



Great Wyrley Performing Arts High School

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February 2009

IMPORTANT INFORMATION-PLEASE ENSURE THAT THIS GOES HOME

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As we work our way through the spring term I would like to share the following information with you:

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

We have made a positive start to 2009 here at Great Wyrley. Students in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 have all been involved in completing coursework tasks, preparing for and taking examinations. This will continue as we finish preparations for GCSEs, AS and A2s and vocational qualifications. There is still a lot of work to do but we are optimistic that the classes of 2009 may even exceed the records set last summer.

PARENT FORUM

On **Thursday 12th February 6.00-7.00** we will be holding another **Parent Forum** here at school. This will be an opportunity to meet with the Headteacher and other senior staff and to discuss current developments in local and national education. I must stress that this is not an opportunity to discuss individual students or their courses of study which is the focus of our published cycle of consultation evenings or private appointments with staff at school. I hope a good number of you will come along and meet with us.

SUPER LEARNING DAYS & THEME WEEKS

In early December the school held its first **SUPER LEARNING DAY**. This was a day where staff had created activities for students where they had to engage in team work and problem solving activities such as Town Planning, Question Time, Giant Art, Orienteering and making a newspaper. The groups of staff and students were "vertical" so Year 13 would mix with Year 7 and every year in between. Staff also worked with colleagues with whom they might not normally create activities. The second of these days will be held in July of this year.

Within normal lessons we are developing some Theme Weeks in Key Stage 3. Our first week in February was on the theme of Diversity when lessons celebrated the differences in Human Life and Culture.

HALF TERM

On **Friday 13th February 3.35 p.m.** school will close for the half-term break. We will re-open our doors at **8.50a.m. on Monday 23rd February.**

WELCOME!

At the start of term we welcomed some new staff to Great Wyrley. **Mr Pledger (English), Mr Frost (Geography) and Miss Conte (Science), Miss Middleton (Student Support), Mrs Taylor (Art Tech), Miss Todd (Cover Supervisor), Miss Tonkinson (Teaching Assistant) and Mrs Thorpe (Lunchtime Assistant)** joined the team and we all wish them a long and happy time here at school.



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MY FAIR LADY

Great Wyrley Musical Society is putting on this production **25th – 28th March 2009**. This will see adults, young people and school staff coming together for an evening of music and romance. Tickets will be available shortly and we advise early purchase to avoid disappointment.

SEVERE WEATHER PROCEDURE

In the event that we have to close the school due to dangerous conditions around the site please listen to local radio **100.7 Heart FM** and we will put a message if school is to be closed. We will also update the school website **www.gwpahs.org** as soon as we are able to do so. We will only put this into action in the most serious situations so I hope you will support us in ensuring that all students and adults are kept safe and free from injury.

WELL DONE TO OUR ICT STUDENTS!

The ICT department took 53 year 10 students to Euro Disney in Paris for an insight on how technology is used not only to operate the rides but in communication and logistics. The students attended seminars and were given the opportunity to ask questions of key personal with the Disney organisation. The visit was very successful and as always when Great Wyrley Performing Arts Students are on an organised visit they behaved impeccably and this was noted and commented on by the organisers of the event. It is hoped that the visit will be repeated again next year.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 12 th February	6-7pm	Parents Forum
Mon 16th -Fri 20th February		Half Term Break
Wed 25-Sat 28 March		My Fair Lady Community Musical
Friday 27th March		Staff Training Day (School Closed)
Friday 3 rd April	12.30	End of Term
Mon 6th - Fri 17th April		Easter Vacation
Monday 20 th April	8.50	Start of Summer Term
Monday 27 th April	5-8	Y7 Consultation Evening
Monday 4th May		May Day Bank Holiday (School Closed)
Saturday 9 th May	7.30pm	Community Band Spring Concert with Viva Voce
Mon 18 th -Fri 22 nd May		Y10 Work Experience
Mon 25th-Fri 29th May		Half-Term Break
Saturday 13 th June	7.30pm	First Night at the Proms (School Association) in the Quad
Wednesday 17th June		Staff Training Day (School Closed)
Wed 1 st -Sat 4 th July		"We Will Rock You!" School Musical
Sunday 5 th July	10.00a.m.	Wyrley Waddle
Tuesday 7 th July	7.30 p.m.	Summer Music Festival
Mon 13 th -Sun 19 th July		Y7 residential to St Lunaire
Thursday 16 th July	7.30p.m.	Oscars Night
Tuesday 21 st July		End of School Year

Chris Leach
Headteacher