

Parental Update: Friday 2nd July 2021

This update includes: COVID Update and Reminders; Geography trip; Y9 students who have chosen Visual Arts GCSE subjects; Werneth Dance students performance in Manchester; Year 10 Careers Fair; Foodbanks for the summer; Safeguarding support for parents



COVID REMINDERS - It is crucial **PLEASE** that you continue to **test using the lateral flow tests twice weekly at home for every pupil and also the rest of your family**. If you run out of tests, your child can speak to Medical Needs Officer Mrs Rothwell in our main office for more tests. Should you receive a **positive test** from this process, you should keep your child at home and inform school as soon as possible via positivecase@wernethschool.com and by contacting megan.rothwell@wernethschool.com via telephone or email. She will advise you of next steps.

Werneth School specific COVID updates:

- We have isolated a small group of Year 7 students this morning following a positive case. Remote learning will be activated and they will return on 12th July.
- We continue with **face coverings** for the immediate future. I have been asked again by the local authority to remind you that cases remain too high in Stockport in the age group 10-19. Positive cases remain well above national average across Greater Manchester, and you should take every precaution to prevent the transmission of the virus.
- Apologies for the confusion on Monday with regard to an out-of-date notice. As you heard, it was business as usual in school. To confirm, there are no INSET days until the end of term. We **break up on Wednesday 21st July at midday**.
- You will have heard all of the national coverage this week about removal of face coverings for the autumn term and hopefully no need for bubbles to be sent home from September. We really hope this is the case, and we are awaiting further guidance from the Department for Education. They are asking us to prepare for the possibility of on-site testing at the start of term. We will of course keep you updated with any developments.
- I will be sending out a **calendar for the new academic year** before the end of the term. Confirmation that our **new Year 7s and new Year 11s will start on Thursday 2nd September**, and **new Years 8, 9 and 10 will start on Friday 3rd September**.



Hitting the peaks - Geography trip

Geography is a subject very much on the rise at Werneth, with large numbers of students choosing it at GCSE these days, coupled with pleasing examination results.

Mr Nicholls and Mr Parker are keen to introduce new, exciting opportunities at Key Stage 3 and we have over 200 of our Year 8 students due to visit Edale next week over two days. Mr Parker reminds everyone that "Tuesday and Thursday look to be really exciting days where we will be using the latest equipment to measure rivers, weather, climate and the Edale ecosystem. The trip is no school

uniform but appropriate clothing must be worn: shorts and t-shirts will be fine. Please make sure you also have: *Appropriate footwear e.g. trainers or wellies; A hat and sun cream in case it is hot!; A waterproof jacket in case of rain; A packed lunch; Water and snacks; A small backpack; A face mask for the coach*. Students will be returning to school in time for the end of the day. I am sure they will have an enriching educational experience.

Year 9 Visual Arts GCSE Students

All students who have opted for Photography, Fine Art, Graphics or 3D Sculpture ... we have an Art Kit available for students on parent pay. The Art Kit has all the equipment in it for the 2 year course this includes: Pack of Pencils, Rubber, Sharpener, Koi-i-noor Watercolour Paints, 24 Koi-i-noor watercolour pencils, Oil Pastels, Sharpie, 12 fineliners, Glue Stick, Large & Small Paintbrush. Please look on Parent Pay for the £18 Art Kit if you would like to purchase one for your child. Orders will be placed with the supplier before we break for summer. (Students who are Pupil Premium will automatically receive an Art Kit for the course). *Many thanks, The Visual Arts Team*

Students from **year 8 will be performing a street dance at Manchester International Festival** this Saturday 3rd July. They are in the process of last minute rehearsals and have completed a virtual coaching session with a professional dancer via Zoom. The festival main stage takes place between 12-2pm at Festival Square near the Print Works in the city centre. Our performers will take to the stage at 1.45pm in front of an audience of 400 spectators. The event is open for the public to attend and there are lots of other live and virtual performances taking place throughout the festival which runs until the 18th. MIF in collaboration with The Manchester United Foundation have coordinated the event to showcase talent from all ages across the Northwest and to highlight the importance of the creative arts industry at every level. There will also be a broadcast of the event via a live stream at <https://player.vimeo.com/video/563346574> **Password: MIFxMUF** and you can also visit the MIF website for all the events that are taking place. We wish our talented dancers all the very best on Saturday. We know they are extremely excited to have gained a place at this fantastic event.

As we try to open up further careers opportunities during these challenging times, **Year 10 will attend a Careers Fair on Wednesday 14th July**. Students will have the chance to speak to employers, colleges and training providers about the opportunities that are available Post-16 and beyond. Some of the employers who have so far agreed to attend are United Utilities, Greene King, Balfour Beatty, Marple College, Stockport College and Juniper Training.

Summer Holiday Foodbank Offer

Once again **Stockport Foodbank** will be providing support to families during the school summer holiday period. The scheme is open to any family in receipt of means-tested Free School Meals as well as those families who may be vulnerable for reasons of financial hardship.

All referred families will receive nutritionally balanced food parcels for up to five weeks. These are further enhanced with the addition of fresh fruit and vegetables, bread, treats, nappies, sanitary products, toiletries and pet food as required. Stockport Foodbank have seven centres across Stockport.

Referrals need to come through school - we will register you as a family, and you will then receive a telephone call from them offering you support. Please email fsm@wernethschool.com asap if your family is eligible, and we will add you to the list. You can also speak to your child's year leader who can add you onto the list.

Safeguarding - nude images

Most people who work in schools wish that social media had never been invented. I am sure many parents feel the same way. Can we draw your attention to the **new Report Remove tool from Childline** which allows children, young people and adults to report nude images that are circulating social media and help with their removal. The tool can be accessed [here](#).

Finally, well done to **Year 10 students** who have conducted themselves extremely well this week in their GCSE-style examinations.

Have a good, safe weekend and enjoy the quarter final!