

## PARENTAL End of School Year UPDATE - WEDNESDAY 21ST JULY 2021

**This week's update includes:** Return dates in September, year group leaders for September; new school entrances; key dates and events for next year; uniform; attendance; COVID reminders; "We are Werneth"; Year 10 Careers Fair; Key Stage 3 Award Ceremonies; Harvey Gregory - Year 10 Cycloane; Golden Ticket; Science STEM event; Sports Day; Police Cadets; French plays; Dance experiences; Free School Meal support over the school holiday; saying goodbye to some of our staff

*It's another massive update filled with information and news at the end of the school year. I don't know how we have managed to fit it all in around COVID, but we have! Today's update is split into two sections. Key information for the start of term, and then an update on school life over the past week.....*

### What do you need to know for our return in September?

#### Student Return Dates in September

<b>Wednesday 1st September</b>	Staff INSET Day. Year 10 testing in Sports Hall 1.45 - 3.00
<b>Thursday 2nd September</b>	Year 7 and Year 11 return to school. 8.40am start.
<b>Friday 3rd September</b>	All year groups in school. 8.40am start.

#### Key Year Contacts for the 21/22 Academic Year

Year	Year Inclusion Manager	Year Achievement Leader	Assistant Headteacher Link
<b>7</b>	Mrs T Taylor	Mrs J Tonge	Mrs J Dee
<b>8</b>	Mrs S Barnard	Mrs L Taylor	Mr G Norman
<b>9</b>	Miss M Arnold	Mr M Mujagic	Mrs G Kennedy
<b>10</b>	Mrs M Lewis	Mrs H Massey	Mr D Willis
<b>11</b>	Miss J Hunt	Mrs L Aspinall	Mrs R Chantler

Other key information for our return in September:

- **Unstructured times ( before school, break and lunchtime )** will be split within school into two different areas, each with their own catering facilities. **Years 7 and 8** will have one area in school, and **Years 9, 10 and 11** will have a different area. In the mornings, **Years 7 and 8** will turn left at the bottom of the school path and enter via the tennis court entrance. **Years 9, 10 and 11** will turn right and enter the front student entrance.
- We now have a confirmed set of **Parental Key Dates and Events for 21/22 academic year**, and you can keep these for your reference. The link is here: <https://wernethschool.com/termdates>
- Although we are planning to make some changes to **uniform** over the next 12 months, there is nothing changing for September. **Here** is a reminder of our uniform expectations for September if you aren't sure ... it contains some accompanying guidance from Mr Willis..
- The **Attendance Team** would like to thank all parents and carers for their continued support in sending their children into school and on time in what has been a most challenging year! We will be on hand week commencing 23rd August 2021 to support any students who may be feeling nervous or support parents/carers with any concerns around their child's return. You can contact us on [attendance@wernethschool.com](mailto:attendance@wernethschool.com) or call 0161 494 1222 extension 1058. Wishing you all an enjoyable and restful summer break from the Attendance Team

## Key messages covering a very busy end to the school year ...

***It has been such a disruptive year, we have tried hard to make our final few days in school a fun and productive end to term.***

**COVID:** Like every school, we have needed to send home quite a few “bubbles” at the end of term, and we know that is a disappointing end for some. Let’s hope the new measures for September means this isn’t a trend for the autumn term. I am still awaiting some further guidance from the government in terms of our COVID risk assessment for the return in September. I will update parents in due course with the full arrangements. However, a quick summary of the current guidance as far as I understand it currently:

- ❖ We will test all children twice - if you provide your consent - on return in September. This is in line with government guidance, and the aim is to prevent the spread of the virus.
- ❖ Any positive cases in September will not result in contact bubbles being sent home, unless there is a significant outbreak in school.
- ❖ Face coverings are currently not required from September
- ❖ We will have plans in place to activate if there is an outbreak, or if we require home learning to take place.

**“We are Werneth”.** I am sure that, like me, you were appalled by some of the behaviour from so-called England fans following the final a few weeks ago. The disrespect and disregard for fellow human beings, regardless of their nationality or colour, is rightly being challenged moving forward. It’s something that schools are highly conscious about. We try very hard to instil the characteristics of what it is to be a positive, caring individual into our students. COVID has - in our experience - been unhelpful to human relationships in and out of school, and that involves young people and older people. We want to start looking ahead to how we can interact better with each other. We all get it wrong sometimes! Last week, members of staff in school led a co-ordinated programme across every teaching group in school to deliver the same message around “We are Werneth” and the importance of us working together. Students produced a set of their own guidelines on how we conduct ourselves in school, centred around our **Education Learning Trust** core values of **COLLABORATE <> EMPOWER <> ACHIEVE**.

