

Weekly News Update Friday 7 May 2021

Dear Parents/carers

Although this was a shortened week with the bank holiday on Monday we have still managed to cram in a whole host of learning and extra-curricular activities. It was a joyous experience being able to hear the music and performances drift from the main hall through to my office this week after school and to see the interhouse activities also on offer as well.

As the restrictions start to be lifted we will review the government and Department for Education guidance on face coverings, as well as the ability to open up the changing rooms to a higher capacity. We will communicate these over the coming weeks as more information becomes available.

Reminder Safer Schools App launch for parents/carers 13 May

Next Thursday Mr Ward will launch the Safer Schools App to Parents and Carers at 5pm. This App will provide important safeguarding information to parents/carers, as well as students and staff. Please see the letter sent home from Mr Ward for further information and the link to access the presentation on the night.

Helping Your Child Overcome Maths Anxiety & Build Mathematical Resilience

EEDI are a company affiliated with the exam boards as well as the well-respected White Rose Maths. They are running a free webinar for parents entitled: Helping Your Child Overcome Maths Anxiety & Build Mathematical Resilience, aimed at parents of children aged 9 to 14.

When this last ran in November, 4000+ parents showed interest in November, and the response was so positive that Rachel (the presenter from EEDI) has updated it and is running it again!

Using both the latest research and her vast experience in this area, Rachel will explain:

1. What maths anxiety is
2. How to spot the signs
3. Practical strategies to help your child cope
4. Actionable tips on helping them build mathematical resilience

The webinar takes place on Wednesday 12th May at 8pm.

If you know parents of 9-14 years olds who would be interested, please feel free to pass on [this link](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qillACidQ7K0PwZ9Tx6tHg) to your networks. They can reserve a place on this page:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qillACidQ7K0PwZ9Tx6tHg

Blue Remembered Hills

Last week, over 60 Year 11 Drama students performed extracts of Dennis Potter's 'Blue Remembered Hills' as their final assessed Drama piece.

Their performances were creative and innovative and demonstrated a real understanding of character, narrative and style.

Despite two extended periods of remote learning, they all responded to the limited preparation time with positivity and focus, engaging the audience with both comic and emotive performances.

We had initially chosen this play because it is set in a wood, enabling the students to rehearse and perform outside without masks but, after 3 weeks of sun, the assessment days were a real challenge for site-specific performances with wind and heavy rain. Again, the Year 11's were resilient and carried on, staying for two evenings to complete the performances and support each other in these, their final performances at Stringer.

We are proud of their accomplishments and their kindness in supporting one and other. The Drama Department will miss them all and wish them luck at college next year.

Year 11 Prom

We are delighted to announce that this year we will be able to have the Year 11 Prom. It will be held on the 16 July 2021. There will be more details to follow.

Year 11 NCS (National Citizenship Service)

This week in tutor time NCS have delivered a presentation to our Year 11s about the National Citizenship Service. NCS is a fantastic opportunity for those completing their secondary education. It runs for 2 or 3 weeks over the summer and provides an outdoor adventure (which is a 3 weeks programme), learning some life skills and an action project. The whole cost is just £30, that's for the accommodation, food and learning new skills. If you want to find out more please see the following page. <https://wearencs.com/faqs>

Puzzle of the Week

You have until midnight on Sunday 9 May to solve the latest Puzzle of the Week - [Puzzle of the Week](#)

Year 9 Peer Mentors Applications Invited

Peer mentors are an important part of our transition process as they support our new Year 7s settling into school. Being a peer mentor is a fantastic opportunity for Year 10s (2021/2022) and a great opportunity to develop skills and confidence as they provide support and advice for our Year 7s.

The deadline for the applications is Friday 21 May. If you have any questions about the process, then please do not hesitate to contact Mr Ward through ward@dorothy-stringer.co.uk

Word of the week: Incisive (adj.) = showing the ability to think clearly and quickly

Take care and stay safe.

Matt Hillier

Key Dates for your diary:

Thursday 13 May: Virtual Launch of Safer Schools App to Parents and Carers at 5pm

Monday 17 – Friday 21 May: DEAR events - more information to follow

Wednesday 19 May: Year 11 Photos

Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June: Summer half-term

Audience:	Subject:
Year 10	Sixth Form College Open Days 2021: Permission Request
All Year Groups	Schoolgateway Canteen Payments