

# head'sherald

SIR THOMAS BOTELER CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL, GRAMMAR SCHOOL ROAD, WARRINGTON, WA4 1JL | 01925 636414 | INFO@BOTELER.ORG.UK

## VOLUME 8 DATE 10TH NOVEMBER 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are well and that you had a good half term break. Our school community has had a very busy but productive week. This week we held our annual Remembrance Service.

As the Boteler Family, the day was about remembering those who are with us and those who aren't with us anymore.

It is vital that our young people experience reflection within a service and understand the impact that war and conflicts have on society. The level of respect shown in the service and around school really does demonstrate our Christian values of Hope, Compassion and Endurance.

It was a very moving service and to be able to come together and to remember and reflect is very powerful.

Thank you to our Ambassadors and performers for their support on the day; we are very proud of every one of them.



Mr Leonard will be shortly sending out correspondence regarding an additional element to our parent and guardian portal, Arbor.

The Arbor Portal also has the facility for you to view your child's attitude to learning and conduct. We would like to inform you that this function will now be enabled, with a small number of changes.

- In summary, students will now receive a House Point for all types of positive behaviour and efforts. This could include:
  - House Point – Ambassador role
  - House Point – Outstanding Attitude to Learning
  - House Point – Good Manners
  - House Point – Extracurricular Club
  - House Point – Excellent Piece of Work
  - And much more.

You will be able to access this information by clicking on the 'Behaviour' tab in your Arbor app.

- Students will receive a Negative Behaviour Point due to any undesirable behaviour, both in lessons and outside of lessons
- You will be able to see your child's conduct points, celebrating the successes and supporting school in addressing any areas of concern
- Staff will strive to ensure that conduct points are entered in a timely manner, however, please be aware that there may be retrospective logging (within reasonable working hours)
- For more serious matters, although Negative Behaviour Points will be entered, parents will always be contacted to discuss the matter
- House Points and Negative Behaviour Points will always be considered when making decisions regarding rewards initiatives and events, therefore, this is a good way for parents to monitor their child's performance and have informed conversations
- This system will also further develop our House system and boost competition between Houses
- Please turn on notifications to make sure you are making full use of the Portal/App, with the alerts informing you that you have a message from us.

We really hope that this can support with parental engagement and information sharing. We know from experience, when parents are actively involved in their child's education, it has a positive impact on academic performance, including improved attitude to learning better attendance.

Have a lovely weekend.



Beverley Scott-Herron  
**Headteacher**

## School Ties

I know that there has been an issue with the supply of ties. Our School ties were delivered during the October half term and unfortunately, as with lots of other goods and services the price has risen sharply since we last purchased stocks. Due to the current economic difficulties, we have decided to subsidise the retail price of ties to students resulting in a new price of £6.00. This should have been £6.50, but we felt it too steep a rise with no notice from £5.50 for our families. The cost from next September (2024) will be £6.50.

Ties are therefore now able to be purchased from reception.

Ties are compulsory and everyone must wear one. If a child does not have a tie they will have an immediate detention. If a child borrows a tie then they will have to give us a mobile phone or something of value as a retainer so that they bring back the borrowed tie. We cannot afford to just give them out. All the borrowed ties will be signed in and signed out.

## Revision

All year groups have had assemblies this week on how to prepare and revise for upcoming mock exams and 'working at' assessments. Mr. Kinsey and Mr. Koltan have shared examples of a range of revision strategies regarding the logistics of revision. Information regarding how to manage your time, managing exam stress and avoiding anxiety were also shared.

KS3: <https://rb.gy/mzw3z4>

KS4: <https://rb.gy/ltwurv>

If you have any queries regarding revision please contact Mr. C Kinsey Deputy Headteacher. If you have any queries regarding the upcoming mock exams or Working at Assessments then please contact Mr. J. Koltan, Senior Assistant Headteacher.

## Year 11 Revision Techniques

On Monday, Mr Kinsey and Mr Koltan held an assembly with Year 11 about what good revision looks like and some suggested strategies of effective revision techniques. The key message from the assembly was that students **MUST** work independently each evening revising and preparing for the Mock Exams which start in two weeks' time.

Good habits need to be formed now to prevent the stress and anxiety that last minute cramming can cause, when students have left revision until the last minute.

**The school Library will be open each evening (Tuesday – Thursday)** to Year 11 students as a place for them to revise and prepare for the Mock Exams.

The times the library will be open will be from 15.00 – 17.00.  
The atmosphere will be focused and will be supervised by our teachers.