Students were very reflective and have created some key statements that will form our code of conduct for the new year. Thanks to everyone for your involvement.

**Y10 Careers Fair:** Mrs Howell, our in-school careers lead, was delighted with the interest and enthusiasm from Year 10 when we held our careers event for them in school on Wednesday 14th July. The focus of the event was to enable students to explore post-16 options available to them, in line with their passions, ambitions and future career goals. Our Year 10 students were given the opportunity to meet a number of different representatives from local colleges, training providers and businesses. All of the representatives gave our students a broad range of advice and information to further support them in making more informed decisions about their future plans. We had brilliant feedback from all who attended ... here is one description of our young people from a guest speaker ... **“The students have all been brilliant and there’s a lot of bright and open minded individuals. We’re sure they will have a successful employment/education journey.”**

Well done Year 10! If you have any further queries in relation to careers please contact [kimberley.howell@wernethschool.com](mailto:kimberley.howell@wernethschool.com)





**Key Stage 3 Award assemblies:** I was delighted to join the Key Stage 3 Award ceremonies on Monday morning, where the consistent hard work of many of



our young people was recognised with a range of awards from subject teachers and from the year leadership teams. Thank you to Mrs Kennedy for putting the events together with year leaders. A timely reminder that excellence can and does happen with young people, even in the most demanding of times.

A huge congratulations to our **year 10 student, Harvey Gregory**, on receiving his Level 2 Qualification in Cycle Mechanics. Harvey has worked incredibly hard this year and has excelled in a number of tasks including adjusting disk brakes, replacing chains, and building wheels. Harvey will continue his placement at Cera Cycloan into year 11 where he will learn the business side of fixing and selling bikes. **Well Done Harvey!**



**Excellence in Learning - Golden tickets:** We know that our young people really value our “Golden Ticket” system that Mr Bennett organises in school. It’s the chance for every teacher to nominate two children who have worked extremely hard in school over a half term to be drawn for golden tickets. I

then draw out a winner, and the winner receives a special prize. This year, we have been giving away free laptops to the winner each half term. Congratulations this time go to **Alex in Year 8** who received his new laptop on Tuesday. Alex was nominated by Mr Astles..

I introduced you to our appointed Student Senior Leadership team last week, but I also want to recognise and congratulate now our **full team of Senior Students for 2021/22**, each of which has stepped up to be appointed as a leader. Well done to each of you!



Kiki Edward-Jones	Claudia Cross	Ellie Dean	Tomos Wolfenden
Caitlin Pritchard	Alexa Cross	Charlotte Moffett	Luke Horan
Rhiana Smith	Emma Brown	Paige Walters	Luke Waddington
Poppy Lynch	Olivia Gordan Waring	Annie Chadwick	Luke Noon
Alyssa Bate	Charlotte Wright	Eleanor Whitelegg	Joe Montgomery
Grasiela Pashaj	Grace Leardodd	Max Nagler	Oliver Wright
Kiera Maleque	Lyla Stobbart	Tyler Morrall	
	Sophie Robinson	Michael Lowth	

**Science STEM Event:** Twenty triple science students participated in a Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) Summer Camp sponsored by Goldman Sachs and the STEM Learning Network. We were one of only three schools in the North West to secure this lucrative opportunity due to our close links with the STEM Learning Network. The three-day camp focused on practical and examination skills across Biology, Chemistry and Physics. The students involved received branded stationery and represented Werneth School in an exemplary manner. All of the guest contributors were impressed by the enthusiasm and dedication that all of the students demonstrated across the three days, even when measuring the rate of respiration



in maggots! A big well done from the science department to; Alyssa Bate, Annie Chadwick, Alexa Cross, Elliot Melia, Charlotte Moffett, Paige Walters, Daheem Ali Khan, James Cooper, Max Green, Ellie Dean, Luke Noon, Luke Waddington, Kieran May, Eleanor Whitelegg, Elyce Pearson, Finn Smeaton, Jessica Sellers, Claudia Cross, Jamie Raeburn and Lyla Stobbart.

