



5th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Unbelievably we are entering the final two weeks before Christmas, with the big day less than three weeks away. There have been so many positive things going on here this term, despite the difficulties we have faced, such as adverse weather and faulty boilers. These have included various trips, work with the Wolves Foundation and lots of extra-curricular activities. Positive behaviour points are up and negative ones are down significantly. All in all, it has been a really enjoyable but tiring term.

Year 11 Mock Exams

The mock exam period is now coming to an end. Year 11 have tackled them admirably and shown a really positive attitude, behaving very well throughout the whole process. The papers are currently being marked, with some having been given back already. These papers will be shared with the pupils and worked through in class, so that pupils will learn the lessons ready for the real thing. Teachers are also analysing the results, looking at where the pupils need extra support and which topics need to be revised.

Information will be coming out in early January regarding Guided Support Sessions, which are revision classes aimed at improving pupils' grades. Information about Prom and the requirements to be able to attend will be sent to you in the New Year.

Christmas Showcase

Our Christmas Showcase will take place on Thursday 12th December 2024. The performance will start at 7pm. It will feature a range of pupils performing from all year groups, with bands, solo performances and drama pieces. Hopefully we will see a large number of families there. I am always amazed at the talent that young people possess and we are working to try to provide more opportunities to show these off.

Christmas Activities

Since I have joined the school, one thing that I have been struck by is how well Wordsley does Christmas. There are traditions that go back for over a generation. This year these will include:

- Wednesday 11th December - Christmas Jumper Day. We are asking for a donation of a £1 with all proceeds going to Mr Dyson's family's chosen charity, Marie Curie.
- Week beginning Monday 16th December – The Twelve Days of Christmas assemblies, which get very competitive. Each form competes to be the loudest and most Christmassy. Rewards assemblies will take place during this week.
- Friday 20th December – Christmas events and party games.

At school we try to work hard but there are times when we need to play hard. Kids need to be kids and we want the pupils to leave full of the spirit of Christmas.

End of Term

On Friday 20th December 2024, school will close to pupils at the end of Period 4, which is 12.45pm. Normal rules apply regarding uniform on the last day.

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**The Wordsley School • Brierley Hill Road • Wordsley • Near Stourbridge • DY8 5SP
(01384) 816015 • info@wordsley.dudley.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr A Weatherhogg**

Start of Term

School will re-open on Tuesday 7th January 2025, at 8.35am. Monday 6th January is an inset day.

Attendance

Attendance this year has improved for many pupils which I would thank families for. However, every day at school that the pupils lose is one where they fall behind their peers. The number of pupils not attending school locally and nationally is still down since the pandemic and we are working hard to encourage pupils to come to school. We have our 12 Days of Christmas attendance streak, with rewards each day for randomly selected pupils who are still hitting that streak. Prizes get more exciting as the days pass. If they have a day off they lose their streak and the possibility of winning the prize decreases.

Uniform

The vast majority of pupils at Wordsley wear their uniform well. There are a few issues that I would request help with:

- Ties – we have seen an increase in pupils turning up for school without a tie. Please ensure that your child does not leave the house without one. Ties are available from the School Office and can be purchased via Parent Pay.
- School trousers – plain black school trousers should be worn. Pupils should not be wearing leggings or joggers, even if they have the Wordsley logo on them.
- Jumpers - school V-Neck navy jumper/with school logo (optional) may be worn under blazers. PE sweatshirts should be worn in P.E. lessons only.
- Coats – plain top coat (not denim or leather). Hoodies/tracksuit tops are not permitted.
- Piercings – nose piercings and other facial piercings are not allowed.
- Socks - plain dark/white socks worn under trousers.
- Shoes – should be plain black.

Full uniform guidance can be found on the website by clicking on this link:

<https://www.wordsleyschool.co.uk/parents/uniform/>

Reports

Reports will be issued for Years 8 and 10 on Thursday 19th December.

Year 11 will be issued in the New Year to coincide with Parents' Evening on 15th January 2025.

Year 9 will be issued to coincide with the Options process. Options Evening for parents will be on 22nd January 2025.

Year 7 have already received their Term 1 Report.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I wish you and your family a very Happy Christmas.

Yours sincerely,



Ashley Weatherhogg
Headteacher

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