

Dear Parents/Carers

It's been a busy week with the mock exams for Year 11s, drama rehearsals for the play and the Stringer run. We have also been running a full programme of sporting fixtures, including a tough rugby fixture against a strong Hurstpierpoint college. Our Year 10 boys' football team lost a close game to Varndean, however what captured the attention of the supporters, match officials and staff was the respect shown by both teams and the great spirit the game was played in. Our Year 8 Girls' Team played a brilliant game against Worthing High yesterday winning 7 – 0! Very well done to all our teams for representing Stringer!

The school observed a two-minute silence on Thursday 11 November in memory of all those who lost their lives in the two World Wars and other conflicts around the world. Traditionally a two-minute silence is held to mark Armistice Day when on the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 the First World War ended.

On Monday 15 November the school is closed for students for **INSET**. We are delighted with the response to our invitation to Year 7 parents to avail of a self-guided tour with their Year 7 child on Monday and we look forward to welcoming them on site.

WiSE Project

During this autumn half-term all Year 9 students will take part in a one-hour educational workshop addressing the topics of consent, sexual harassment and harmful sexual behaviours. These workshops will be delivered by young ambassadors from the WiSE project during their PSHE/RS lessons. We hope these sessions will help to educate and inform our students about how to identify and challenge harmful behaviours and support them to keep safe in their relationships. This intervention is part of our relationships and sex education (RSE) programme.

RSE lessons in year 2021-22 will include teaching about: healthy relationships, including friendships and intimate relationships, families, changing feelings, becoming more independent, keeping safe, consent, online media and developing self-esteem and confidence. Students will also have opportunities to ask questions that help prepare them for relationships of all kinds in the modern world.

Anti-Bullying Week 15 – 19 November

Next week is anti-bullying week. 'One Kind Word' has been chosen as the theme this year. During tutor time next week students will be discussing topics surrounding anti-bullying and working through resources with their peers. We would usually join in the annual Wear Odd Socks day which falls on Monday 15 November this year but as it's an INSET day we won't get to do it. We'd love to see your odd socks if you're joining from home so please do send your photos to communications@dorothy-stringer.co.uk #AntiBullyingWeek #OddSocksDay

You can see more information about Anti-Bullying week in our newsletter.

General Knowledge QUIZ results

Last Friday, after last year's hiatus, the annual General Knowledge Quiz returned. The top four students will be invited to take part in the school Mastermind competition in February 2022.

The top four were Amelie (Y11) with 20 points, Wilf (Year 8) also with 20 points, Mabel (year 9) with 19 points and Isla (Year 10) with 18 points.

The winning Teacher was Ben Elliot with a sterling 26 points.

Congratulations to all those who participated.

Canteen Price Changes - January 2022

We have taken the difficult decision to make a small increase to some of our items on canteen menu as of Tuesday 4 January 2022. The school has not implemented a price rise in the meal deal since September 2017 but due to the continued pressure on the cost of wholesale food we cannot avoid this price increase any longer. There will be a small price increase to the cost of the main school meal. The current price is £2.30 for a main meal and a dessert. This will increase to £2.40. Prices of individual items have also been adjusted based on supplier prices; we have only increased the price of individual items where we have had no choice.

It should be noted that a school meal at Dorothy Stringer still provides excellent value for money. We will continue to offer an exciting and varied range of meals, snacks and drinks which are both healthy and nutritious. All of our menus are developed in line with the nutritional standards set by the Government's Food Policy in Schools. You can see all our menus on the [Canteen page](#) of our website.

For our students in receipt of Free School Meals, the increase will be applied to the daily allowance. This will ensure they continue to have access to the main meal and dessert menu.

We look forward to welcoming students back on Tuesday for the final five weeks of the autumn term.

Movember

We're two weeks in to the 2021 Movember campaign with colleagues raising funds and awareness for all the *dads, brothers, sons and mates in our lives*. There has been an amazing response so far with the Mo's raising almost half of the target already. Today is a good day to donate if you haven't already done so as L'Oreal have pledged to match every £25 raised straight to participants' total pot on Friday 12 November.

Stringer Mo's: <https://uk.movember.com/mospace/14600452>

Root Word of the Week – Geo: earth (Greek root word) Geology; Geographer; Geophysics

Key Dates

- Monday 15 November: INSET – school closed to students
- Thursday 25 November – Year 10 Parents' Evening (No early closure as appointments are online)
- Friday 17 December – last day of Autumn term – early closure at 12.30

- Tuesday 4 January 2022 – start of Spring Term (Week 1 of timetable)

Key Dates 2021/2022 are on our website: https://public.dorothy-stringer.co.uk/ds/pages/key_dates.aspx

Take care and stay safe.

Matt Hillier