**Sports Day:** We decided a few weeks ago that we would organise Tuesday's Sports Day for Years 7 to 9 in year group blocks to maintain our bubbles in school. Year 10 had their own sports activities as well during the day. It was a good job that we had organised it this way as the searing heat meant it was a scorcher. Our young people certainly had to beat the heat in their competitions. However, the day was a real success, with a mix of sports events, celebration events and activities with form tutors. Well done to everyone for taking part, to our PE department for a

very well-organised sports day and to all staff for the other activities around the day. Here's a glimpse of our Sports Day 2021: [Sports Day video](#)

Well done to Miss Smith's Year 7 French group, who requested we do a **French play** at the end of term. They have worked in small groups to perform Cendrillon (Cinderella) entirely in French. It has been lovely to see the group engaged in speaking French in front of the class and in using their performing arts skills to make

the audience laugh! Thank you to Ms Brothers who kindly donated some props and costumes for the class to use.

As part of their **extra curricular activities**, some of our Year 8 students have planted a small pot of cress each. They got to learn about how seeds grow into full plants and watch for themselves how the seeds sprout very quickly with the right care. They

will all be going home at the end of term with a little cress-baby to see who can keep it alive the longest! I look forward to seeing how big they all get.



On Friday our **Year 10 Dance students** took part in a zoom workshop with Professional Dance Artist Mel Simpson. The girls were put through their paces as Mel worked with them on refining their performance of Chicago's "All that Jazz" ready for their assessment. The girls worked so hard and Mel was very complimentary of how well the girls did.



### Looking for a new group to join over the holidays?

Police Cadets is a volunteer youth group for 13-17 year olds with amazing opportunities, the chance to develop yourself, learn about Policing, make friends and have fun. Here is more information for anyone interested - <https://vpc.police.uk/be-a-cadet/>  
**Interested?** Email [stockportcadets@gmp.police.uk](mailto:stockportcadets@gmp.police.uk) for more information.

### Free School Meal Support for the Summer: A Message from Stockport Council - COVID Local Support Grant Vouchers over summer:

Stockport Council are able to continue to support families in receipt of Free School Meals with vouchers to help cover the cost of food and other essentials this summer holiday. We are also able to extend this offer to other families in receipt of Universal Credit. Families of school-age children who are eligible for income-based Free School Meals, or those who receive Universal Credit, are being provided with vouchers to help with the costs of food this summer holiday. Where the council does not hold an email address for a family, paper Aldi vouchers will be issued.

Families with eligible children will receive vouchers to the value of £10 per child, per week of the summer holiday. In total, this means that for each eligible primary and nursery age child, families will receive £50, and for each secondary pupil, £60. Vouchers will be sent in two instalments this summer and the total value divided evenly across each payment. This means that each round will contain vouchers valued at £25 for primary and nursery aged children, or £30 for secondary aged pupils. The first instalment will be issued in the w/c 19 July and the second instalment in w/c 9 August. *NB Please do not contact Werneth School in the event of any issue with this scheme - you will need to contact Stockport Council directly.*

**Staff changes:** The end of a school year is always a time to say goodbyes, and welcome new staff. Werneth School is fully staffed for September, and I will introduce you to our new staff when we return. In the meantime though, I want to recognise some of our staff who are leaving us.

In terms of teachers, we say farewell, thank you and good luck to ... **Mrs Birds** in our Computer Science department who moves to a new school; **Mrs Majid** from Maths is leaving us to look after her young family; **Mr Powell** from Maths who is moving to a new part of the country and **Mrs Holness** who has covered for Mrs Aspinall's maternity leave this year.

In terms of support staff, we have a number of staff with long service records at Werneth School retiring. **Mrs Miller** in our HART facility retires after 19 years at Werneth; **Mrs Green** - our Examinations Officer - has been a member of staff at Werneth for 17 years; and **Mrs Machin** has been a teaching assistant for 17 years here. We wish them all a very happy retirement. We also say goodbye to two other members of our learning support department - **Mr Torkington and Mr Wiggan** - who leave us to train to become teachers. I am sure that both will be an asset to our profession. We have also had a number of graduate one year support staff working in Maths ( Miss Black ), Science ( Miss McNeil ) and History ( Mr Potter ), and they leave for pastures new as well. ***We thank our departing staff for their service to our young people at Werneth School.***

**And finally** ....it has been an extraordinary year, and we all hope for a return to non-COVID education as our core priority in the next school year. I want to thank Werneth staff for their extraordinary dedication this year despite all of the challenges that we have faced, and I want to thank our children and families for their

resilience and support over the past twelve months. ***Enjoy a safe and happy summer break, have a well earned rest and we will see everyone in September.***