

UPDATE

14 JUNE

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MR HUSSAIN'S NOTICE

This week I depart from routine and would draw your attention to the KS3 End of Year Exams notice from myself. There are a number of documents attached to the newsletter that we have provided for both completeness and for ease of access.

We have deliberately not wanted to communicate the details of these assessments too early, knowing that many students have had negative experiences of examinations in the past.

Our Year 11 cohort have benefitted massively from the very prescriptive, honed and regimented approach to their GCSE examinations in the hall. From the breakfast provided, through to the booster sessions, the early lunches in a quiet canteen and line-up just before entering the hall having deposited bags and items in the changing rooms. Every aspect was scripted, practiced at the February mocks and then repeated here. By doing so students knew exactly what to expect. So that just as they are about to enter the most challenging examinations of their lives so far, they knew every other thing that was about to happen.

As a school we know the benefit of known routines for our students, particularly our most vulnerable. And this is a key reason why we intend to establish simple, clear routines for our students that mirror what the real examinations demand of them.

For those students in Year 10, who completed exams earlier this term, they have work experience approaching rapidly, week commencing 1st July, and I wish them all the best in the preparation for this!

Wishing you all a restful weekend!

YEAR 11 AND 13 EXAMS UPDATE

Year 11 students have completed nearly all of their major exams and had a lovely send off on Wednesday 13th June. Food technology and Design and Technology exams continue next week and we look forward to supporting students in these final assessments!

Our Year 13 students have a little further to go with examinations yet to run for 2 weeks.

KS3 End of Year Exams

This week Mrs Ebanks, our Assistant Principal leading assessments, has been briefing students in Years 7 to 9 on our planning for the end of year exams.

There are a mix of assessments throughout the week commencing 24th June where we examine Core subjects such as English, Maths and Sciences in an examination type setting. Other subjects will use in-class assessments and a range of methods to decrease both additional load on students alongside

In the week commencing 1st July we will be conducting some standardised assessments to help better understand our cohorts understating of key concepts in the core subjects. This will require no revision and will not be used to report home, but rather to inform our medium to longer term curriculum planning to consolidate learning in the new academic year as our KS3 year groups progress. This is to mitigate and understand better the impact of Covid and to inform our planning to minimise its' longer-term impact on our students.

Mrs Ebanks said:

“YEAR 7, 8 AND 9 HAVE ALL BEEN GIVEN AN ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK OUTLINING THE PROCEDURES FOR THEIR END OF YEAR EXAMS IN THE WEEK BEGINNING 24TH JUNE.

THE STUDENTS HAVE SHOWN A WONDERFUL MATURITY IN THESE ASSEMBLIES, ACCEPTING WHAT HAS BEEN OUTLINED AND THE REASONS FOR IT.

WE HAVE ASKED THE STUDENTS TO SPEAK TO THEIR TUTOR IF THEY HAVE ANY CONCERNS SO THAT WE CAN SEEK TO RESOLVE THEM BEFORE THE EXAMS.”

Attached to this newsletter are 3 documents:

1. The KS3 Timetable for the assessments – KS3 Exam Timetable V1
2. A guide with a summary of the assembly, a rationale as to why we assess and guidance on how to support your child
3. The assembly presentation that Mrs Ebanks used to explain our key routines

Please do feel free to contact your child's tutor if you have any questions.

Head of Year update

The school year begins its' transitional phase with Year 11 having left the school and the beginning of our transition efforts for our incoming Year 7. Rest assured that students do not lose access to staff but one that will be supported with a careful handover period.

Incoming Year 7: Mrs H Pearce
Current Year 7 going into Year 8: Mrs H Johnson
Current Year 10 going into Year 11: Mr J Oatley

MOCS Discovery Centre Book Fair!

Thank you to everyone who came, the fair enabled us to add the following books to our school resources. (Pictured to the right)

WILTSHIRE POLICE VISIT TO MOCS 11TH JUNE

We had a return visit from our local neighbourhood policing team who were able to engage with a large number of students. We will continue to engage with Wiltshire Police to help keep our students and community safe.



Y7 DISCO – BY SIXTH FORM

Unfortunately, due to low interest this event has been postponed. A new date will be published in future.

REMINDER for Friends of the Oak (PTA): Preloved Uniform call

Mrs Hughes-Jones, hughes-jonesv@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk, Head of Year 8, is our key contact for our PTA and we are looking for new parents to join the PTA, please do reach out to make contact if you would like to get involved.

We would also like to ask for donations of items of preloved school uniform that is in good condition. Please separate these at home and we will publish arrangements on how to bring these to school in the next newsletter

Reminder of How to Contact Us

We want to make things as simple as possible to raise a query with the school, so please find the information on our website at: <https://www.melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk/contact>

This includes how to log any concerns so the school can track it carefully to get you a response as fast as possible from the relevant team.

PRACTICE LOCKDOWN FEEDBACK & SAFETY

The lockdown practice was a resounding success with students and teachers both reporting that they were able to carry out the exercise without undue stress. We are working our way through feedback and will conduct further drills as necessary.

We plan to introduce our new fire evacuation routine, and will do so after training and familiarisation has taken place. Further news will follow in due course!

FRENCH: TU ES EN BONNE SANTÉ?

Year 8 have been writing in French about how healthy they are. They then reflected on their work and improved it, including a variety of structures such as opinions, reasons, connectives, time phrases and modifiers. Bravo! Madame Meads.

Archie Lee Marin 8A, First draft:

Bonjour, je m'appelle Archie! Pour être en bonne santé j'adore jouer au foot parce que c'est vraiment amusant. Cependant, je n'aime pas nager car c'est un peu barbant. Je mange des fruits mais aussi je mange le hot dog. Le weekend je vais jouer au basket et faire beaucoup d'exercice.

