



WLD HIGH SCHOOL BULLETIN



8 September 2023

Headteacher's Message

Welcome to the new academic year. What an absolute pleasure it has been to welcome our students back and to bring the year 7 into our WLD community. I have been so proud of their uniform and conduct this week and the number of positive Classcharts points awarded has been phenomenal.

Please can I remind families that the old skirts may only be worn by Year 11 students and must be knee length and trousers must be tailored, not legging or skin-tight. Thank you. I have been wearing the school skirt and have found it to be very comfortable, even in the warm weather.

Year 7

Apologies for the delay in students and parents' access to Classcharts. Students now all have their passcodes and parents will be issued today.

Parking

Thank you for finding places a little further from school to park this week.

We believe Parking Eye are being contracted to issue fines on the industrial estate in the coming days/weeks.

Communication

Our new House Achievement Leaders have been busy forging relationships with the students in their houses this week. Please ensure you know who your HAL is (siblings in the same family have the same HAL), this is your first point of contact within the school. Email is the best way to communicate with us for non-urgent messages.

- Apollo Miss Fox c.fox@waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk
- Challenger Mr Samuel n.samuel@waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk
- Discovery Miss Meadowcroft j.meadowcroft@waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk
- Endeavour Mr Martin d.martin@waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk
- Voyager Mr Campbell s.campbell@waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk

I hope you find the new bulletin useful. We really want it to contain all the information you need, and to be a celebration of the great work our student and staff team are engaged in.

Mrs V Ardern
Headteacher

Whole School Messages

SEND local offer

A local offer gives children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their families information to help them find the right help and support in their area.

Information on the SEND local offer for Lancashire.

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/>

Information on the SEND local offer for Blackburn.

<https://www.bwd-localoffer.org.uk/kb5/blackburn/directory/localoffer.page>

CONSENT FOR USING NAMES/PHOTOGRAPHS

At Walton-le-Dale we sometimes take photographs of pupils and use student names on display boards around school (for example. to celebrate their achievements). This could be as part of a display of excellent work, or as part of the daily student notices such as seating for examinations, groups for trips).

We use these photos on the school's website and on display boards around school.

If you to opt out of your child's name or photo to be used on any publicity material/website etc, please contact your child's House Achievement Leader:

Challenger – Mr Samuel

Apollo – Miss Fox

Endeavour – Mr Martin/Miss Bailey

Voyager – Mr Campbell

Discovery – Miss Meadowcroft

School Photos



A photographer will be in school on **Monday 11th September** to take photos for the new school website and promotional materials. Please contact school if you do not wish to give consent for photos to be used. Next **Friday 15th September** – Tempest Photography will be in school to take the Year 7 and 11 Photographs.

Reading - Miss Bradshaw



Do you have a passion for reading? Applications for Student Librarians are now open. Please pick up your application forms from Miss Bradshaw in the LIBRARY. We are open all breaks, lunches and every night after school.

Attendance – Mrs Myerscough

This week we have received a letter from the DfE with guidance for us to share with parents on assessing whether their child is well enough to be in school. The letter states:

“There is wide agreement among health professionals and educational professionals that school attendance is vital to the life chances of children and young people. Being in school improves health, wellbeing and socialisation throughout the life course. The greatest benefits come from children and young people attending school regularly.

It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above.

In addition to respiratory illnesses, we are aware that more children may be absent from school due to symptoms of anxiety than before the pandemic. Worry and mild or moderate anxiety, whilst sometimes difficult emotions, can be a normal part of growing up for many children and young people. Being in school can often help alleviate the underlying issues. A prolonged period of absence is likely to heighten a child’s anxiety about attending in the future, rather than reduce it.”

The link below offers further guidance to parents.

