

Headteacher's Newsletter

September 2019

Welcome Back

I am delighted to welcome you back to the new school year and hope that you all had a wonderful summer break. Welcome particularly to our new parents in Year 7 and Year 12, I know you will be pleased with your choice of school over the coming years.



I would like to thank parents for their support at the end of the last school year. For those who were not aware I had to have back surgery at the end of June and the school was ably led by Mr Sinfield, our Deputy Head for the final few weeks. I am pleased to say I am back, standing tall and excited about the year ahead.

For many of you the summer was a nervous one while awaiting exam results for your children in Year 13 or Year 11. I will discuss the results in detail below but I would like to congratulate our students for their hard work and endeavour in achieving the results they have and wish those we will not be seeing this year the very best of luck for the future. As is always the way, there are those whom are happy on results days and those who are disappointed, but I know that everyone who received their results this summer has the building blocks to a successful future, even if that future is not what they had first planned it to be. For everyone having taken exams last summer or indeed doing so this year remember, as Winston Churchill once said, "Success is not final, failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts."

Although I usually use my newsletters to celebrate the successes of pupils, this version is, for the most part, a little more information based to remind you of the school's expectations and let you know some important information you need to be aware of. I will be continuing to ask for achievements outside of school in future newsletters and look forward to hearing about them.

I look forward to working with you all again this academic year and would like to thank you in advance for your support in ensuring we are able to provide your children with the best possible education.

Yours sincerely

Daniel Leonard
Headteacher

School Ambassadors

I am delighted to announce that following an intensive and rigorous interview process, the school has appointed Leah Glenday and Daniel Adekanle as School Ambassadors and Matthew Mortimer and Ismail Wood as their Deputies. I am thrilled with these appointments, and the students have already proved themselves to be worthy of the post. They will now provide the link between the school staff and student body, and throughout their interviews showed a determination to help make the school the best place possible for everyone within the community. I am very much looking forward to working with each of them over the course of this year.



Driving onto the School Site

As a result of the building works we continue to have very limited parking space at school for vehicles. Parents are not permitted to drive into school and drop off their children. Please can I ask those visiting the school for any reason, to park outside of the gates and walk in. Many of our staff are having to park outside because of the building work as well. Cars bringing children into school during the start and the end of the day, parking near or across the school entrance or performing U turns on the main road, cause a significant risk to the health, safety and well being of our students, and I would ask that everyone please considers this when driving to school. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Uniform Reminder

Below you will see a link to the school's uniform list which clearly outlines our expectations with regards to school uniform. There are no real changes this year but please remember as the weather begins to change that students are only permitted to wear black, navy or dark grey coats. Any other colour will be confiscated.

Last year we had a number of students wearing trainers to school despite the school's policy being clear that students must wear appropriate school shoes. This year we have purchased a large number of school shoes and any pupil coming to school wearing trainers without a medical note, will be expected to wear a pair of our shoes each day. We will have antibacterial spray and ensure the shoes are in good order. Students refusing to wear the shoes will be isolated until they are wearing appropriate footwear.

A quick reminder that we have removed the need for Year 11 students to wear blazers and they must wear a plain black V neck jumper instead. Any jumper other than a plain black V neck will be confiscated.

Please support the school and your children by ensuring they have the appropriate uniform at all times.

http://www.westhatch.net/_files/9D9D013783D30FF8D842378D8CF15ADD.pdf

Please also find below the School's Behaviour Policy which can also be found on the school's website.

<http://www.westhatch.net/attachments/download.asp?file=320&type=pdf>

New School Day on a Monday

A reminder that the school day has changed on a Monday to allow us to meet the national requirements for PSEC. Please find an outline of the new day below.

