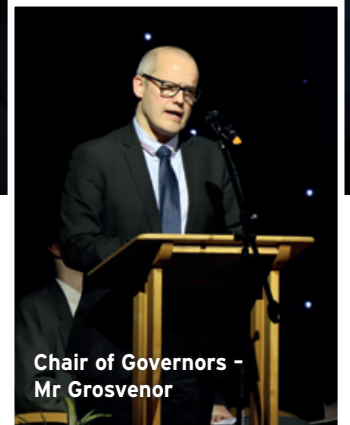


Jack, Jack and Lydia



Mrs Weatherhogg



Chair of Governors -
Mr Grosvenor

Presentation Evening

Our annual Presentation Evening on Thursday 2nd February 2023 is the highlight of our year as we celebrate the achievements of our pupils, both past and present.

The evening saw pupils, parents, staff and governors gather at Brierley Hill Civic Hall to watch as pupils accepted a variety of awards for their achievement in their subjects or for being outstanding for a specific quality, which adds such value to our school community.

Mr Gareth Burton, Headteacher and Mrs Kate Weatherhogg, Deputy Headteacher hosted the evening and to begin the evening the audience were treated to a musical performance of Presto Alla Tedesca by Effie.

Well done to everyone who received awards on the evening. Thanks to everyone involved with the planning and preparation of the evening.



Alfie and Keira



Effie

Message From Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers.

It's my pleasure to be able to write to you and share our inaugural edition of The Wordsley School Parent Brochure.

Our aim is to produce three brochures per year. In each brochure we will include a mixture of articles, which celebrate some of the many achievements of our pupils, and keep you informed about upcoming events at the school.

I look forward to seeing you at one of our events later in the year.

Mr Gareth Burton
Headteacher



Assembly December 16th 2022

Following the expansion of our Sports Hall we were finally able to accommodate a whole school assembly on the last day of Term 2, so great to see all house groups together at long last. Gareth Burton praised pupils on how they convey the values of the school and this can be seen in a poem produced by Year 10 pupils Olivia and Willow.

What does it mean to be from the Wordsley School?
It's the privilege of being taught by teachers who care,
they teach and support and always treat us fair.
It's the opportunities were fortunate to get;
It's the memories made, that we won't forget.
There's more to being a Wordsley school pupil,
such as following the values which are crucial.
Integrity, curiosity, respect, resilience and kindness;
these are all things that help to remind us.
Following the rules lead us to be rewarded,
in our community; we know we're supported.
These five years shape who we are;
always aim to exceed expectations by far.
We're together in unity;
this is what it means to be part of our community.

Olivia & Willow

Pupil Creativity - Music

During the Assembly Illia Year 10 provided a musical interlude

Illia commented "piece performed was called sonata no 717, 3rd movement by Beethoven". Performing in front of the whole school was really stressful. I was practicing the whole week for an hour a day playing one piece. Recording it trying to create the pressure that I will face performing. But when I really did it I was so nervous I couldn't start playing for 15 seconds. As you play you feel free you just dissolve in the music and continue playing.

I would like to go to sixth form, then university definitely a scholarship in music. I like to play and this helps me to relax and its even a kind of meditation. For me music is not only a hobby but also a key to the future".



Numeracy and Literacy updates

Wordsley pupils have been participating in several numeracy interventions this year and have become very competitive when it comes to the Form Time Numeracy Challenge. There have been over 1200 numeracy points awarded across the school since the start of the academic year.

Pupils have also been improving their numeracy skills weekly by completing 'Numeracy Ninjas' in their Maths lessons. This is a 30-question challenge based on 3 core numeracy elements: mental strategies, times tables and key skills. Pupils have 5 minutes to answer as many questions as possible and achieve a Ninja score, which correlates to a Ninja Belt colour. All pupils have been improving since September and the following have made exceptional progress in their numeracy skills: Will, Rhys, Jamie, Rebecca, Tyler, Ruby, Rafailia, Reegan, Connor,

Chey, Alfie, Jake, Honor, Amelia, Dan, Hannah

Autumn term winners for 'Word of the Week':
Charlie, Dan, Callum, Willow, Amour

Pupils showing most progress or superb attitude to learning in their Lexia lessons:

Jake good progress and time spent on the programme

Ashlee for consistent immense streaks!
Alfie made most progress during term 1

Pupils who have been superstars in Accelerated Reading programme:

Jasmine read 228,751 words and passed all three quizzes.

Sushant taken 7 quizzes and scored 100% in five of them.

Erin highest word count in Year 8 at 365,750 words and scored 100% in all three quizzes.

Rueben was a 'millionaire reader' before Christmas having read a total of 1,194,328 words so far.

