



April 2023

Dear parent/carers/student

This half term sees the start of GCSE and A Level examinations; we wish all our students every success in these external examinations and encourage them to continue with their preparation and revision. Good luck.

Safeguarding and Welfare reminder

We are having an increasing number of students using social platforms to be unpleasant to or about other students or sending inappropriate images to each other. We take such behaviour very seriously and urge parents to make sure that they are regularly checking their children's devices to protect them from such behaviour. Our website provides detailed information on on-line safety in the Parent section; we advise spending time reading this and the NSPCC site together with CEOP to enhance or compliment your own knowledge on keeping young people safe online.

Food vouchers and second-hand uniform

In a time where we are all experiencing higher prices and many of our families are balancing the cost of living, we would like to remind you that we have food vouchers available in school.

If your son/ daughter is in need of items of uniform, we have ample supplies in school which are all laundered and free to those who need any such items. We have a wide selection of coats available as well as PE kit, Sweatshirts, t-shirts and trousers.

If you need any of these items; please contact your son/ daughter's year team or email Mrs Wood.

Challenge Days

Most students have met the initial deadline for submitting I Can I Will Challenge Days options forms. If your child still hasn't returned their options yet, there is still time to do so. Students are being allocated activities based on these options and parents/carers will shortly be receiving a Parent Pay request for the initial payment for activities – second and third payment requests will be sent out at the end of April and the end of May. Along with this request will be a medical form that will need completing and submitting straight away.

We have endeavoured to keep prices to a minimum; however some costs are unavoidable. Prices for activities relate to all three days and include resources and external companies attending (where applicable) on Day 1 and Day 2. For example, 'There's Been a Murder!' has a Crime Scene Investigation company coming into school to set up a crime scene for the students to solve on Day 2. On Day 3, students are taken by coach to external venues (where applicable) - the cost of travel has risen significantly and the difference in price to hire a coach virtually doubles between now and the end of July. Team Building and Race Across the Forest students will go out for the day on Day 1 and Day 2.

Enrichment

Year 7 and 8 students have worked hard and engaged in four enrichment units so far this academic year. Throughout these units, students have further developed a range of I Can I Will characteristics and many students are asking their Enrichment teacher to sign their I Can I Will Passports.

Enrichment goes beyond the academic and compliments each child's curriculum. Experiences are intended to enhance each child's (physical/mental/social) health and well-being. We aim for activities to be enjoyable and broaden everyone's view of the world around them and give some direction regarding the opportunities they can pursue to enhance the overall quality of their life.

Our enrichment activities are led by specialist coaches (including former international sports people), many of whom are returning alumni.

Enrichment takes place at the following times:

Year 7 – Period 6 every Monday

Year 8 – Period 6 every Wednesday

Parents/carers are to be reminded that Enrichment is a compulsory activity that is highlighted on each student's timetable (Period 6). Medical appointments should be avoided at this time as they would be with any other timetabled lesson.

Run 4 Joel

Run 4 Joel will return once again to Sandwell Valley on Sunday 11th June and this promises to be bigger and better than last year, continuing with the colour blast theme. The event at Sandwell Valley Country Park is held in memory of our former student Joel Richards, his uncle Adrian Evans and Grandfather Patrick Evans.

It would once again be great to see a large number of Wood Green students and their families taking part. More details can be found here:

<https://smileforjoel.com/event-details?event=runforjoel-2023>

Registrations are open now!

Parking

Once again, our local residents have raised concerns regarding a minority of parents that have caused issues in terms of their parking and collecting of students; this has been escalated to the local authority.

We would like to remind all parents/carers to please respect our neighbours by not parking or collecting your children from St. Paul's Rd, Sparrow Close, or the surrounding area.

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 half term that we have had to deal with, therefore for clarity, students in years 7 – 11 **MUST 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, parents **MUST** request temporary permission from Mrs Wood 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 2.40-3.00pm (in the event of school finishing early, phones due to be collected, can be picked up between the end of school and the following 20 minutes e.g. 12.00 and 12.20pm.). 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 2.40-3.00pm. 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 2.40 - 3.00pm 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 2.40 -3.00pm. **So, if a phone is confiscated on Wed 24th May, Thurs 25th May or Fri 26th May, it will not be returned until Monday 5th June 2023 (between 2.40 – 3.00pm) 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.**

Student Achievements

Sporting Success

Cricket

Our Under 15s Boys took part in the 'Chance to Compete' cricket competition, organised by Staffordshire cricket. They have been training for some time now with Sixth Form students/coaches Joel Hollyhead (Einstein) and Ravi Jhally (Einstein). The training paid off as they came runners up in this tournament. The team consisted of: Esa Hussain (Shakespeare), Vivek Bodalika (Ali), Zaid Kahn (Ali), Navdeep Sahota (Shakespeare), Gurshan Singh (Da Vinci), Muhammad Zain (Parks), Muhammad Sakindar (Einstein), Jackson Bromwich (Einstein), Rhys Bradshaw (Da Vinci), Khyian Morkar (Parks).
Mr Hopkins

Gym and Dance Show

It was fantastic to be able to host our Gym and Dance Show for the first time since 2019. As well as a range of outstanding performances from Wood Green Academy students, we also hosted performers from Old Park Primary and Rowley Hall Primary. The event was very well supported by a full house of spectators, who showed their appreciation throughout.

Ambassadors did a fantastic job selling tickets and serving refreshments at the interval as well as providing additional support for the performers: Tammy Ajayi (Einstein), Owen Corbett (Parks), Elizabeth Harpin (Da Vinci), Amaria Deans (Da Vinci), Kyle Barham (Nightingale). Kyle also took up the challenge of being the announcer – introducing and welcoming performers to the floor.