The dates the library will be open to Year 11 for supervised, independent revision is:

**W.B. 13<sup>th</sup> November**

- (2) Tuesday 15.00 – 17.00
- (2) Wednesday 15.00 – 17.00
- (2) Thursday 15.00 – 17.00

**W.B. 20<sup>th</sup> November**

- (1) Tuesday 15.00 – 17.00
- (1) Wednesday 15.00 – 17.00
- (1) Thursday 15.00 – 17.00

**W.B. 27<sup>th</sup> November Mock Exam Fortnight**

- (2) Tuesday 15.00 – 17.00
- (2) Wednesday 15.00 – 17.00
- (2) Thursday 15.00 – 17.00

**W.B. 4<sup>th</sup> December Mock Exam Fortnight**

- (1) Tuesday 15.00 – 17.00
- (1) Wednesday 15.00 – 17.00
- (1) Thursday 15.00 – 17.00

**Anti-Bullying Week 2023 – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> November**

Next week is National Anti-bullying week and here at Sir Thomas Boteler, with our mission statement 'Through God, we care', we will not tolerate bullying. Next week we will be working with our students in the Personal Development lessons and tutor sessions, to ensure that students understand, that together, we can bring an end to bullying.

Bullying is not welcome in our school and all members of our community are encouraged to report anything of any concern as soon as possible. We will always aim to deal with reports quickly and effectively and we will continue with our relentless drive to create an environment where children feel safe and supported.

The below can be found in our school Ant-Bullying Policy on our school website:

The school aims to:

- Prevent bullying behaviour in school so far as reasonably practicable
- Promote tolerance and fairness
- Deal effectively with incidents of bullying
- Ensure all students are safe in school
- Support victims of bullying and educate the perpetrator
- Ensure proportionate sanctions and support are in place for bullies.

**The strategies that our school will adopt to achieve our aims and prevent bullying are:**

- Promotion of our Christian Values of Hope, Compassion, Endurance and our mission statement, 'Through God, We Care'.
- Providing a caring community in which students are encouraged to work together with each other in line with our school rules of being Ready, Respectful and Safe (RRS).

- Raising awareness (at all levels) of bullying behaviour through a range of activities. This includes all staff being aware that safeguarding issues can manifest themselves via child on child abuse and will follow the school safeguarding procedures. All staff must complete the Hays online safeguarding module.
- Improving students' social skills and dealing effectively with bullying should it occur.
- Improving staff skills in dealing consistently and effectively with incidents of bullying.
- Identified student anti-bullying champions/Ambassadors to support the work of the school in preventing bullying.
- Involving the parents/carers of the victim and the bully, when appropriate. A range of communication strategies will be adopted, including parent meetings, letters and phone calls. Communication with SEND students, who struggle to express themselves may need different ways (e.g. An advocate) to help them get their opinions heard and understood.
- Disablist language, homophobic or racist language are taken seriously and challenged.
- Differences are actively and visibly celebrated and welcome across the whole school.
- Utilise positive student role models as mentors for victims and participants.
- Assemblies are used to encourage students to reflect on the issues surrounding bullying.
- Student friendly posters and advice displayed throughout school to encourage students to report incidents.
- Using outside agencies to help support the school around bullying, including Warrington Youth Club, Safer Schools Partnership and the police and children's services where bullying is particularly serious or persistent, particularly where a criminal offence may have been committed.
- Actively promoting Anti-Bullying Week, E-Safety Week and similar initiatives to reduce the risk of bullying.
- Regularly evaluate and update approach to take account of developments, including that of technology.

## Personal Development

Green Careers Week – <https://nationalcareersweek.com/gcwpg/>

Green Careers Week is an exciting event that raises aspiration, supports diversity, challenges stereotypes, and promotes real opportunities for young people to have a career that will genuinely make a difference. Discover careers, jobs, roles, and career pathways that are green careers and develop green skills.

A green career can be any job, role or occupation that contributes to preserving or restoring the environment and our planet. It can be any industry, not just those seen as 'green.' Green skills are abilities, attributes, values, attitudes, knowledge, and technical skills needed to adapt services, processes and procedures to support climate change.

## Careers Fair

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November we are holding our annual careers fair. This year we have 28 exhibitors from different employment sectors, further education, higher education and apprenticeship opportunities. Students will be able to ask questions and develop their knowledge of their post 16 plan.





## **Warrington Youth Parliament**

We are supporting Warrington Youth Parliament in their quest to find Warrington's next Member of Youth Parliament.

If your child is interested please see please Mrs Mawby.



