

Headteacher's Update: Friday 11th December 2020

This week: Final week in school and end of term arrangements; Year 10 Photography Portraits; Year 7 National Competition Winners; County Lines; Online Safety; Werneth Charitable Work

One more school week to go until Christmas. I will be providing you with more precise information early next week focused on the end of term arrangements, and the arrangements for Track and Trace over the Christmas break.

Year 10 did a fabulous job of creating some truly creative portraits for their **Photography GCSE** this week. Using make-up techniques, costumes and props the students developed ideas into reality creating Zombies, Brats, Dolls, Fairies and



Mermaids via contemporary distortion. Working with the teachers and our professional photographer



Beverley Neill their outcomes were excellent. The portraits will be developed into magazine covers, LP albums and film posters for the GCSE coursework. Well done Year 10! This was a wonderfully productive day enjoyed by everyone.



Massive congratulations as well for an outstanding achievement from two of our Year 7 students this week. Euan Church and Evie Prior in 7S were announced as **winners of the Liz Pichon TOM GATES 10th Anniversary book cover competition**. Their pictures will be published in February in the new book "TEN TREMENDOUS TALES". Evie and Euan will both received a signed copy of the new book and a special bundle of goodies!

I want to take a moment to inform parents of some liaison work with the local police concerning an area that can sometimes affect our children. Children, young people and adults can be a target for exploitation from a crime called "**county lines**". This means where people are exploited to move illegal drugs from one area to another to avoid detection. [The document attached](#)

shows parents and carers the signs to look out for in young people, and how you can get help.

Mrs Smith O'Connell tells me that, in Life Learning lessons over the past few weeks, there has been a focus on ways that students can **stay safe online**. The impact of social media platforms on pupils' mental health is well documented and with the inevitable increase in the amount of time that pupils spend on their mobile, tablet or gaming devices it's more important than ever that we are all up to date with the best possible way to keep children safe online. With technological advances moving quicker than we can all keep up with the NOS (National Online Safety) have put together some E-Safety guides to many online platforms including Facebook; Instagram; You tube; XBOX; PlayStation 5; Music streaming; FIFA; Snapchat. Please take a look: <https://wernethschool.com/parents/online-safety>

You may be aware that we held interviews in school this year for the Year Inclusion Manager



in Year 8. As we continue to focus on developing our young people as leaders of the future, I wanted to highlight the excellent work of six of our Year 8 students in the interview process. They held a student interview as part of the process, and we sought their advice in choosing a candidate. Well done to Dan, Charlie, Megan, Olivia, Hannah and Heidi.



Stella Yang in Year 9 has created this amazing canvas inspired by the theme of "Gems". Students are working on a project towards their coursework and Stella has created this painting in her own time which was not even set as her homework. What a superstar. Mr Mujagic was very impressed!

Christmas is a time of course for giving, and thinking of how we can support each other. With that in mind I wanted to update you on some of the remarkable work for the local community that is centred around our school. Werneth School prides itself on the work we do in partnership with the Local Community. We are working with the

Manchester United Foundation to organise food pack deliveries over the Christmas period, as well as our work with Mr McGrath's Shoebox Project. This week the school's work in supporting the community was also recognised by St Chad's Church in Romiley who very kindly donated a number of Morrisons food vouchers and boxes of chocolates to be distributed amongst some of our more vulnerable families. This came as a massive surprise

to those families who were incredibly grateful for the additional support at this time of year. We would like to take this opportunity to formally thank all those involved at St Chads for this very kind donation and their ongoing support to Werneth School. Finally, Miss Darlington has also been organising a Reverse Advent Calendar in form groups, to support Stockport foodbank by providing items that can be used by the foodbank. This video shows the need for such work: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rXByo85QkR8>

Have a good weekend!