Pupils demonstrating excellent attitude during book club, participating fully and reading voraciously:

Harriet and Hayden
Grace, Emily and Lily



There were also 3 winners of the 'Calculating Christmas Challenge' who each won a £50 gift card. These were: Tyler, KB & Abbie



1



2



3



4



5

Pupil Creativity Art Tech Design

Designs - showcase

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. Mahek | 6. Leah |
| 2. Avah | 7. Brooke |
| 3. Elsie | 8. Millie |
| 4. Skye | 9. Hollie |
| 5. Kian | |



6



7



8



9



Oxford

We have partnered with 'The Brilliant Club' this year and selected a small group of year 7 & 8 pupils to partake in 'The Scholar Programme'. The Scholars Programme's aim is to raise the aspirations of pupils and give them access to the most competitive universities in the UK. 'The Scholars Programme' provides students aged 8-18 from non-selective state schools the opportunity to work with a PhD researcher to experience university-style learning. It helps them to develop the skills, knowledge and confidence to secure a place at a competitive university.



As part of this amazing initiative, 14 pupils were invited to attend a taster day at 'St Catherines College University Oxford'. We arrived and were joined by 5 other schools from around the UK. Our pupils got the full university experience starting with a tour of the university. They sampled what it was like to have a lecture in a lecture hall, spoke with and asked questions to current students at the University, ate in the grand dining hall and completed fun and interesting tasks along with the other schools to help better understand what university is like and show them that this is something that they can achieve.

Extra Curricular Activities

Duke of Edinburgh - Kinver Expedition

Pupils recently had the opportunity to put their skills to the test from assembling tents to map reading. The DofE program here at Wordsley has brought our young people together to overcome personal and shared challenges. The DofE expedition offers pupils the opportunity to demonstrate their determination and resilience when placed in an unfamiliar environment. Last year's expedition pitted pupils against the elements as they made their journey through torrential wind and rain but this didn't stop them from pulling together in support of each other.

Pupils were able to prove to themselves that by sticking together and trusting in each other's strengths and weaknesses that they could all succeed in addition to completing the final section of their award. The two day expedition involved navigation, cooking, assembling a campsite and even some washing up.

Fantastic comments from pupils -

"When can we do silver"

"A rewarding challenge"

"Once we started, we didn't want to stop"

"It's been nice to mix with people who I don't normally see at school"

The next expedition should take place during the final term.



Ski Trip - Ski USA 22

Wordsley pupils were given the amazing opportunity to go on the 'Snow Sports USA 2022' trip. This trip included 5 days of magnificent skiing in the resort of Killington in Vermont known as 'Beast of the East'. Pupils were taught the very basics of skiing and progressed through the daily lessons until they were confidently and happily skiing down from the top of the mountain. Each night pupils went out to a selection of restaurants to enjoy 'authentic American food'. We had the pleasure of watching two D1 high schools go head-to-head in an Ice Hockey match where we - of course - supported the home team, who won. We then travelled to the most famous city in the world they named it twice. New York - New York!. On the way we stopped at the Woodbury Common Designer outlet for some window shopping. When we arrived in New York we quickly put our bags in the hotel and went out to explore the Big Apple. We got to visit the Rockefeller Centre and see the famous Christmas tree. We stared at the wonders of Time Square, stopped for a bite to eat at the Hard Rock Cafe, visited the memorial of 9/11, went up the Freedom Tower and Empire State and walked the streets of NYC taking in all of the sights and sounds. After a very busy two days we flew home just in time for Christmas.

"My experience in America was amazing, favourite part becoming good at skiing from the top of the mountain. New York City is a completely different world over there and the views were amazing. It was a life changing trip, learning new experiences, also memories that I will remember for the rest of my life".

Kai

"Skiing lessons were very helpful and taught us important stuff and helped us become better throughout the skiing lessons.

Actually doing the skiing moves motivated me and built up my confident, as skiing was tricky at first.

The views in Killington were very spectacular they were beautiful it just made the trip better - personally I would love to go back to Killington everything is just amazing!"

Ayanda

"The location was great, the views were nice, trails were easy enough to the point where I didn't feel frustrated doing them, but still challenged my abilities. Positive outcome I learned a new interesting skill and ability. It has developed my teamwork to work with people I have never met or spoken to before. The weather was nice, clear skies, snow level good for skiing. With the best sightseeing opportunity standing at the top of the Empire State Tower"

Harry





Bravery Award

Neo, Josh and Luke pupils of the Wordsley School acted with such bravery and courage when two fellow pupils fell into the canal

during the extreme weather conditions in December. They managed to pull the two pupils out of canal and take them to safety,

remaining with them at all times to check on their wellbeing. For their valour they have been awarded the Headteacher Commendation.

CAREERS update KS3 Careers

Wordsley Work Wednesdays continues into the new year exploring different professions. Students consider roles and responsibilities, qualifications required and current salaries.

