



# Wadham School

A Church of England Community School

*"Life in all its fullness" John 10:10*



Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **RE: Headteacher's Update Letter 30.10.23**

Welcome to Term 2!

It was an absolute pleasure welcoming students and staff back from the half term break this morning, and a delight in hearing about the positive experiences, trips and visits that often take place during the holidays.

I have made frequent reference in update letters to the fact that good discipline enables good learning, and currently at Wadham we are pleased to be experiencing both. This was again reflected today by the many greetings received, uniform correctly worn and positive attitude shown to learning in lessons.

With so much news in the wider world that can be unsettling and troubling, it is reassuring to know that school is a safe and stable 'rock' to many – clear in both purpose and expectation. This only happens when we are all consistent in our actions, working together to keep learning and well-being at the heart of what we do. Thank you for this continued support.

Another positive outcome of the good discipline we have created is that we are seeing increased interest in applications for teaching and support staff vacancies.

At the end of last term we successfully appointed a Head of Art and Photography and a Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages, both starting in January. These are new posts that strengthen existing departments as we continue to grow into the community school we want to be. With students being involved in the interview process, it's heartening to be told by candidates that they want to work here because of what friends and colleagues have told them and the warm welcome given to them by our students.

In a time when staff recruitment remains a challenge nationally it's great that for all the right reasons we're able to recruit quality colleagues with the necessary skills, experiences and mindset to make a positive difference to the life chances and outcomes of the children in our care.

I am immensely proud of what we've achieved since last September, and excited about this new term and where we will be by Christmas!

Yours sincerely,

Richard Burgas  
Headteacher



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Headteacher: Mr R Burgas  
Chair of Governors: Mr C Chapman



## Top Performing Students

Well done to everyone listed below! With all 4 Houses each now past the 25,000 House Point mark, it's a tousele at the top between Powell and Gibson, with Cooper fading and Berry needing a helping hand!

### Week Commencing 09.10.23

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
1	George B	Caiden A	Dolson C	William M	Toby S
2	Bethany S	Oliver N	Emily H	Archie S	William R
3	James B	Andrew H	Ruby D Nathan F Isaac G Ryan W	Jed B Jarvis H	Cameron J

### Week Commencing 16.10.23

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
1	Matilda L	Gwen T	Benny S	Damon M	Ruby-Dee C Amelia J
2	Wyatt T	Tom M	Eliza O	Jed B	Isobel B
3	Riley M	Rusty J	Nathan F	Jarvis H	Rosie B Ryan C Jack H Alexander P Oliver W

## Wadham School Chess Club!

Members of the Sixth Form have created a Chess Club that is open to all students, with meetings taking place every Friday lunchtime in B22.

Whether a novice or grand master, if you want to flex your intellect on the board, you're very welcome to come and have a game.

Donations for unwanted/unused chess sets also gratefully received!



## **Uniform Expectations – Thank You!**

We wrote to parents last term to highlight positive changes made to our uniform expectations. Full details, including order forms and the uniform policy can be found on our website here:

[Wadham School - School Uniform](#)

Feedback from students has been positive, particularly regarding the single, discrete nose-stud that is now permitted. At the same time, on behalf of the PE Team please can I remind everyone that ALL jewellery needs to be removed during PE lessons.

With regard to skirts, it was pleasing to see today action taken by a large number of families to ensure that skirts made from clingy/stretchy material are no longer worn. Thank you – it is much appreciated.

We will continue to monitor uniform and appearance, contacting parents should we be concerned that school policy is not being followed.

## **Meet the Tutor Evening & Careers Fair – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023**

A final reminder that we are looking forward to welcoming students and their parents to our 'Meet the Tutor Evening' from 4.00-7.00pm on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

This will be a face-to-face event in school.

Our Careers Fair will also be running at this time in the New Sports Hall, and all families, particularly those with children in Years 11 and 13, are encouraged to attend. Students will have access to the Fair during the school day, and the Fair will remain open until 7pm. There will be trade stands from a range of local education providers, employers and professionals, happy to give advice and guidance on career pathways and onward progression.

The canteen will be open on the night for self-service refreshments, the perfect 'pit-stop' as families move from the tutor appointment to the Careers Fair.

We hope you find both events on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November useful in providing information regarding how well your child has settled into their studies this year, along with some ideas and guidance about possible next steps for their future.

## **Sixth Form Open Evening – Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November, 5.00-7.00pm**

Year 11 students have started the year well, with over 25% of the group regularly attending after school homework club with Mrs Wright every Monday.

Summer exams are the stepping stone to Post-16 destinations, and Mr Isack and his team warmly invite Year 11 students and their parents to our Sixth Form Open Evening next Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November, 5.00-7.00pm. The evening will enable guests to hear about our core offer, as well as visit departments and discuss possible courses and course combinations.

Whether we are your first choice, your reserve choice, or you remain undecided, it is about being informed, and we hope to see as many students and parents as possible next Wednesday to help determine the right pathway for you, once studies this year are completed.

Immediate enquiries should be made to Mr Isack, Head of Sixth Form:

[Hisack@wadhamschool.co.uk](mailto:Hisack@wadhamschool.co.uk) / 01202 270123

Richard Burgas 30.10.23