8.40am - Arrive at School

8.45 - 9.15am - Extended Form Time for PSEC

9.15 - 10.15am - Period 1

10.15 - 11.15am - Period 2

11.15 - 11.35am - Break

11.35 - 12.35pm - Period 3

12.35 - 13.35pm - Period 4

13.35 - 14.20pm - Lunch

14.20 - 15.20pm - Period 5

Email Policy and Change of Domain Name

Just a reminder that staff are not expected to check or use emails between 7pm and 7am on weekdays or at all at weekends and therefore parents are asked to refrain from emailing staff outside of these hours.

Our school policy states that staff are expected to respond to any query within 48 hours, so please remember this when contacting the school, as there are occasions parents have emailed in the evening and contacted staff the very next morning to ask why no one had responded to them.

Communication between school and home is absolutely paramount for us and we take it very seriously, I am certainly not asking for parents not to contact the school merely that you do so during working hours and allow us a reasonable time to respond.

Finally we have changed our domain name to westhatch.net, this means if you want to send an email to a member of staff or the admin email address you must use [@westhatch.net](mailto:admin@westhatch.net). For example admin@westhatch.net

Examination Results

Once again we are exceptionally proud of our students and their achievements. Below are a list of our top achievers based on attainment. These really are amazing results for these students and they should be very proud to be highlighted amongst a large number of other students who have also

performed exceptionally well this year. Please note that the GCSE grades have been converted into numbers even though some subjects are still assessed by grade for ease of comparison.

A Level

Gold Luntadila – A*, A, A, B, A*(Extended Project)
James Earl – A, A, A, B
Davin Bacheta – A*, A, A
Yasmin Sachdev – A*, A, B
Ashwini Kuhaendran – A, A, B
Jake Groce – A, A, B, A (Extended Project)
Kamran Hussain – A, A, B
Matthew Wood – A, A, B
Jesilda Beqiraj achieved A, B, B
Natasha Watts achieving A*, A, C

BTEC Business Extended Diploma

Tallulah Watts - D*DD
Katherine Barratt - DDD
Imogen Gallop - DDD
Louise Symons - DDD

GCSE

Denys Nunez – 7- 9's, 3- 8's/A*, 2- 7's/A
Lauren Rutherford – 6- 9's, 4- 8's/A*, 1-7/A, 1-6/B
Maddie Fitch – 4- 9's, 4- 8's/A*, 1- 7/A, 2- 6's/B
Lorena Ejupi – 2- 9's, 3- 8's/A*, 5- 7's/A, 1- 6/B
Fiona Sylejmani – 5- 8's/A*, 5- 7's/A, 2- 6's/B
Nandini Patel – 1- 9, 2- 8's/A*, 8- 7's/A,
Haider Waqas – 1- 9, 2- 8's/A*, 6- 7/A, 2- 6/B
Emily Cook – 1- 9, 2- 8's/A*, 5- 7's/A, 3- 6's/B
Kajan Amaran – 2- 9's, 1- 8/A*, 3- 7's/A, 3- 6's/B
Imogen Stephens – 2- 9's, 2- 8's/A*, 2- 7's/A, 4- 6's/B

As well as the highest attainers, a number of our students also made outstanding progress in their GCSE exams and I want to celebrate their achievements. These students worked exceptionally hard and achieved significantly above what was expected of them based on prior attainment. To put this into context, April for example achieved on average 3 grades higher across all of her subjects than expected of her based on her Key Stage 2 Sats. Well done to each of these students and those not on the list above as they all went the extra mile to make exceptional progress in their learning.

April Darley – 3.1 grades above on average
Joe Greenway– 2.74 grades above on average
Diya Zaman– 2.45 grades above on average
Priya Johal– 2.42 grades above on average
Aisha Akram– 2.39 grades above on average
Noor Hussain– 2.01 grades above on average
Violeta Nakova– 2.01 grades above on average
Ziyad Zikrya– 2 grades above on average
Kirsten Sewell-Humphreys– 1.99 grades above on average
Alayna Khan– 1.87 grades above on average

Plastic Free

We are doing our best to be a plastic free school and ask that pupils bring water bottles with sports caps to school which they can refill from the canteen and the water fountains at break and lunchtime. We will no longer be using plastic cups in the canteen so please ensure your child has a suitable bottle with them.

