

Winterstoke Hundred Newsletter – July 2023

A Message from the Principal

Dear parents and carers,

Another school year has raced by. In it, as ever, we have experienced many "firsts" for Winterstoke - our first students completing their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh awards (and achieving the equivalent of a GCSE pass in so doing), our PTFA body established (you can read more about them later in this newsletter), and more outstanding social contributions from our sixth form (both collecting for and volunteering a food bank).

As you know, work continues a-pace on our new school building in Locking Parklands. Whilst we're disappointed to have to wait until Term 2 to move in, we're sure you share our excitement, and look forward to inviting you in to see it. In addition to being carbon neutral from day one, it is estimated to have created a net bio-diversity gain of 30% in the build process, which is believed to be a record in the UK.

Our Year 9 students prepare for the beginning of their GCSE courses in September, and we are, again, over-subscribed in our incoming Year 7. As ever, I'm indebted to our fabulous students who make our school what it is, and in particular, our talented staff body. This period of the school year is always bitter-sweet; whilst staff and students are of course looking forward to a well-deserved rest, we also say farewell to some staff and students who move on to pastures new, and we'd like to thank them for making WHA what it is.

We hope our students in all year groups take the chance over the summer to both relax and recharge, and also to try something new. Above all, we wish them safe and happy holidays.

Best wishes,

Ian Garforth, Principal

Key Events

21 July 2023: Last day of term

17 August 2023: A Level Results Day

24 August 2023: GCSE Results Day

1 September 2023: Inset Day

4 September 2023: Inset Day

5 September 2023: First Day of Term:

Start Times for this day ONLY

Y7 & Post 16 to arrive 8.40am

Years 8, 9 & 10 to arrive 10.20am

School Uniform

We are looking for donations of school uniform that no longer fits your children. Please bring any old uniform and hand it into reception. Thank you!



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Breakfast Club: Open to All Students from September 2023

Following a successful trial of the Breakfast Club, we are pleased to announce that from September 2023, the school breakfast club will be open to the whole school.

This is a **free** morning club that will run from 7:55am -8.15am Monday to Friday. Students will be served a range of cereals, juice and buttery bagels. This is a great opportunity for students to get in, be ready for school and engage with their friends, and be ready to learn!

PTFA Launched

Our AGM will be on Tuesday 19th September at 6pm. Please email Louise.Birtles@clf.uk if you would like to come along.



Food Bank Initiative @ WHA

This term a group of sixth-form students held a collection for the Weston Foodbank at Winterstoke Hundred Academy. We are highly grateful for all donations received and hope that the academy will continue this event over the coming years - congratulations to Watson for winning the first foodbank collection, with nearly 50 donations!

Amber Hawkins, Y12

Visit to Museum of Aerospace, Bristol

On 27 June 2023, A level Physics students Alex Roberts and Alex Mawbey attended a celebration event hosted by the **Institute of Physics**. They had the opportunity to go inside Concorde and visit the museum of Aerospace Bristol.

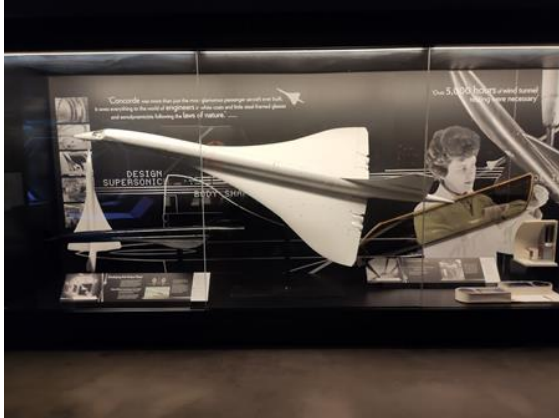
“Going to the IoP Celebration of Physics gave us an opportunity to explore career pathways which physics can lead us into as well as to speak to people across a range of industries who had started out with a degree in physics.

For example, Paul Brown MBE from Imperial College was able to show us photos of and explain the components his team had been involved in building for recent rocket launches.”

Alex Mawbey, Year 12



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On 8 July 2023, the Physics team also had staff and student representatives at an exciting lecture given by Jim Al-Khalili on the subject of quantum biology.



Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

In May, our Year 9 (and a few Year 12s) completed their 2-day, overnight, expedition. Students walked around 25km across the two days, having to work as a team as they followed pre-planned routes.

Students worked in groups and were a real credit to themselves and WHA.

A brilliant experience for them all, with lots of them keen to now take on the silver award or even the harder 'Ten Tors' challenge.



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Oxford University Open Day 16 June 2023

Three Sixth Form Physics, Maths & Computing Students visited the University of Oxford, and this is what they had to say about their day:

“On 16th June 2023, a couple of friends and I went to an Open Day at the University of Oxford. Whilst there, we looked at the courses we all wanted to do and were blown away by the standard of the content.

