



Our Ref: KMH/GLM/Jul2024_EndofYear.docx

Date: Friday 19 July 2024

Dear Parents / Carers

End of Year Message from the Principal

At the start of this academic year, I made a promise to serve all families and the community to the very best of my ability, explaining how much I was looking forward to seeing and talking to you all over the coming terms. I want to thank you all for your welcome; for trusting us with your children, for attending our events and for supporting the school wholeheartedly to continue to achieve the “best from everyone”. Your children are ambitious for their futures. They demonstrate respect and compassion daily and I am so proud of them.

Our community is truly special, and I am thankful to every student, staff member and family member that contributes to this. Community work is so incredibly important and examples of this have been demonstrated by our Primary Phase Pupil Leadership Team, Secondary Executive Council, and Sixth Form Student Leadership Team. Their exceptional leadership and organisational skills were the driving force behind three successful WOW/Culture Days, which not only celebrated our diverse community but also fostered a spirit of unity and inclusivity. Furthermore, their tireless efforts in leading our fundraising initiatives have made a significant impact, raising over £3171.89 for the Morocco Earthquake Appeal, Libya Flood Appeal, 52 Lives, Rekindle Charity, Royal British Legion, Crisis Homeless Charity, Mission Christmas, Comic Relief, Refugee Charity and 42nd Street. These achievements reflect their commitment and the values we hold dear as a school community. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to these remarkable students and look forward to seeing them continue to inspire and lead.

Our End of Term video (https://youtu.be/Q7cdB_rSbkU) shows a snapshot of some further events from our Summer Term. This will be available on our website next week, along with a downloadable ‘newsletter’ version.

Finally, as the summer break approaches, many of us are thinking about having an opportunity to rest and relax with our families and friends. I know I certainly am. Please enjoy the summer together and be safe. **Please reminder that it is a 2.00pm finish for students today.**

Please continue to read the end of year messages from the Heads of School (Primary and Secondary).

Message from Miss Dalton, Head of School (Primary Phase)

As we reach the end of this academic year, I want to extend my gratitude for your support during my first year as Head of School (Primary). It has been a fantastic journey, filled with new experiences and opportunities for growth, all within the safe and nurturing environment that our community provides. I appreciate the warm welcome that has made this transition feel seamless for me.

Cont'd...

Respect - Ambition - Compassion

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National Sports Week was a tremendous success! Year 1 children enjoyed trying out balance bikes, while Years 3 to 6 participated in a lively skipping workshop. The circus skills workshop for Years 2 and 3 was a particular favourite, and the Kin-ball taster session for Years 4 to 6 provided a unique and fun experience. Our annual Sports Day brought out the competitive spirit in our children with various athletic events. The Year 6 production of The Jungle Book on 17 July showcased our children's incredible talent and hard work. Finally, on 18 July, we celebrated the achievements of our Year 6 cohort and bid them a heartfelt farewell at the leavers' event as they prepared to move on to the next stage of their education.

Your support and the enthusiasm of our children have been invaluable in making this year a success. I look forward to many more years of shared accomplishments and continued excellence.

Message from Mr Copestake, Head of School (Secondary Phase)

It has been a privilege to have been so warmly welcomed into the WHGS community this year. At the end of my first year as Head of School (Secondary), I can reflect on the warmth and joy that many of our students provide each day. No day is ever the same, and this has been a year filled with challenge but also possibility. I am grateful to all parents/carers that have been so supportive of this journey.

The opportunities for learning beyond the classroom have continued over the past few weeks as students in the Secondary Phase and Sixth Form have taken part in talent shows, music concerts, sports fixtures, university visits and of course our highly anticipated Year 11 Prom. This term has also seen the recruitment of our new student prefects and council members; we recognise the value and importance of these roles, particularly in ensuring the voices of our students are heard and that they too can have an impact on the whole school community.

We are, from September, making changes to our lesson times in the Secondary Phase and Sixth Form. Having followed a 100-minute lesson timetable for a number of years, we will be moving to 75-minute lessons in the new academic year. Although this will change the timings of break and lunch, the school start and end times will remain the same:

Times of School Day, from Sept 2024	
08.30 - 9.00	AM Reg
9.00 - 10.15	Period 1
10.15 - 10.35	Break
10.35 - 11.50	Period 2
11.50 - 13.05	Period 3
13.05 - 13.55	Lunch
13.55 - 15.10	Period 4
15.10	End of day

We expect all students to arrive in September suitably prepared for their study and learning. Having the right equipment prepares students for future routines and ensures they can access their lessons and contribute to their academic achievement.

Please take the time during the summer break to ensure that students have the correct stationery and are ready to start the new school year with a full pencil case. In the Secondary Phase, you can purchase a pencil case with all the required equipment for a cost of £1.50. Payment should be made through ParentPay and the equipment will be ready for students when they return to school on 4 September. This includes:

- Pencil case
- 2 black pens
- 2 purple pens
- Eraser
- 2 red pens
- 2 pencils
- Ruler

Your continued support for our students is always appreciated; we believe that all students at WHGS have the capacity for success and we know you share our determination in ensuring all students strive for excellence.

Finally...

Please remember that all students are expected to be wearing the new blazer in September 2024.

Students who have a school supplied Chromebook to use at home, will not be able to use this equipment during the summer break. Our IT team will be disabling access as any problems or queries that may arise from using the Chromebooks will not be responded to.

As we look forward to a new school year of fresh challenges and successes, we say 'Goodbye' to the following members of staff who are leaving at the end of this academic year. We thank them all for their contribution to WHGS, for some of them over very many years, and wish them all well in their future ventures.

Primary Phase

Ms Alleyne, Miss Fisher and Mr Witkin.

Secondary Phase

Ms Aina, Miss Anwar, Miss Mustafa, Miss Savva, Ms Shaw, Mrs Beech, Miss Jones, Miss Fainberg, Mrs Boyd, Miss Emefe, Miss King, Miss Yallop, Mrs O'Brien, Mrs Williams, Mrs Turan, Miss Childs, Mrs Stapleton, Mr Lindley, Miss Moran, Mr Millns, Mr Khalique, Mr Howarth and Ms Boustead.

I wish you a relaxing and enjoyable summer break and look forward to the opportunities that a new academic year will bring.

School re-opens for pupils on Wednesday 4 September 2024.

Yours sincerely



K M Heaton
Principal