

May 2018

YEAR 7

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the end of the academic year there are several important pieces of information we would like to share with families. There are many events and learning experiences that may involve your child over the coming weeks and working together we can plan to make sure all relevant information is shared effectively.

Year 7 Leader – Mrs Bamford

As you are aware our Year 7 Leader, Mrs Raynes, moved to a new role prior to Easter. We are very pleased to inform you that Mrs Bamford is the new Year 7 Leader and has already commenced in this role. Mrs Bamford is an established pastoral leader at our Academy, having previously worked as a Head of House and Key Stage 4 Year Leader; she will be taking the current Year 7 into Year 8 and is getting to know them already. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's Form Tutor, Miss Lawrence or Mrs Bamford if you need to discuss any aspect of your child's progress or welfare in Year 7.

22nd May 2018 Manchester Arena Attack - Remembrance Arrangements

As part of the remembrance events for the attack at the Manchester Arena last year we will be observing a one minute silence at 2.00pm, this is planned to coincide with the silence that will be observed during the official remembrance service at Manchester Cathedral that day.

Our School Council have decided to make pink ribbons for the day and these can be collected from Student Reception on arrival to school on 22nd May 2018. There is no cost for these and students can choose to wear these for the day, if they wish.

We have several students at our academy who were at the arena on the day of the attack and these students have been allocated a person in school to go to should they feel anxious on the day or in the days leading up to this date. Parents/Carers of students in Year 7 who were not with us last May but were at the event or were affected by the incident should contact school to let us know, so we can make the appropriate arrangements for your child.

We are very pleased to inform you that our Academy Choir, directed by Miss Odgen, has been selected to be part of the mass choir event being held in Manchester on the evening of 22nd May 2018.

Ramadan and School Exams

Ramadan is an important time for many of our students and their families

Our school will support pupils who are fasting in any way we can -

- Special provision at lunchtimes is made for pupils who are fasting

- We anticipate that fasting may make some pupils weak or tired, and we adapt the curriculum as appropriate.
- Our Academy has informed governors, staff and our wider school community of the implications of fasting for pupils.
- Please can we ask that you complete the form attached to this letter to inform our school that your child is fasting, so that the school doesn't make any assumptions about who may or may not be observing the fast. Please indicate on the form if you would like your child to have a choice to go to a quiet room during break time or lunchtime.
- We have arrangements in place to provide support and/or additional supervision for pupils withdrawn from activities, such as PE.
- We are fully supportive of any pupil who needs to break their fast and will exercise our normal duty of care towards them.

Please see below some ideas to support students, especially those who have exams, who are fasting during Ramadan:

- Try getting a couple of hours of sleep after returning from school
- Fit in your revision after your rest and prayers
- Ensure alarm is set early and arrive to the academy on time
- Arrive early for exams and related support sessions to keep relaxed and reduce anxiety
- Ensure high energy foods are eaten – aim to eat some slow release carbohydrate, if possible, to have energy throughout the next day and avoid too many fried, fatty and salty foods during Ramadan such as samosas, pakoras, biryanis.
- Raise awareness of the importance of hydration to maintain peak performance. When able, carry a water bottle and refresh it frequently.
- Consume fruits with high water content.

Swimming Pool Update:

From September 2018 our newly refurbished swimming pool will be open and we are delighted that students will once again be timetabled to take part in swimming lessons as part of the PE Curriculum. The School Council members have been part of the design team for the pool refurbishment and have helped choose the colour scheme in parts of the building.

We would like to make you aware that for September you will need to purchase additional items as part of your child's PE kit, further information will be shared towards the end of term.

Dates for your Dairy:

Musical Evening	Friday 22 nd June 2018
Sports Awards Evening	Friday 6 th July 2018
Year 7 and 8 Rewards Evening	Thursday 12 th July 2018
Sports Day - "It's a Knockout" (Inflatable assault course)	Tuesday 17 th July 2018
School closes for Summer	Friday 20 th July 2018

Learning and Progress Checks 2018:

All students at Wardle Academy are assessed through summative tasks at regular intervals across the year. This is because it makes sense to assess a student's knowledge and skills directly at the end of a module of work, rather than waiting until the end of the year.

