

## Parental Update: Friday 9th July 2021

This update includes: Covid Reminders and NEW guidance; Senior Student Leadership Team; Geography trip; Dance students excel; Life Learning - Staying Safe over summer; Boxing; Drama; Year 9 Information Technology Award; Year 9 Visual Arts Reminder for GCSE courses; Summer Holiday Foodbanks; Safeguarding

As well as an update in terms of the new COVID regulations, there are so many learning positives this week to talk about in one of the fullest updates of the year ....

You will have heard that the **Department for Education** has this week provided **updated COVID guidance for schools**, following the national changes that take effect from a week on Monday, 19th July. We are being asked to review all of our systems around COVID and make changes that - hopefully - make it less likely for any child to miss education. There are **no changes for the next week**, but some of these changes take effect for our final three days ( 19th to 21st July ), and then all of them apply from September. I will be updating you in more detail, but here is a summary of the key changes you can expect:

- **“Bubbles”** will be removed from our return in September, in terms of classrooms and around school. Assemblies can take place from 19th July as well. We currently have a number of small “bubbles” out as a result of contact tracing, and this should not happen in most cases in September.
- **Contact tracing** in school will no longer take place from next term. We will update you on how this will work over the summer and from September.
- We are being asked to **test ALL students** who have parental consent from return in September so we can minimise any possible disruption - as we did in March - and to stagger the start of term if necessary. I am looking at how we can manage this with the least disruption. More information to come.
- **Face coverings** will **not** be required from Monday 19th July in school, or on school buses. They are also not legally required on public transport. If a child chooses to wear a face covering, they can of course do so.
- **If a child tests positive** from September, students who have been in contact will not be sent home to isolate: that will be managed differently by daily testing in school.
- We will have **remote learning plans** in place for the months ahead.

Again, I will update you with more details as we now put a full plan in place for September.

***Another reminder that in Stockport positive cases are still too high in the age group between 11 and 29 years old, and they are still rising!***



**Developing the leaders of tomorrow is a real privilege of us as teachers.** After an application process this week, we were able to appoint a wonderful group of young people into **our new Student Senior Leadership Team for 2021/22**, and we congratulate them all on their achievement.

The new team will be: **Head Girl** Natalie Pierce; **Head Boy** Daheem Ali Khan; **Deputy Head Girl** Zorah Doodoo; **Deputy Head Boy** Alex Bracegirdle; **Teaching & Learning Lead** Jessica Sellers; **Whole School Lead** Jamie Raeburn; **Student Support** Elyce Pearson and James Cooper

This week the **Geography department** has taken Year 8 up to Edale in the Peak district. It was an opportunity for our pupils to travel to an upland environment to conduct a river study. They were measuring river velocity and how the river changes in terms of depth, width and slope angle. They will now use this data in their classes to complete a project on rivers. They were all very well behaved and a credit to the school. Mrs Arnold, Year 8 Inclusion Manager, told me that she was “incredibly proud” of the maturity and hard work of the Year 8 students on the trip. It was also a reminder that students have had so few opportunities such as this over the past two years as a result of the pandemic. Well done Year 8!



**Dance performance at The Manchester International Festival:**

On Saturday 3rd July Miss Hibbert and a group of year 8 dancers headed into a rainy Manchester City Centre to attend The Manchester International Festival. The girls had won a place to perform on the main stage at the festival as part of a schools talent showcase in partnership with The Manchester United Foundation. The sun came out just in time for the amazing performance by **Megan Voss, Ava Davies, Macy Sproston, Morgan Martin, Olivia Barton and Matilda Matilda McGagh**. With a live audience of 400 and a live broadcast internationally the girls were cool, calm and

collected and gave the performance their all.

The girls took the performance in their stride and wowed the audience with their street dance performance to ‘Black Widow’. After the performance the girls were treated to goodies bags and food and drink by MUF and MIF. You can still view the performance on the following link [Private Video on Vimeo](#) until the end of the month with the password MIFxMUF. Well done to all of the girls involved.



**Year 9 Info Tech students** have been finishing off the year by gaining their **Bronze iDEA qualification**. iDEA is an international programme that helps to develop digital, enterprise and employability skills. Through a series of online challenges, you can win career-enhancing badges, unlock new opportunities and, ultimately, gain industry-recognised Awards that help you stand out from the crowd. We hope to also have a few Silver qualifications

and maybe even a Gold by the end of term. This qualification is all completed online, free of charge and can be accessed on any device. Pupils are encouraged to continue working their way through the courses outside of school to gain the industry recognised qualifications that can be used for college and job applications. To find out more visit [www. idea.org.uk](http://www.idea.org.uk) Mrs T Birds - Computer Science and ICT



**Drama Club at Woodley School** - Super Well Done! This week, the members of the yr 9 Drama Club delivered workshops on Cross-Cultural Communication at Woodley Primary School! Their confidence and creativity has blossomed, and it was a pleasure to see them in action!



Meanwhile, **Year 8 and 9 Boxers** have finished their 7 week boxing course with Mr Brierley. The students have been working hard on their fitness and boxing fundamentals. Look out for the boxing clubs starting again in the new school year.



As part of their **Life Learning** curriculum during form time over the next week, all students will be discussing some **important ways to stay safe over the summer holidays** with the help of the Greater Manchester Fire Service. Partners across Greater Manchester will be working together to tackle anti-social behaviour to ensure that everyone has a safe and enjoyable time throughout the summer months. The "Safe4Summer" campaign includes promoting crime prevention and personal safety advice, and encouraging young people to get involved in the array of fun activities to help prevent involvement in anti-social behaviour activity. The campaign focuses on types of anti-social behaviour that we typically see more of during the summer than in winter, and promotes a conversation with our communities about how they can help tackle and prevent anti-social behaviour.

While young people are off school, there may be temptation for them to get involved in things that seem like harmless fun but can often lead to serious consequences. Greater Manchester is working together to ensure young people can relax and enjoy their holidays in the safest way possible for themselves and for others. This summer, we're asking the public to help make communities a safer and more enjoyable place. During the sessions our pupils will discuss the following:

- [Keeping our communities, including young people, safe while](#) exercising around water and educate them about water safety
- [Reduce incidents of anti-social behaviour](#), by offering young people in Greater Manchester the opportunity to experience fun and exciting activities in their local areas
- Increase reporting of antisocial behaviour
- Encourage people to take responsibility for their actions and assist with education around summer safety messages
- Reduce incidents of deliberately set fires
- Reduce water-related incidents
- Reduce the number of hoax calls to emergency services
- Reassure local communities that the partnership is committed to working together to tackle anti-social behaviour.

Please find the resources our pupils have used via the link below and also the link for many free events that are being ran across Greater Manchester this summer:

<https://manchesterfire.gov.uk/your-safety/campaigns/safe4summer/safe4summer-activities-2021/>  
<https://safetycentre.manchesterfire.gov.uk/secondary-school-resources/>

## **REMINDERS FROM LAST WEEK ...**

### **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**

### 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](mailto: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](#).



**COVID REMINDERS FOR THE NEXT WEEK** - 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](mailto:positivecase@wernethschool.com) and by

contacting [megan.rothwell@wernethschool.com](mailto:megan.rothwell@wernethschool.com) via telephone or email. She will advise you of next steps.

***Next week is our last "normal" week in school - if anything this year can ever be described as "normal" - before our activities days on 19th - 21st July.***

**Have a good, safe weekend and enjoy the final! Come on England!**