tues 13th July it will not be returned until Friday 23rd July 2021 (between 3 – 3.30pm) as per our policy. EXCEPTIONS to this policy will not be made and ANY student that refuses to hand in their mobile phone when asked to, will be issued with a Permanent Exclusion. This sanction has been consistently applied where in the rare occasions this has happened in the past.**

End of Term

The details for the last day (Wednesday 21st July 2021) are below:

Year Group	Enter/Exit School Via	Arrive	Start	Finish
7	St. Paul's Rd	08:25	08:30	12:00
8	Wood Green Rd	08:35	08:40	12:10
9	Wood Green Rd	08:25	08:30	12:00
10	St. Paul's Rd	08:35	08:40	12:10
Year 12	St. Paul's Rd	08:45	08:50	11:20

Many thanks and stay safe



Mr J Topham
Headteacher