As a school, we firmly believe in preparing our students for the experience of sitting formal externally assessed examinations and therefore we will have some internally organised end of year 'Learning and Progress Checks' in the summer term, for students in years 7, 8 and 9.

The development of learning skills and revision techniques is very important, along with the ability to cope with the pressures of taking an important test and having to prepare for the experience. If revision techniques are developed over a period of time, finding the techniques that work well for each individual student, we can then prepare effectively for the important examinations later in their school career, in a productive and effective manner, leading to very high scores. The mechanics of learning and revising will have been developed effectively this way over time.

These Learning and Progress Checks will take place:

- Year 7 and 8 - All Learning and Progress Checks are in the classrooms as part of their normal lesson times in the week starting June 4th 2018.
- Class teachers will inform their students when the progress checks are to take place and a list of dates will be collated by students in their planners.

Please see the attached document for the topics students have been asked to learn so they can aim to achieve the highest scores they possibly can.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding these Learning and Progress Checks please do not hesitate to contact your child's Form Tutor or subject teacher for further information.

Yours faithfully

Mrs J Holden
Assistant Headteacher

Please return to Mrs Bamford:

STUDENT FASTING SLIP

Please be informed that my child.....Form.....
will be fasting during Ramadan 2018.

I would like my child to access the quiet room during break time and lunchtime



Signed.....
Parent/Carer

Date:.....

Year 7 Learning and Progress Checks – Learning Skills and Topics

English:

The year 7 exam will include short questions that test grammatical knowledge. The main part of the exam will test narrative writing skills. All students will be issued with a knowledge organiser:

- Word functions
- Word classifications
- Punctuation and its effects
- Sentence structure
- Spelling
- Narrative structure
- How to build a character
- Colour imagery
- Dialogue
- First and third person perspective
- Engaging openings

Maths:

- Place Value
- Powers and roots (square and cube numbers)
- Add, subtract, multiply and divide decimals and negatives
- BIDMAS
- Factors, multiples and primes
- Rounding
- Triangle and Quadrilateral Properties
- Angles and Parallel Lines
- Coordinates
- Plans, Elevations and 3D Properties
- Algebraic Notation
- Simplifying expressions and Expanding
- Substitution
- Sequences
- Solving Equations
- Rearranging Formulae
- Ratio notation and simplification
- Sharing in a ratio
- Percentages
- Four operations fractions
- Bearings and Scale Drawings
- Constructions (triangles, bisectors and angles)
- Experimental Probability
- Probability

History:

The Battle of Hastings - the main events during the battle, why William won the battle
The murder of Thomas Becket - the reasons why Becket was murdered and the main events in the dispute with Henry II
King John and Magna Carta- the reasons why some people have different views about John
The Black Death - symptoms, causes and effects
The test will have a variety of questions - including short answer factual questions, description of features, narrative question and one essay
A basics information sheet for each topic will be emailed to all Year 7 pupils

Geography:

Types of geography
Continents and oceans
World Physical features
Physical features of Europe
British Isles (countries, cities, physical features)
Map skills (4 and 6 figure grid references, height, distance)
Longitude and latitude
Plate margins
Formation of volcanoes and causes of earthquakes
Causes, effects and responses to Sichuan earthquake
One Child Policy
Human and physical features of Africa

Respect:

All students will be given a revision pack during their RESPECT lesson - week beginning 21st May 2018.

Topic 1 – Religion in Rochdale

- What is diversity?
- How is Rochdale diverse?
- Difference between Christian churches in Rochdale
- Reasons why people go to church.
- Key features of a Mosque.
- Religion and food.

Topic 2 – Children’s rights

- What are Children’s rights?
- Laws protecting children.
- Who is responsible for protecting Children’s rights?
- Children’s rights in Syria.

Topic 3 – Gangs and Religion

- Stanley 'Tookie' Williams
- Nicky Cruz
- Religious experiences
- Views on capital punishment