## **Message from Warrington Vale Royal College**

Due to unforeseen circumstances all interviews that were scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> November are being changed to the 21<sup>st</sup> November at the exact same time. All applicants that have an interview scheduled for this night will receive a text or email.

## **Years 7 – 11 Childhood Flu Immunisations**

Please click on the following links to view letters from the School Immunisations Team regarding the upcoming Flu Immunisations

Year 7 – 10 <https://t.ly/mK1m4>

Year 11 – <https://rb.gy/ox0wq6>

If you have any questions, please contact the School-aged Immunisation Team on 01925 946808

## Attendance Rewards

Each week a form tutor will pick a student at random to see if they have had 100% attendance from the previous week. If the student has, they will be given a fast-track pass for the week. This will allow the student to jump the lunch queue.

A student is picked at random during their Year assembly. If they have had 100% attendance the previous week they will be rewarded with a Love to Shop voucher.

If the student has not been in school this will rollover to the following week, doubling the prize.



## Christmas Attendance Prize Raffle

Each student who is above our school target of 96% will be entered into our raffle where we have lots of prizes to give away. We are calculating this from the 6<sup>th</sup> of November to the end of the Christmas term.

This is a fresh start so each student has the opportunity to be entered no matter what their current attendance is.



## Year 7 and 11 School Photograph reminder

A reminder that Year 7 and 11 photographs were taken in September by John Hunt Photography. All orders are completed directly through their website, using your child's unique code, which is on their photocard (handed to them on the day). We do have their codes here in school, so if for any reason that you do not have it, please contact [info@boteler.org.uk](mailto:info@boteler.org.uk) and we can provide you with this.

## Remembrance

Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School held their Remembrance Service today. The service was led by School Chaplain Mike Wildsmith and attended by some of the schools' former student 'Old Boys', including former students who are currently in the cadets and serving in the forces.

Students from St Elphins CE Primary School also attended. Current students who are cadets wore their uniforms.



The first part of the service took place in the schools' Peace Garden, which is decorated by a poppy cascade donated by St Barnabas CE Primary School, clay poppies made by our students and Union Jack donated from Bridgefoot cenotaph. The service then continued in the school hall with performances from students, leading to a 2 minute silence at 11am. Year 11 student Hayley Ng played the Last Post on her trumpet. The Flute group played 'Air on a G String' and Edna Chan played 'Kiss the Rain' on the piano. The poppy dress which Head of Art Mrs Sam Joice created in 2017, made from over 900 individual poppies made by students across all year groups, again made an appearance being worn by Year 11 student Neve Boswell. Neve also sang a solo, 'The Rose'. The front of the stage was decorated with poppies with words of thanks – every student in our school community had written one.





## Collective Worship

This week as part of Collective Worship, students have been focusing on our new theme for this term: Thankfulness. Ahead of the Remembrance Service all students were invited to offer their thanks for the freedoms we have in our country today. Students offered a variety of thoughtful responses including being thankful for their own families, our school family and the wider community. Students also gave thanks for the dedication and service of our armed forces and the emergency and health services. They wrote these reflections onto poppies which are displayed in the hall. As we approach advent, we are all invited to consider the things we are thankful for in our lives. Please keep up to date with our weekly prayer and scripture via social media.

The Ethos Ambassadors were delighted with the generous donations for the local food bank, thank you for supporting this important cause. The food bank have expressed their thanks and sent the following message:

Did you know that Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School's collection amounted to 109.25kg? This means the generosity of your school community has helped 7 people to be fed for 3 days, which equates to a value of approximately £273. We really rely on harvest donations at this time of year to help replenish our stocks. As you are no doubt aware, from stories in the News, demand for the Foodbank is high and still rising due to economic pressures and rising bills.

As a result of these financial pressures our donations are also down, so we are struggling to keep our stocks at a level to meet the rising need in our local community. Therefore your support is more important to us now than ever.

Here are a few statistics which you may find interesting and wish to share with your school community alongside the success of your collection.

- **17,000 people** received emergency food from our Foodbank last year
- Between January and July 2023 Warrington Foodbank fed an average of **1900 people per month**
- **One third** of the 1900 people were **children**
- We have experienced a **45% increase in Foodbank use** compared to the same time last year

Some other points that your community may find surprising or interesting are:

- The Foodbank is not only helping the homeless and unemployed but also people who are in **paid employment** as their wages are not enough to cover the cost of bills and food
- During the last 6 months we have had to spend almost **4 times as much of our limited cash** donations on food than we did last year
- Our **stock levels** are reaching **crisis** point



## Tasty Treats in Cooking Club!

Tuesday 7th November saw 15 eager and very excited students attending after school cooking club. They ranged across Year 7 to Year 9.