The 667 Bus

I am delighted to confirm that TFL have advised us that an additional 667 bus will be laid on at the end of the school day to accommodate the increasing student numbers at our school and this will start this Term.

Yr.7 Graduation Day



Year 7 Graduation Day was a huge success in the summer and I wanted to say congratulations to all the pupils who attended and received their awards. This day is a chance for us to celebrate those who have bought into our vision and ethos; those who do the right thing time and time again, are good students and also good citizens. Thank you to all those who were able to attend and to the staff who worked so hard to prepare and lead the event on the day.





Thank you to the shops below located at Chigwell Parade and Woodford Bridge, who donated gifts to the school for the raffle at the Graduation;

Papillion Italian restaurant

Chigwell Fish and Chips

Brooks Hairdressers

Chigwell Health Foods

Balance Life Therapy Centre

Chigwell Barbers

Different Shapes Hairdressers

Debras

Capture Photography

Kingham Motors

The Brook House Pharmacy

Nuffield Gym

The Building Project

As you know our building project has been delayed and the facilities we were promised at the end of last academic year are far from ready. This is completely outside of the schools control, the project is being financed, managed and led by Essex County Council, and we have worked exceptionally hard to ensure there is limited impact on the students, their welfare and their learning. Essex have agreed to fund an extension to the schools' playing areas because of the major delay on the sports hall, but that is also delayed and will not be available for another 2-3 weeks. The Senior Team have provisions in place to allow space for students to be safe and release some energy at lunch time, however I want to apologise that the school is still not completed.

The new English block is now due to be completed by the end of this academic year with the sports hall following soon after. I will be meeting with the new developers in the next couple of weeks and will have a greater idea of the plan after that meeting.

I have been amazed by the way our pupils and staff have coped with the disruption caused by the building work and we will not let it impact upon the quality of education we provide. There is light at the end of the tunnel, our new music, science, technology and dining rooms are excellent facilities our pupils can enjoy and the other new builds will be back on track very soon. Thank you to all of you for your patience and support.

My Ed App - Never Miss a School Report or Letter Again!

I would like to remind you about the MyEd App which the school has purchased on behalf of our parents and we have received excellent feedback from them about this service. This App allows you to view a huge amount of school information as well as key material specifically about your child, for example timetables, rewards and behaviour logs, as well as accessing their progress checks. We highly recommend that you download the App. For more information on what it does, how to use it and how to download it, please see the video below.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=61&v=uNb6ZlrxdtQ

Please note that when signing up for the App you must use **the same contact email address and mobile number** that the school hold for the Priority 1 contact on your child's record. The reason for this is that the system will link your child/children to your MyEd account automatically based on the information we hold and the information that you enter when signing up. This is also where the security codes will be sent to for the initial configuration of the App. If your contact information has changed please let the school know of these details via the admin email before signing up for the App.

Here are the links in case QR doesn't work:

Apple iOS App: -

[Click here for the Apple version](#)

Google Android App: -

[Click here for the Android version](#)

Important Dates for your Diary this Term

Thursday 12th September - Yr.7 Information Evening

Tuesday 17th September - Yr.12 Meet and Greet

Thursday 19th September - Yr. 10 Information Evening

Tuesday 2nd October - Yr.9 Information Evening

Thursday 10th October - Parents Voice meeting

Wednesday 16th October - Yr.11 Information Evening

Thursday 14th and Friday 15th November - Year 7 Aspirations Days (Daytime event, times by invitation)

Thursday 28th November - Yr.10 Parents Evening

(timings of the above to be confirmed)

And finally

I'm excited about the year ahead and watching your children progress as people and as learners. This is a very special place and that is because of the wonderful staff, pupils, parents and everyone else that make up our community. I'd like to once again congratulate our pupils who took exams this summer and welcome to those who are starting with us for the first time this year.

Daniel Leonard