Overall it was a fantastic event organised by Miss Paskin and supported by PE staff.

Elite Performers

Nimrita Jewan (Da Vinci), Rylee Perry (Nightingale), Anaya Jewan (Da Vinci) and Ceannah White (Shakespeare) were all selected to represent Team England in the ICO (International Combat Organisation) Open Championships in Germany over the Easter holidays. The kick boxers are all dedicated athletes who are traveling as potential medal winners for their country. We are so proud of their selection and wish them all the very best out in Germany.

Student Leadership

Student Ambassadors are in full swing with Student Voice/Listening Ear Forum after running their second successful forum before Easter. Pupil response was good, and issues raised were presented to Mr Topham and the Senior Leadership Team with feedback being disseminated to all pupils when we return.

Our Student Ambassador committees are working hard providing opportunities for pupils in school and helping to keep our school site tidy.

Learning Committee – providing support for pupils with homework, options advice and reading in the Learning Hub

Eco/Community Committee – help keep the school site clean every Tuesday after school by litter picking

Rewards Committee – providing form time and House quizzes!

Wellbeing Committee – helping with Student Voice Forum and organising planting for the up-and-coming 'Wellbeing Garden @ WGA'

Persil – Dirt is Good

The following ambassadors participated in the Persil Dirt is Good training and are currently completing their own projects:

Lucy Price (Shakespeare)

Gurpreet Cheema (Shakespeare)

Imaan Patel (Ali)

Sayyidah Kawsar (Einstein)

Chloe Mynett (Parks)

Kyle Barham (Nightingale)



Charity Work

Well done to everyone who helped raise £168 for Comic Relief!

Congratulations to Nightingale who won the Comic Relief House Quiz, with 11 pupils achieving the highest score. Well Done!





On Friday 3rd March Student Ambassadors hosted a cake and samosa sale and raised a grand total of £148.98 for the Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal.

School Run

The school run takes place every Thursday after school and is open to all students and staff.

Congratulations to Ali, who are the winners of the most represented house.

A big thank you also goes out to all students and staff that help out each week.



Terrifically Tough Quiz

Congratulations to Da Vinci with the most entries into the quiz.



House Competition Time!

Show us your Easter Adventures!

As a form produce a poster showing your adventures over the Easter Holiday.

The House with the most entries wins vital House Points towards the end of year House Cup!!



House Attendance Feb-Mar 2023

Congratulations to Einstein who collectively had the best attendance last half term.

Einstein – 92.1%

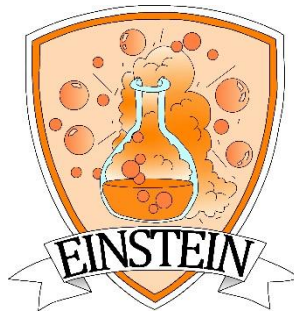
Nightingale – 91.7%

Ali – 91.4%

Shakespeare – 91.4%

Da Vinci – 90.7%

Parks – 90.5%



Positive Achievement Points for Spring Half Term 2

Well done to all pupils who have shown 'Excellence as Standard'

Year 7 – Callum Jones (Einstein)

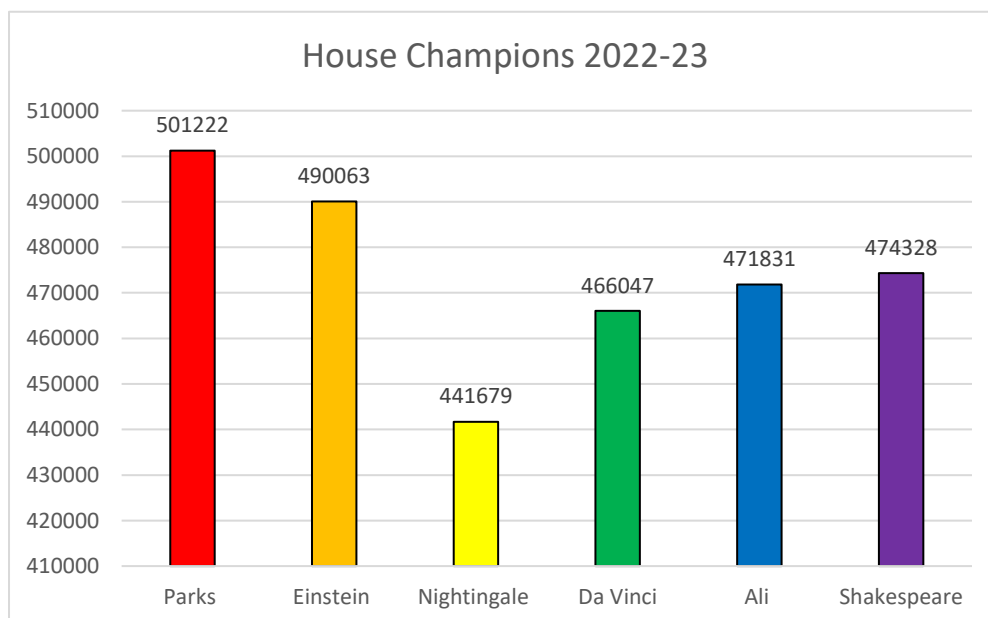
Year 8 – Mariyah Bham (Parks)

Year 9 – Hiqmot Quadri (Nightingale)

Year 10 – Edward Jones (Shakespeare)

Year 11 – Tayyab Ul-Haq (Shakespeare)

House Leader Board: Sept – Mar 2023



School Calendar

Just a reminder that the school calendar is on the school website and has all the Academy's key dates and activities listed: <https://www.woodgreenacademy.co.uk/school-calendar/>

Many thanks

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J Topham' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr J Topham
Headteacher