Alongside this, we spent time enjoying the city’s atmosphere, and explored the various colleges they had to offer. We were thoroughly impressed by their architecture and history.”



KS3 Pavement Art

On the afternoon of Wednesday 5th July 2023, KS3 students in school made wonderful outdoor artwork using pavement chalk.



Music:

Wow what a year we have had in music. It has been really exciting to see students' confidence grow, and to see them working hard and enjoying their music lessons. Students across KS3 have explored different genres of music, learnt to read music notation, played a mixture of different musical instruments and worked hard on building their ensemble skills and performance skills.

The future of music and the performing arts here at WHA certainly looks very bright. We have many students who have been taking individual music lessons with our visiting tutors, and lots more signed up for September which is fantastic!

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We have also very recently welcomed Miss Hannaby into drama, and we have already been planning next year's performing arts experiences for all students to be involved in should they wish.

We will have a range of extra-curricular clubs, but as a 'Winterstoke First', in September we will be launching our first ever school production. Keep your eyes out for posters and advertisements around this in September and come to the meeting to see how you can get involved!



In June students from the performing arts department wowed us with some fantastic performances.

From music solos, ensembles, drama pieces to vibrant dances, the show had it all! It has been so lovely to see the progress and the commitment our students have for these subjects reflected in our creative arts showcases and we are excited to see our students blossom and grow in confidence and talent.

If your child would like to be involved in our performing arts extra-curricular activities and haven't yet, come and see Mrs Evans or Miss Hannaby. Look out for the new timetable in September as there will be lots to get their teeth stuck into!



It is fantastic that we have such a collaborative spirit here at WHA and thanks to Miss Ford and her art students for the fantastic Tim Burton art display that was enjoyed by all who came to watch the show. We look forward to future collaborations and projects, especially the school production coming next year!



Thanks to everyone for your hard work and support for music and the performing arts this year. Onwards and upwards!

Miss Evans

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Quilting and Japanese Sashiko Club News!

Our wonderful Years 7 – 9 students have been working on this project since January 2023.

Students were free to express themselves creatively and emotionally in this safe space. They designed their idea based on protecting the natural biodiversity versus modern sustainable living.

All materials used are recycled from fabric waste in the DT room. They have applied various skills of machine sewing, hand stitching, gluing, layering, and Japanese Sashiko lines embroidery.

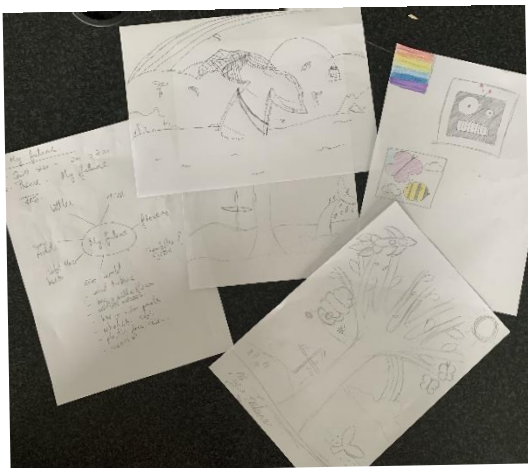
Their patience and perseverance have paid off as they produced their masterpiece called 'Tree of Avatar'.

It is now making its way to The Festival of Quilts 2023, 3rd-6th August, at NEC Birmingham, Europe's largest patchwork and quilting event under school category competition.

If anyone wishes to visit the event, tickets purchase and travel info are on this link : www.thefestivalofquilts.co.uk

The Tree of Avatar:

From these paper sketches.....



.....to this magnificent piece, 'Tree of Avatar!'



The Journey for The Tree of Avatar:

At the beginning when we were rummaging through the fabric waste to decide what to use in our creation!



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There were tricky moments trying to sew on this gigantic piece, but we had great laughter and joy working through it!



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We managed to manoeuvre around the piece with a few extra pair hands!



Have a lovely holiday everyone and see you all in September!

Noren McKinen

Transition Event 27th – 29th June 2023

Year 6 students from 23 different primary school attended their 'Big Step Week' at WHA from 27th June to 29th June.

During the week we had 150 students in the Academy enjoying themselves in various activities and getting used to WHA ready for September.

They enjoyed team games, science experiments and a pottery class. They were very busy during all three days and were absolutely exhausted at the end.

They all said how much they enjoyed themselves and had lots of questions about Year 7 in September.

The younger students were supported by Student Leaders, WHA Ambassadors and Peer Mentors from the WHA student community.