[NHS ‘Is my child too ill for school?’ guidance](#)

Parent Forum



We are trying to increase the number of parents involved in our parent forum. This is an opportunity for you to give us feedback on current practice and new ideas we have for improving the learning experiences of our students and your input is helpful in supporting our decision making. If you would like to join our parent forum, please contact Mrs Rachel Long, Deputy Headteacher r.long@waltonledale.lancs.sch.uk

Rewards

Attendance awards

House with Highest Attendance			Apollo 93.16%		
Form with Highest Attendance	Challenger C2 98.61%	Apollo A7 99.11%	Endeavour E4 97.50%	Voyager V2 98.13%	Discovery D5 96.25%
100% Attendance Golden Ticket	Challenger Leah B (C2)	Apollo Oskar W (A7)	Endeavour Ivy M (E6)	Voyager Hattie T (V7)	Discovery Harry S (D5)

Classcharts Awards

House with Most Positives			Discovery		
Form with the most Positives	Challenger C7	Apollo A7	Endeavour E3	Voyager V3	Discovery D5
Kindness Golden Ticket	Challenger Ellie-Mai C (C3)	Apollo Lewis G (A3)	Endeavour Bartosz G (E3)	Voyager Shanae B (V7)	Discovery Filip S (D6)
Most Positives Golden Ticket	Challenger Ollie Coates (C2)	Apollo William G (A1)	Endeavour Kevin L (E2)	Voyager Aaron M (V3)	Discovery Xain A (D3)
Most Homework Positives Golden Ticket	Challenger Seamas E (C1)	Apollo Rachel N (A2)	Endeavour Daniel D (E3)	Voyager Dominik A (V6)	Discovery Chloe R (D2)
Most Improved Student	Challenger Corey Michael H (C3)	Apollo Kia L	Endeavour Keirra-Leonie I (E4)	Voyager Muhammed H (V4)	Discovery Samuel H (D2)

Subject Awards of the Week

From 25th September one department each week will nominate one student per class to receive an award for exceptional attitude to learning.

Whole School Messages

Homework

Please be aware that homework will be set on Classcharts.

In order to aid transition for our Year 7 students, we have reduced the number of subjects setting homework for the first term to English, Maths and Science. Of course, when students have assessments, they will be asked to revise for them - regardless of the subject.

For students in Years 8 to 11, the following guidelines will be followed.

	KS3	KS4
	30 mins per subject	1 hour per subject
Weekly	English Maths Science Geography History	English Maths Science Option A Option B Option C Computing
Once every 2 weeks	Music (A) Drama (B) Computing (A) RE (A) Languages – French and/or German	
Every 5 weeks	Technology	
Every half-term	Art	

Homework Support

Homework support will begin again from Monday 11th September. This will run in the Library and D4. Students can access support from members of staff until 4pm each day.

Careers Messages

Are you an aspiring DOCTOR, DENTIST or VET? Then this is an opportunity not to be missed.

There are FREE LIVE VIRTUAL '**Get into Medicine**' CONFERENCES on:

- Sunday 17th September 10am - 3pm
- Sunday 24th September 10am - 3pm
- Saturday 30th September 10am - 3pm

Once students have attended, they will be awarded with a certificate from the Presidents at Medic Mentor to acknowledge that they are a student who has gone one step further than others.

The '**Get into Medicine**' conference is a significant turning point for Medic Mentor students. It will unlock exclusive opportunities such as scholarships and prizes, as well as help them to make a highly competitive application.

Please note that all students must be accompanied by a parent/guardian for safeguarding purposes.

The Get into Medicine Conference is a comprehensive guide to the medical application process. Dr Dion and I will cover:

- Application Timelines
- How to Tactically Choose Medical Schools
- CV Building
- Personal Statements
- Interview Schools
- Medical Leadership and Awards Programmes
- Accessing Work Experience
- UCAT - Entrance Exams to Medical School
- Accessing Scholarships

We strongly encourage all students to make the most out of this **free** opportunity.

Getting into medicine may seem impossible to many students, but we're here to break down the entire process into actionable steps.

Spaces are competitive and limited, so students should register as soon as they can using the link below:

<https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shry7MZYtt3MGPjvO>

LIVE VIRTUAL
Get Into Medicine. **FREE**
CONFERENCE

Sunday 17th September
9:30am-3:30pm (BST)

with a Chief Mentor

MEDIC MENTOR
YOUR MEDIC FAMILY