



Weekly Bulletin

Messages from The Headteacher

This week we have been talking to the children about reading in aid of World Book Day on Thursday. We have reminded them about Dr Grey's assembly last year where she shared some research into the world's most successful people. The research identified the shared love of reading as the only characteristic that they all had in common. We want our pupils to be the best they can be and reading is an important part of that success.



We have also reminded the pupils about the Careers Fair on Thursday 21st March, the pupils will have an opportunity to look around the fair during the school day but it is also open until 5pm, this gives parents the opportunity to come and ask questions if they would like to. Last year, it was a massive success and we are hoping this year will be exactly the same.

We have seen a real increase in attendance this term, with the whole school attendance percentage increasing to over 90%. We want to thank all parents and pupils for supporting us with this improvement, the government target for school attendance is 95% which we will continue to aim towards. Thank you for your commitment and for continuing to work with us to support good attendance at school.

Well done to the following pupils for the most positive points on Class Charts this week. It has been lovely to see some of the pupils collecting their rewards from reception. Please encourage your children to look at the Rewards Store on Class Charts and spend those positive points.

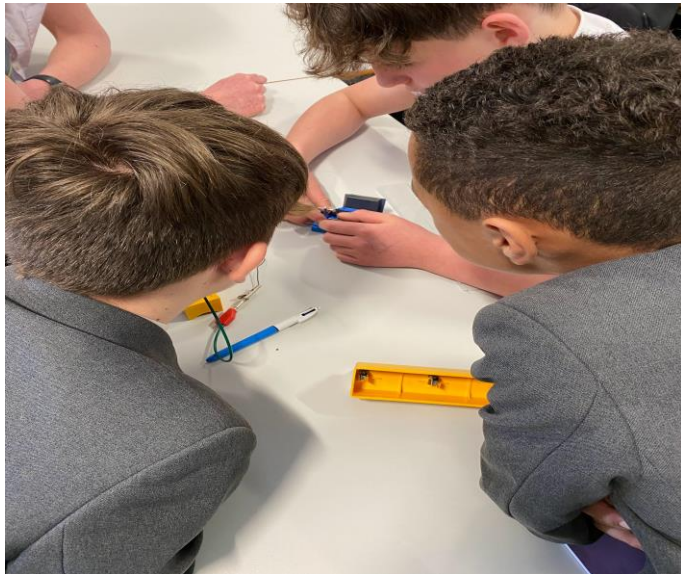
Josie Braine (Y9)
Katy Walker (Y9)
Millie Matthews (Y9)
Otto Stewart (Y9)
Dylan Middleton (Y8)
Ellie-Mae Wall (Y8)
Oscar Cheadle (Y9)
Max Padmore (Y8)
Thomas Richards (Y7)
Lewis Falconer (Y9)

Teaching and learning:

In the last few years, there has been a fascinating debate developing around the concept of a 'knowledge-rich curriculum'. The debate has been informed by discussions from cognitive science. As a science teacher, as well as deputy headteacher, I've always felt that my curriculum was packed with knowledge and, without question, I've seen numerous cohorts sit lots of GCSE exams, year after year, each requiring significant knowledge. During mock

examination week, this becomes more apparent. I'm becoming increasingly convinced that a knowledge-rich curriculum is actually an important concept that we ought to embrace as parents too.

Knowledge is taught to be remembered, not merely encountered



If I teach motors, I want to make sure that the knowledge builds securely. Early on at KS3, through demonstrations and practical tasks, I want students to build their experiential knowledge of the key phenomena: magnetic attraction and repulsion; the idea of 'field strength'; forces; current – each with direction and magnitude; and the idea that phenomena interact. We would focus on changes of direction and the simple, but magnificent, awe and wonder that motors work at all in. Later, as part of a spiral curriculum, avoiding cognitive

overload and building on prior knowledge, I need students to understand and use the formula $F = BIL$ and Fleming's left hand rule. I need them to learn the equation by heart and practise using it and manipulating it. I build the sequence carefully, deliberately, with a focus on practice, recall and schema-building.

Knowledge offers a secure route to the higher standards that we're continually seeking.

