

WYMONDHAM HIGH ACADEMY

Principal: Mr Jonathan Rockey
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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 14th May 2021

Issue 13

A Word from Mr Rockey

We have had a number of communications from parents expressing concern about:

- 1) Whether or not pupils/students are continuing to conduct regular lateral flow tests at home and
- 2) The return to wearing full school uniform on P.E. days with effect from Monday 17th May.

In response to these points, I would like to state that the lateral flow tests are done voluntarily by staff and pupils and they are not a legal requirement. However, in order to maintain the safety of our community, we would actively encourage families to undertake regular testing. Ideally testing should be undertaken on a Wednesday and a Sunday. We understand that there is a frustration amongst some members of our community that tests are not being undertaken regularly. Therefore, I would ask, given the difficulties we have faced during the autumn and spring terms, that we work together to ensure that we can keep the school open by reducing the number of cases to a minimum.

With regards to P.E. changing rooms, we have taken this decision as part of our gradual and phased approach to returning to 'normality'. Introducing pre-Covid routines over the coming weeks is important to ensure we can maintain a consistent approach for when we return in September. Imposing radical changes in September would not be effective and therefore our approach to P.E. changing, the wearing of masks, changes to break and lunch periods, will be undertaken gradually so that a smooth transition is achieved.

Face coverings in school

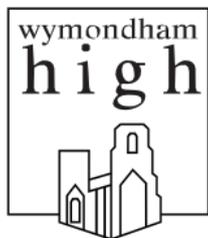
From Monday 17th May, face coverings will no longer be compulsory in school. However, staff and students should continue to wear these if they wish to do so.

Face Coverings on Buses

Please note that whilst the Government may be about to relax the lockdown restrictions on wearing face coverings, these are still mandatory (except in cases of medical exemption) on buses, even in circumstances where these rules are being relaxed on school premises.

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Distribution of student home COVID19 testing kits

Student home COVID19 testing kits have been distributed this week. If your child missed the distribution, they will be able to pick up a kit from first aid.

In a drive to support families to regularly keep up home testing to protect our community, we are encouraging the community to have fixed test days that they routinely use to test. We will be targeting every Wednesday and Sunday.

Working with the Safer Schools Partnership

The Safer Schools Partnership are providing the Academy with some online assemblies during form time on the following topics:

Year 7 – Internet safety and Sexting – Monday 24th May

Year 8 – County lines and knife crime – Monday 24th May

Year 9 – Grooming – Tuesday 25th May

Year 10 – Healthy relationship and domestic abuse – Tuesday 25th May

Additional information about the Safer Schools Partnership can be found here: [Safer Schools Partnership](#). If you have any concerns or questions about the assemblies, please contact a member of the inclusion team.

Harmful Sexual Behaviour Prevention Toolkit

The Harmful Sexual Behaviour Toolkit, developed by the Lucy Faithfull Foundation in 2020 with funding from the Home Office is designed for parents, carers, family members and professionals, to help everyone play their part in keeping children safe. [Harmful sexual behaviour prevention toolkit](#).

Does your child bike to school? Does their bike need a free maintenance check?

In partnership with 'A to Better' and 'Little Riders UK', there will be a mechanic at school on Thursday 27th & Friday 28th May providing a free maintenance check for up to 40 bikes over the 2 days. We would like to offer this service, in the first instance, to pupils who cycle to school and feel that their bike may be in need of a 'once over'. If you feel that your child's bike might benefit from this service, please email principalsoffice@wh-at.net expressing your interest by Friday 21st May. 40 names will then be drawn from 'a hat' and an email sent to those parents whose child's bike has been selected for a service.

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National Reading Championships



Here are our fab quiz teams for the National Reading Championships (East England Heat) that took place this week. The two teams competed against 33 other teams in the region to try to win the title. Sadly, they were unsuccessful this time, but they did a brilliant job with some really tough quiz questions. It was wonderful to see our students getting excited about books in the Library to kick off our 'Summer of Reading' this term...with more exciting events to come.

Wymondham High Academy – Online parental webinar - Importance of Parental Support

Thursday 27th May, 7pm. Register here - [Webinar](#)

We are teaming up with Maximise to offer parents the opportunity to find out how they can best support their child to cope with the demands of secondary education. Whether they are in Year 7, Year 13 or in between, all are welcome to join the Maximise team for this live 60-minute webinar. It is a great opportunity for parents to learn about the skills their children need to succeed, not only in education, but in life beyond the classroom and how they can play an active role supporting them.

We feel this is particularly important for our current Year 10 and Year 12 parents who will be supporting their child in preparing for Summer examinations in 2022 and their end of year examinations this summer.

[KSHS flier](#)

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Year 7 Careers Event – National Enterprise Challenge

On Wednesday 5th May Year 7 students took part in the annual National Enterprise Challenge Day. The aim of the day was to introduce children to the world of work and key employability skills such as teamwork, communication, problem solving, listening and leadership. The challenge was to find innovative ways to reuse gas cannisters in an environmentally friendly way. The students came up with some amazing ideas and the work produced during the day was outstanding. The outside speakers were impressed with the creativity and the attitude of the children. One team from each class was chosen to deliver a presentation of their concept to a panel of judges in the morning and the rest of the year group in the afternoon. Students rose to the challenge and the quality of the presentations was exceptional. Congratulations to the winning team 'Animal Habitat'. Mrs Sharpe our Careers Lead will be preparing this team to represent Wymondham High in the national finals in July.



Uniform Suppliers

[Birds of Dereham](#)
[Stevensons](#)

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Mental Health Matters

This week's Mental Health Matters item is about raising the awareness through Mental Health Awareness Week, Monday 10th May - Sunday 17th May. The theme this year is connecting with nature, as it is a great way to help young people improve and maintain their mental health and wellbeing. Please find below a lovely guide that has been created by the Mental Health Foundation to help parents support their children's mental health. [Mental Health](#). If you have any concerns about your child, please contact us at wellbeing@wh-at.net

Merit badges update

We are in the process of awarding merit badges. The cut off window for this was Monday 10th May. We will be arranging a last window at the end of the academic year.

The new boundaries

- Bronze 40
- Silver 75
- Gold 100



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