Year 9 Careers Week took place between

16-20th January 2023. This week aims to develop students' knowledge of subjects that are taught in Year 10 and 11 in order to help with their option choices for KS4.

KS4 Careers

Employability skills will be developed through work experience and in-school workshops for Year 10 over the next few months. We will also

be introducing a new online careers programme where students, and parents, can track the progress of students.

Year 11 students continue to attend open days and make applications to their chosen colleges. They will be supported in their choices through meetings with Connexions, the Careers Co-ordinator and supporting staff.

Exam Update

Planning is well underway for the 2023 Summer examination series.

Timetabled exams commence Monday 15th May 2023 and conclude on Wednesday 21st June 2023.

Each student will be issued with a personalised timetable during February 2023.

Contingency Dates

In the case of the event of national or significant local disruption to exams in the U.K, awarding

bodies' allocate a day as a contingency.

Following the Covid-19 pandemic, a single contingency day is felt not to be sufficient.

For the June 2023 exams, the awarding bodies have therefore introduced two additional half-day contingency sessions.

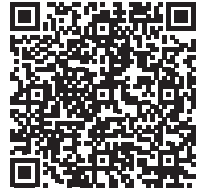
Thursday 8 June 2023 (PM)
Thursday 15 June 2023 (PM)
Wednesday 28 June 2023 (all day).

Candidates and parents should consider the contingency day of Wednesday 28 June 2023 when making their plans for the summer.

Candidates should be encouraged to remain available until Wednesday 28 June 2023 should examinations need to be rescheduled.

Ofqual Letter

The link below takes you to the latest updates provided by Ofqual (the regulator for Awarding Bodies) <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/open-letters-arrangements-for-exams-and-assessments-in-2023/letter-to-students>



School Calendar - Spring 2023

JANUARY

Fri 6th Yr 10 Apprenticeship workshop
Yrs 8 & 10 Report issued

Mon 9th Yr 11 Food Practical Mock
Yr 10 Apprenticeship Workshop

Wed 11th Yr 11 Food Practical Mock
Yr 9 Report 1 sent to Parents

Mon 16th - Fri 20th
Yr 9 Careers Week

Mon 16th Yr 11 Food Practical Mock
Yr 11 BTEC Animal Care exam

Wed 18th Inter House Triathlon
Yr 11 Report 1 sent to Parents

Thurs 19th Yr 11 Parents' Evening -
4:30pm to 7:30pm

Mon 23th Yr 9 Options session 2.40pm (pupils)
Year 7-9 'Flu Vaccination
(rearranged from 3/10)

Wed 25th Yr 9 Options Evening

FEBRUARY

Wed 1st LGBT+ Month starts
Intermediate Maths Challenge Yrs 9-11

Thurs 2nd Presentation Evening

Wed 8th BTEC Sports re-sits

Thurs 9th Year 9 Parents Evening
4.30 pm to 6.30 pm

Mon 13th - Fri 17th
Inter House Games
Yr 11 Assessments (in class)

Mon 13th Yr 9 Options deadline

Fri 17th Yr 10 / 11 Business Studies
Wembley Stadium Trip

Thurs 28th Yr 9X CATs

MARCH

Thurs 2nd World Book Day
Yr 9Y CATs

Fri 3rd Yr 11 Carding Mill Valley -
Geography Trip

Mon 6th Yr11 Food final practical exam

Wed 8th International Women's Day
Yr 11 Food final practical exam

Thurs 9th Year 11 Food Final Practical

Fri 10th Yr 8 Careers Workshop

Mon 13th Yr 11 Food Final Practical
Yr 8 Exams

Tues 14th Yr 8 Exams
Pi Day

Wed 15th Yr 11 Report 2 sent to Parents

Mon 20th - Fri 24th
Yr 10 Assessments (in class)

Mon 20th Macbeth Theatre Company
(Yr 11 and 25 pupils from Yr 10)

Tues 21st Yr 11 3D Design final exam

Wed 22nd Yr 11 3D Design final exam
Yr 11 Textiles final exam

Thurs 23rd Oral Mocks

Fri 24th Oral Mocks
Yr 11 Group Photograph

Mon 27th - Thurs 30th
Inter House Sports

Mon 27th Yr 11 Textiles final exam

Tues 28th Yr 11 Textiles final exam
Yr 9 DPT/MEN Vaccination

Wed 29th Yr 11 Textiles final exam
Yr 11 Fine Art final exam
Easter Egg Hunt
Yr 11 Parents' Evening - GCSE - Information

Thurs 30th Yr 11 Textiles final exam
Yr 11 Fine Art final exam
Yrs 7, 8 & 9 Report 2 sent to Parents

Fri 31st Inset Day



BELIEVE ACHIEVE INSPIRE