As parents, you can help us to build knowledge by encouraging your child to talk daily about their learning. Not accepting the shrug of the shoulders as a response to 'how was school?'. Finding a quiet space for your child to complete their homework tasks or educate quizzes away from distraction and establishing routines for revisiting work in small chunks.

Mr Attwood

This week teachers have nominated the following students, recognising the quality of the classwork that they have produced:

Leah Craddock-Frost Y10
Ash Robertson Y10
James Richards Y8
Xavier Sims Y8
Flynn Howe Y7
Thomas Richards Y7
Cleo Cooper Y7

#loveyourbooks♡

Mr Attwood

Year 11:

Mock examinations are well underway.

The final mock examination will take place on Tuesday. Results will be shared with parents on the final day of term.

Elevate Parent online session

Register for the free to attend parent webinar below:

‘To the point, packed with helpful tips. It's not rocket-science, which means it's very practical, applicable advice.’

The next online parent Elevate session is on How You Can Support Your Child During Exams
March 19, 6:00-7:00pm

<https://go.elevateeducation.com/ukschoolwebinar>

Don't forget to remind your children of the fabulous revision sessions offered across the week to help concentrate minds as we move into the final 9 weeks of lessons ahead of the summer examination season.

Mr Attwood

Day	Subject	Time	Location	Teacher
Monday	Geography	Lunch	A12	KF
	Maths foundation	3.30-4.30	A11	KS
	English with Dr Grey	Tutor time	A1	SG
Tuesday	Maths	Tutor time	A3/A1	LS RP
	Geography	Lunch	A12	KF
	English	Lunch	A18	KK
	English	Afterschool	A13	SG
Wednesday	Science	Tutor time	A3/A1	LS RP
	Science 11 Higher	Lunch	A3	JAT
	Science 11 Foundation	Lunch	A1	RP/LS
	Maths higher	3.30-4.30	A11	KS
Thursday	GCSE PE	Lunch	S2	AS

KEY STAGE THREE ENGLISH REMINDER:

All Key Stage Three students should now have a white CGP English workbook suitable for their year. Please make sure that your child's name is on the cover clearly and that they complete work (as per the timetable inside the cover) before **Thursday** of each week. Information is also on ClassCharts each week.

Once the work is completed, they can hand their books in to Dr. Grey or their form tutor at any point before Thursday of that week.

For clarification, for each year group, ten books are **fully marked** at random. All other books are visually checked and the timetable (or contents page) is ticked to indicate that the work has been seen,

Thank you for your cooperation in this.

Top Players on TTRockstars this week were:

Position	PUPIL	Year Group
1	James Richards	Year 8
2	Thomas Richards	Year 7
3	Dylan Middleton	Year 8
4	Lees Alfie	Year 7
5	Howe Flynn	Year 7

Well done to each of the students, keep up the good work.

Enrichment

Lunchtime and afterschool clubs are still running, please see the timetable below as there have been a few changes since last term.

	Lunch	Afterschool
Monday	Chess (JC)	Running / Fitness Club Girl's Football

Tuesday	5 a-side Football (AS) Coding Club (KF)	Football (all years)
Wednesday	5 a-side Football (LS) Knitting and crochet club (JC) Tabletop RPG (KF)	Netball (all years) Digital art (SMV) Ancient History (SG)
Thursday	Netball (LS) Gaming Club (KF)	
Friday	5 a-side Football (AS) Pokemon Go (JC) Warhammer (KF)	Badminton (all years) Minecraft club

Other news this week

Appointments for year 8 parents' evening are available to book on School Cloud. Year 8 parents should have received an email with the link. If you have not received it or are having any difficulty booking appointments, please contact the office.

Our preferred method of communication is via classcharts. Can you make sure you have activated your account and are receiving messages? Again, any problems let us know.

We will be sending Progress reports out via classcharts too. If you would like another parent or other family member to receive notifications and to have access to classcharts we can do that for you.

Key dates

14th March;
Year 8 parents evening

15th March:
Progress reports emailed home

22nd March:
last day of term

8th April:
First day back to school

23rd May:
Year 7 parents' evening