

May 2018

**YEAR 8**

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.

### **22<sup>nd</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018.

### **Ramadan and School Exams**

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

Our school will support students 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 students 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 students.
- 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 students withdrawn from activities, such as PE.
- We are fully supportive of any student 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 may include:**

- 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.

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:**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Year 8 Subject Evening (2)                                    | Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2018<br><b>4.00-6.30pm ** Please note change in timings to previous Parents' evenings.</b> |
| Year 7 and 8 Rewards Evening                                  | Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2018   |
| Sports Day - "It's a Knockout"<br>(Inflatable assault course) | Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2018  |
| School closes for Summer                                      | Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 Miss Bolton:**

**STUDENT FASTING SLIP**

Please be informed that my child.....Form..... will be fasting during the Learning and Progress checks season 2018.

Signed.....  
Parent/Carer

Date:.....

## Year 8 Learning and Progress Checks – Learning Skills and Topics

### Y8 English:

The Year 8 exam will include short answer questions that test grammatical knowledge. The main exam will be a piece of writing that conveys a viewpoint.

All students will be issued with a knowledge organiser so that they can revise at home.

All revision aids for English will be available on Doodle.

### Year 8 Maths:

Add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions  
Percentages  
Fractions and percentages  
Terminating and recurring decimals  
Rounding  
Significant figures  
Transformations (Rotation, Reflection, Translation and Enlargement)  
Pythagoras' Theorem  
Trigonometry  
Pythagoras' Theorem and trig combined  
Factorising expressions  
Expanding single and double brackets  
Forming Expressions  
Area & Volume  
Area & Volume in Context  
Inequalities  
Solving Equations  
Sequences  
Ratio multiplicative relationship  
Scale Factor, Diagrams and Maps  
Compound measures and rates of change  
Unit Conversion (Including Imperial)  
Constructions (triangles, bisectors and angles)  
Triangle & Quadrilateral Properties  
Angles & Parallel Lines  
Sum of interior angles of regular Polygons  
Congruence and simple proofs

### **Year 8 History:**

The Gunpowder Plot- causes and main events the execution of Charles I  
Oliver Cromwell- the different views on him  
Factory conditions in the Industrial Revolution - the main features of working conditions in factories  
The test will have a variety of questions - including short answer factual questions, description of features, source evaluation

### **Year 8 Geography:**

Cities in poor countries (problems and solutions in Mumbai)  
Cities in rich countries (problems and solutions to the problems in Manchester). Opportunities for people in the city.  
How waterfalls and meanders form  
Why rivers flood  
An example of river flooding in a rich country  
Weather (factors that affect our weather, synoptic charts, types of rain, different type of pressure)  
What is extreme weather  
Example of extreme weather

### **Year 8 Respect:**

All students will be given a revision pack during their RESPECT lesson - week beginning 21<sup>st</sup> May 2018

#### Topic 1 – the Island

- How does democracy work?
- What is a dictatorship?
- What is anarchy?
- How are laws made in the UK?

#### Topic 2 – Hinduism

- Hindu Gods
- Festivals
- Places of worship
- Rites of Passage

#### Topic 3 – The Equalities Act 2010

- What is the Equalities Act 2010?
- Homophobia
- Racism
- Sex discrimination
- Disability awareness