Year 6 Pupils made clay monsters. They did this by learning how to form a basic clay pinch pot, moving on to slip and score finer details and form their imaginative monsters.

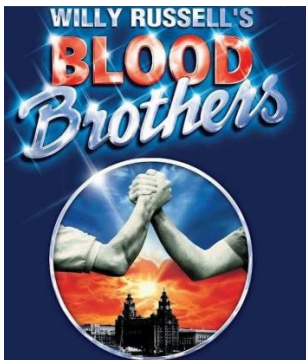


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Signing off with an amazing Blood Brothers performance

Our Year 13 drama students Blood Brothers show this term was a huge success. It was great to see guest appearances from Oliver in year 9 and Daisy in year 7. Looking forward to drama future performances in our new facilities next year.



WHA Prom 30th June 2023

Students from Year 13 attended their end of year prom, celebrating the end of their exams and the start of a new chapter. The prom was held at The South Sands Hotel on Friday 30th June. The students all looked wonderful in many beautiful and elegant dresses and suits.

The night was danced away and a very fond well to all our amazing and talented students who now look forward to attending university in September.

We wish you so much luck in your new adventures.



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Year 7, 8 and 9 North Somerset Athletics Competitions

In early June, all 3 of our KS3 year groups made the short journey to Clevedon school for the annual North Somerset athletics competition.

They took part in a variety of track and field events, for many the first time they had participated in proper athletics meet.



All the students did themselves and WHA proud. Some notable performances from Lola who won the Year 7 girls 100m, Charlie who won the Year 8 boys 100m and our year 9 boys and girls who both won the 4x100m relays. We look forward to giving an even better showing next summer!

Year 9 Touch Rugby @ Millfield

In June, our Year 9 mixed touch rugby team made the trip to Millfield to play at the fantastic facilities which Millfield has to offer.

This was the last opportunity for our touch rugby team to show what they could do after their breakout year.



In a 4-way mini tournament, our Year 9s won 2, and drew 1, showing the strong side they have become.

The team were then treated to a lovely 3-course meal from our hosts, a brilliant experience for them and something they all enjoyed. The next generation is bright.



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The boys, all part of Hornets Rugby Club, were doing it in memory of someone who was affiliated to the club and sadly had recently passed away.

Morgan, Alfie, Keagan and Jayden should be incredibly proud of themselves. Keagan amazingly finished 5th in the entire race, with a 5k time of 21.17!!



Austin: Success in Tae Kwan Do

National success for Austin in year 9. At the recent Welsh Championship for Tae Kwan Do, Austin secured a Bronze in Tag Team Sparring! Great work Austin!



Race for Life

In June, 4 of our Year 9 boys took part in the Race for Life on Weston beach to raise money for a brilliant charity.



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Lucia: Success in Angling Trust Fishing

Lucia has just secured a Bronze medal at the National Championship for Angling Trust Match Fishing. The 3rd place came from a field of 66 juniors from all around the UK. Her story was even picked up by the Weston Mercury.



Governance Volunteers Needed for WHA Academy Council!



We are looking for Governance Volunteers to join our Academy Councils



We are a diverse multi-academy trust, looking for professional and ambitious people, with a passion for transforming our students' learning.

What is an Academy Councillor?

It is a rewarding role working towards a shared goal of providing a high-quality education for the children and young people in our communities. Volunteers attend regular meetings, visit schools, meet with school leaders, attend training and networking events.

What kind of people are we looking for to join our Governance Team?

Our Academy Councillors come from all walks of life and all backgrounds, but all share our high expectations.

How much of your time will being an Academy Councillor take up?

We appreciate that all of our Councillors are volunteers and use their time carefully and respectfully. We meet regularly, usually once a term and the meetings are held late afternoon/early evening.



Visit www.clf.uk/volunteer-with-us to find out more. Or email governance@clf.uk



Your Opportunity



Not only will you be working within one of our fantastic academies, but you will be a part of a diverse Federation working alongside professional and inspirational people. The Cabot Learning Federation is committed to providing the very best learning experiences for every young person we educate which you can be a part of.

You will also be working within a large multi-academy trust which provides dedicated training programmes and the opportunity to gain experience within other departments and CLF functions.

We will provide members of our Governance Team with:

- Comprehensive induction
- Leadership opportunities
- Dedicated training and development opportunities
- A place at our annual CLF conferences

As a member of our Governance Team, you will:

- Get a chance to use skills you have developed during your working life
- Be involved in the strategic decisions and future direction of the school, therefore impacting the students' educational journey
- Increase your skills and knowledge in teamwork, negotiation, problem-solving and business awareness
- Gain networking opportunities by being part of the wider community



Visit www.clf.uk/volunteer-with-us to find out more. Or email governance@clf.uk