

This week's update includes: Golden Tickets rewards; attendance update; drama news; Formula 1 in schools; Girls on Track; visual arts update; Year 7 leadership team; Year 11 football; SEND Sensory Space; Stockport events for parents

As ever, you will see in this week's blog the **massive range of activities** that have been taking place in school over recent weeks... despite the very real challenges that schools are facing, as society tries to recover from COVID. I have been working particularly closely with our Drama and PE departments over recent weeks, looking at the work in those areas in detail and it's been lovely to see our students so engaged and focused on their work.

In discussion with other secondary headteachers this week, it is apparent that there has been a **spike in anti-social behaviour** in our schools and communities over the past few weeks: we are feeling that in our school too. Well over 90% of our students are a pleasure to work with, but there are some young people who are seriously testing boundaries at the moment, and I have been issuing too many exclusions. I had a lovely email from a parent on Thursday, telling me how much she appreciated the support of teachers in working relentlessly, and I know most parents work extremely hard with us as a school to address any issues. We will continue to work hard to address any anti-social behaviour moving forward. As part of this, we have become aware nationally in schools that there have been significant issues with some social media apps over the past month with inappropriate behaviour from young people. Our school link police officer, PC Gotts, is working with us to address any issues here and I would ask parents to be vigilant with your child's activity on apps.



Most of our students of course get it right every single day, and we are working extremely hard to reward that more than ever at the moment.

Congratulations (left) to our Half Term 1 **Golden Ticket winners**, rewarded for consistently getting it right!



Update from Mrs Hall, Attendance Lead: Many thanks for your support in ensuring that your child arrives at school on time and every day. Well done to Year 7 who have the best attendance so far! To thank our students for all their efforts we are pleased to introduce a series of rewards. For more information please take a look at our Attendance page on the school website. [Attendance Matters](#)



For your information, if your child has been absent from school for 3 days or more this term (not including any Covid related illness) they are most likely to have an attendance of 90% or under. This is classed as a Persistent Absence (PA). Of course, your child's attendance and this figure will increase as we enter into our second half term, so please ensure that they come to school punctually every day so their attendance percentage can increase and they are able to access all the knowledge-rich learning that they are entitled to.



Lots of **DRAMA NEWS** to catch up on at the moment, reported here by Mrs Brothers, our Head of Drama We've had a great start to the year and wonderful things are happening in Drama!

TripleC - Drama Club enjoys working with Industry Professionals:

In September, we were joined by Ged and John from *TripleC* - a company of actors and artists, both able bodied and disabled, who bring inclusive drama to young people and campaign for equal opportunities for Artists with Disabilities in the Performing Arts Industry. For more information, please see: <https://triplec.org.uk/>. Ged and John led workshops with some very special students, giving them insight into being an Actor and Producer in the Film, TV and Theatre, and developing ideas for our next show. Well done to all our students who participated - you represented the school beautifully!

Debut Academy - Year 10s take a big step into the Creative Arts

Industry: In October, year 10 Drama students were visited by the team from Debut Studios, an award winning Academy and Sixth Form for Performing Arts in Stockport. For more information, please see: <https://www.debutstudios.uk/> Our students were treated to an acting workshop with Debut's James Corlett, who was once a student at Werneth himself. They made us proud as they explored techniques with creativity, maturity and collaboration. This is a taste of the Performing Arts at Sixth Form and students discussed where their studies in Key-Stage Four can lead them.



A Night at the Theatre! Student Leaders in Dance and Drama, along with a few culture-vultures on our staff, enjoyed a special night out to The Hope Mill Theatre in Ancoats, to see a thought-provoking production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with an all female cast. It was a great night out, as The Hope Mill Theatre is known as a vibrant and cutting-edge venue for inclusive theatre in Manchester and Ancoats is now renowned as one of the trendiest places in the UK! For more information, please visit: [Hope Mill Theatre](https://www.hopemilltheatre.com/) | [Manchester Theatre Company](https://www.manchestertheatrecompany.com/).

We had a special treat at the end of the show when we met Izzy McKenty (Hermia), the show's director Kate Colgrave Pope and the famous English Actor, Julie Hesmondhalgh (Hayley Cropper on Coronation Street, 1988-2014).



In **Design Technology**, Mr Neilson has launched his **Formula 1 competition** with Years 8 and 9. We have 5 teams entered and they have received their Entry Class Competition Guide Books. They are now

taking decisions on roles within the team. They are already thinking how they might raise funds to support their race car on its journey to the North West Finals in July 2022.

Some **visual arts** updates from Mrs Holden ...

Visual Arts Year 11

Deadline for coursework for Component A is Christmas. There will be no exam but work for component B will be completed between January and Easter Break. All work will then be assessed and marks entered to the AQA Exam Board.

Visual Arts Fast Track Year 10

Component A and Component B must be completed by Christmas. January is the start of GCSE 2 this is a full GCSE Component A&B and an exam

Students have worked so hard this year and produced some amazing work - Please link onto our new Instagram to see some of the Werneth School creations: [Visualarts.wernethschool](https://www.instagram.com/visualarts.wernethschool)



Mrs Tonge is very pleased with her new **Year 7 leadership team**. They will be meeting each week to discuss how we can make Year 7 the best it can be. We will be working within school, within the community and with our primary schools. Well done to Hannah, Amie, Isla, Isabelle, Sam, Ethan, Toby, Amaya, Melodie, Kyran, Alife. I look forward to working with you all.

Mr Brierley is very proud of his **Year 11 football team**. He took the team to Barnsley in the National Cup this week, and reports that “unfortunately the lads lost 2-1 In a very close game in Barnsley this week. A few decisions went against them but they worked hard for each other right to the end. Very proud of them all. Great spirit and attitude.” They play Altrincham Grammar School next week in the quarter finals of the Greater Manchester Under 16s Cup.



Meanwhile, a group of Year 7 Girls attended the **Girls On Track** event hosted by Motorsport UK and the MU Foundation. As part of the event the students took part in several activities including, robot coding, STEM activities, fitness, a Q&A with representatives from F1 and also a go karting experience. This was a great day and an opportunity for girls to see careers available in motorsport and engineering.

Finally, The **SEND department** has successfully secured some funding from The Sheila Coates Foundation, whose aim is to enhance education and mental health provision for secondary students with autism. Our project is to transform one of our meeting rooms so it can also function as a sensory space. This will provide a calm, safe area which would be beneficial for some of our students with autism. Thanks to Mrs Darlington, who has organised this.



Have a good weekend!