



Great Wyrley Performing Arts High School

Hall Lane
Great Wyrley
Walsall
WS6 6LQ

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January 2011

IMPORTANT INFORMATION-PLEASE ENSURE THAT THIS GOES HOME

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As we begin our spring term here at school, I would like to share the following information with you:

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

The New Year has begun positively here at school and a number of students are sitting exams and modular tests during the month of January. This is a vital period for all students but particularly those in Years 11 and 13 as they approach the end of coursework assignments and many will be offered "catch-up" and improvement sessions before, during and after normal school hours. A variety of mentoring schemes will be in place between now and the summer to help all our students to maximise their performance in final examinations. This is never easy and there will be conflicts of time, interest and points of view but I really hope that if we can work well together for the next few months then everyone will benefit when the results are published in August.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS ENTITLEMENT

I have written before asking you to ensure you register for free school meals support if you are entitled to it. Under the new government administration school will be penalised financially and will not receive our full pupil premium if people who could register do not do so. If you need any support or guidance about how to apply or register we would be pleased to help you in any way possible.

VALUABLE ITEMS

Christmas has seen the usual arrival of some valuable and treasured items for students at school. We are, however, concerned about the safety and security of these items (IPhones, iPads and the like) during busy days at school. This is particularly the case when students have PE or other practical subjects when departments do not have the capacity to collect in or guarantee that valuables will be safe and free from damage or interference. I would therefore ask that students and you the families bear this in mind and that as a general rule valuable items are not brought into school. If they are, it will be completely at your own responsibility and when you have PE they will need to be stored in a locker as they will not be collected in by staff. I hope you will support us in this attempt to keep property safe and undamaged.

SCHOOL MUSICAL

In January we will be starting auditions and rehearsals for the school show. These will be on Wednesday after school. This Year's spectacular will be '**Return to the Forbidden Planet**', a West End hit and winner of the 1990 Olivier Award, Return to The Forbidden Planet mixes Sci-Fi, Shakespeare and Rock 'n' Roll to create a mad-cap, high-energy adventure. It is unique in the fact that the band is part of the cast and the cast are part of the band, whilst the audience are passengers on the doomed voyage.





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TRAFFIC ISSUES

We are still concerned about the number of cars that circulate or park illegally just outside and even inside our school site particularly at the end of the school day. The school buses need space to load and turn at this time and significant danger to our young people occurs when other cars are present. Damage has also been done to the grassed areas in school by inconsiderate parking or impatient manoeuvring when cars become blocked in by a bus. So I am asking you not to come on site in a car between 3.20 and 3.50 unless you have arranged this in advance with someone at school. On these occasions it will still be important not to block the main drive or the roundabout at the front of school. Thank you in advance for your support in preventing accidents and injury to our young people.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 20 th January	5.00-8.00	Y12 Parents' Consultation Evening
Friday 28 th January	7.30-10.00	Y7, 8, 9 Disco
Thursday 3 rd February	5.00-8.00	Y9 Parents' Consultation Evening
Thursday 10 th February	5.00-8.00	Y10 Parents' Consultation Evening
Friday 18 th February		Non-Uniform Day (£1 please)
Mon 21st-Fri 25th February		Half Term Break
Monday 28 th February	8.50	Return to school
Thursday 3 rd March	5.00-8.00	Y7 Parents' Consultation Evening
Monday 7 th March	6.00-8.00	Y9 Option Choices Evening
Tuesday 8 th March		Target Review Day
Friday 18 th March		Red Nose Day (Non Uniform)
Thursday 24 th March	5.00-8.00	Y8 Parents' Consultation Evening
Friday 25 th March	7.30-10.00	Y7, 8, 9 Disco
Friday 8 th April	12.30	End of Term (Non Uniform)
Mon 11th-Mon 25th April		Easter Vacation
Tuesday 26 th April	8.50	Start of Summer Term
Friday 29 th April		Royal Wedding (School Closed)
Monday 2 nd May		May Day (School Closed)

Chris Leach
Headteacher