Include multiple connectives
Give reasons
Written 50 words

Say what I don't like to eat.

www - opinions, reasons, modifiers, connectives
ebi - say what you don't like

Even Better If:

Bonjour, je m'appelle Archie! Pour être en bonne santé j'adore jouer au foot parce que c'est vraiment amusant. Cependant, je n'aime pas nager car c'est un peu barbant. Je mange des fruits mais aussi je mange les hot dog. Je déteste les légumes car ce sont très dégoûtants. Le weekend je vais jouer au basket et faire beaucoup d'exercice.

Polly Clark 8A, First draft

Bonjour ~~je m'appelle~~ Je m'appelle Polly Clark. Pour être en bonne santé j'aime faire beaucoup d'exercice parce que c'est très amusant et sain. J'adore manger une salade car c'est délicieux et bien savoureux. Je vais faire beaucoup de sport parce que c'est plus sain que me relaxer dans ma chambre. J'aime

opinion ✓
modifier ✓
adjectives ✓
op + reason ✓
future ✓

Even Better If:

connective

Cependant j'adore manger les croissants, les crêpes,
le fromage, la baguette et la pizza mais c'est
assez malsain. //

WWW - I used lots of ~~too~~ modifiers and connectives
I did explain why I like that it
I used lots of foods that are unhealthy and things
that are healthy

EBI - I use more opinions.



12 Bonjour Je m'appelle Polly d'ore pour être en bonne
santé j'aime faire beaucoup d'exercice parce que c'est très
amusant et sain. J'adore manger une Salade car

c'est Délicieuse et bien savoureuse. Je fais
beaucoup de sport parce que c'est plus sain
que me relaxer dans ma chaise. Cependant
j'adore manger les croissants, les crêpes, le
La baguette et la pizza





Y12 SOCIOLOGY AND CRIMINOLOGY



This morning Year 12 Sociology and Criminology students (plus a few extras!) attended an hour long Q and A session with Baroness Bull, a crossbench peer in the House of Lords. The students were absolutely fantastic; asking questions and speaking with confidence to Lady Bull about her experiences sitting in the House of Lords. This session really helped to develop students understanding of the law-making process as part of their courses. It was also a key part of subject enrichment as we discussed the role of the House of Lords in society and Lady Bull's direct experiences in the House of Lords. We had a wide range of questions from the students and discussed controversial bills such as the Rwanda Bill and the Internet Safety Bill. The students mentioned that they enjoyed the honesty and clarity in which Lady Bull spoke to them.

It was such an amazing experience for our students!

PE Update

Term 6 PE Enrichment		
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>Tennis Club 3pm - 4.00pm Years 7, 8, 9 & 10</p> 	<p>Rounders 3pm - 4.00pm Years 7, 8, 9 & 10</p>  <p>Cricket Club 3pm - 4.00pm Years 7, 8, 9</p> 	<p>Athletics 3pm - 4.10pm Years 7, 8, 9 & 10</p> 



West Wiltshire Area Sports, our biggest school athletics event is being held on the 26th June at Bath Uni. Students wishing to make the athletics team can trial Thursday's at Athletics club as well in core PE lessons. Students are requested to speak to a member of the PE department if interested for further details and all are welcome at club to trial out. Just pop along!

SAFEGUARDING: WHISPER

REMINDER: We want students to be able to raise any concerns remotely from the school environment. This is a key area we wish to enhance, and we want our students to be able to report issues anonymously as well.

For more information on this service please visit: <https://swgfl.org.uk/whisper/twh1/>



QR code to take you to the reporting page

KEY EVENTS IN THE SUMMMER TERMS

- Summer Term 6 begins on Monday 04th June
- Thursday 27th June: Year 7 Parent's Evening
- Year 10 – Work Experience Week: 1st- 5th July
- Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd July: Y6 Transition Days
- Tuesday 9th July: Summer Concert & Launch of local book (more details TBC)
- Wednesday 10th July: Whole Next Steps Fair
- Thursday 11th July: Sports Day
- Thursday 18th July: Y9 and Y10 Awards Evening
- Tuesday 23rd July: Y7 and Y8 Awards Evening
- Wednesday 24th July: Summer holidays: School closes at 12.40

OUR CURRENT DAY ROUTINE

We have now completed 2 weeks with the new day pattern and continue to monitor its' implementation.

- Only students who arrive by 08:00 will be able to access the Breakfast Club, regardless of whether they eat in the Canteen.
- Those students who arrive after 08:00 will wait at the Main Gates as usual until 08.25 when they can access the school site.
- **Students can arrive up till 08:40 when the Main gate will close** to allow our morning routine to begin promptly at 08.45.
- From this time (08.40) students will access the site via Main Reception to be marked late.
- The end of the day remains the same at 15:00.

Start Time	Year 7,9,11	Year 8,10 & VI	Start Time
08.00	Breakfast club		08.00
08.25	Student Gate		08.25
08.40	Student Gate closes at		08.40
08.45	Roll Call & Tutor time		08.45
09.15	Period 1	Period 1	09.15
10.05	Period 2	Period 2	10.05
10.55	Break	Period 3	10.55
11.10	Period 3		Break
12.00	Period 4	Period 4	12.00
12.50	30 mins Lunch	Period 5	12.50
13.20	Period 5		30 mins Lunch
14.10	Period 6	Period 6	14.10
15.00	Students depart		15.00

We will be seeking feedback from students and parents later in this term once we have had opportunity to see how this new pattern works for our students.