This week we cooked some very enjoyable and lovely chocolate chip cookies. Again we were able to purchase the ingredients for every student using our £1000 fund.

This has been very kindly donated by Sonia Bate at Edit Development. Thanks!

The students and Mrs Callaway really appreciate your support in giving everyone the chance to be involved in this extra-curricular activity.

Stay tuned to see what we cook next!!



## Refillable Plastic Bottles

Sir Thomas Boteler refillable plastic sports water bottles are being sold by the Eco Council at the price of £1.50 each.

If you would like to purchase one please bring cash to the hall at lunchtime on Tuesday – Friday next week.

You can also purchase directly from Mrs Leatherbarrow or Miss Barnes.

Let's help reduce the use of single use plastics in our school!



**Myerscough**  
College & University Centre  
INSPIRING EXCELLENCE

School Leavers | University Degrees | Apprenticeships

# COURSE ADVICE MORNING

Saturday 18th November  
Starts 10.00am

CENTRES IN PRESTON, BLACKBURN, LIVERPOOL AND WARRINGTON

The poster features six small photographs showing students engaged in various activities: a student in a hijab holding flowers, a student riding a horse, a student working on a car engine, a student in a lab coat using a pipette, a student holding a dog, and a student on a golf course.



# **ADDvanced Solutions Community Network WARRINGTON**

**Supporting Families of  
Neurodiverse Young People**



**ADDvanced Solutions  
Community Network**  
Supporting you to find the answers

## **NEURODEVELOPMENTAL CONDITIONS FAMILY LEARNING PROGRAMME** delivered across 3 sessions in Warrington Wednesdays 7th, 15th & 22nd November 9.30am - 2.45pm

Our **ND LEARNING PROGRAMME** is designed to empower parents and carers with knowledge, understanding and strategies to support their neurodiverse children and young people, (with or without a formal diagnosis). We will cover:

- Neurodevelopmental conditions/specific learning difficulties and associated mental health difficulties
- Autism (ASD/C) & ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder)
- Sensory Processing/Integration Difficulties (SPD)
- Managing everyday challenges and behaviours associated with NDCs
- Your Local Offer, disability welfare rights and special educational needs support.

**Please email [info@advancedsolutions.co.uk](mailto:info@advancedsolutions.co.uk) or call the ADDvanced Solutions office on 01925 320863 to reserve your place - places are free, limited and fill up quickly.**

Also our **Warrington Community Network Group** is an informal and welcoming drop in group who meet weekly to provide an opportunity to discuss and gain a better understanding of neurodiverse conditions including Autism, ADHD and Sensory Processing Difficulties and share strategies to support the difficulties and challenges that you may be experiencing in a safe and friendly environment.

**WARRINGTON COMMUNITY NETWORK GROUP**  
**EVERY THURSDAY**  
during Term Time  
from 12:30pm-2:30pm  
at **SANDY LANE CHILDREN'S CENTRE**  
Sandy Lane, Orford, Warrington, WA2 9HY  
Free - No need to book - Just Come along



We'll be wearing odd socks with the Anti-Bullying Alliance and their patrons, Andy and the Odd Socks, on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November** for Odd Socks Day. Will you?

**Odd Socks Day** 

**#AntiBullyingWeek**  
**#OddSocksDay**



## Snapshots from the West with the North Cheshire Wind Orchestra

GALLIMAUFRY (WOOLFENDEN)  
CHORALE AND SHAKER DANCE  
(ZDECHLIK)  
EAST COAST PICTURES (HESS)  
O MAGNUM MYSTERIUM  
(LAURIDSEN)



TICKETS ON  
THE DOOR  
£10 / £8  
UNDER 18S  
LISTEN  
FOR FREE WITH  
FEE-PAYING ADULT



ANDREW MALLON  
CONDUCTOR

**SATURDAY 11TH NOVEMBER**  
**7:30PM**  
**SIR THOMAS BOTELER HIGH SCHOOL**  
**WA4 1JL**





**£15**  
Per Person

**Elf Dash**

Sunday 19th November  
Gulliver's World, Warrington

WARRINGTON  
**YZ**  
An OnSide Youth Zone

Warrington and Halton  
Teaching Hospitals Charity  
AN NHS CHARITY  
Registered Charity: 615854

*Breakfast with Santa*

TICKETS  
**£15**

WARRINGTON  
**YZ**  
An OnSide Youth Zone

Saturday 9th | 16th | 23rd December  
Join us at Warrington Youth Zone for  
breakfast with Santa and some fun activities  
Event open to non members too