

# head'sherald

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

**VOLUME 20    DATE 9<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024**

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are well. I cannot believe we are at half term already. I only hope the weather is better than it has been of late.

It has been an incredibly busy week with lots of events and experiences for our young people. These 'extras' to the planned curriculum are really important in developing the holistic aspect of our young people, so they are well informed.

The biggest hit was definitely The Mercians. "Be kind" was the message students received from The Mercians - an indie pop band who performed to all the students in Years 7-10 this week. I did feel we had gone a little Glastonbury at one stage, but the feedback from the students was excellent and it was great to see how they engaged.

Year 11 are coming up to their second round of Mocks and they are very focussed in their exam preparations. The Period 6 has been going very well and the student are benefitting from having an extra planned hour with their teachers.

The Berlin trip leaves on Sunday and we wish all the student and staff well and I am sure they will have a fantastic time.

I had the pleasure of meeting with the Student Leadership Body recently and they give me a very honest picture of the school, our strengths and where they think we can improve further. The overwhelming strength that came out, was their appreciation of the relationships they have with staff and the level of respect they have for them. I thought I would feed this back as it is a lovely way to end a half term. We work really hard on developing these relationships and whilst we might not always get it right we really do try. The better the relationship, the better the working practices and learning that takes place. We do want every child to succeed and for some, we know there are barriers, but we will always try and overcome these.

Please have a lovely half term and just a reminder that the young people come back to school on **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February at 08.25**. Please ensure that you address any uniform issues before students return as there is a whole week to get things sorted. If you need help in any way, please do let us know.

Best wishes



Beverley Scott-Herron  
**Headteacher**

## Year 11 Mock Exams

As I have communicated previously, Year 11 Mock Exams start on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February and run for two weeks.

Unlike for the last set of Mock Exams, where results were not given out to students until the Mock Exams assembly, teachers will be going through the Mock Exam papers with students in lessons. Students will be informed of their grades achieved as soon as they are available and Mock Exam papers will be returned to students supporting them with their revision.

Mock Exam results will be emailed out to parents on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

All students have been issued with their personalised Mock Exam Timetables and should be referring to these at home, looking at the order the exams take place and helping shape and sequence their revision. Year 11 should be spending significant time at home revising and preparing for these exams especially over this half term break. Mr Kinsey and Mr Koltan have previously delivered revision assemblies and follow-up assemblies around key dates and exam preparation.

A reminder that during this Mock Exam window, we will be postponing the Period 6 sessions. This is due to students sitting exams that can be two hours long and will run until 3pm. Transitioning from a Mock Exam straight into a Period 6 session would be very demanding and may overload our students. What we will be offering is teacher availability on the scheduled days where students may want to ask their teachers questions about the Mock Exams or questions on specific topics. The same teachers and subjects scheduled for Period 6 will be available on the specified evenings each Tuesday to Thursday.

Period 6 will return to normal from Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March.

### YEAR 11– MOCK TIMETABLE FEB/MAR 2024

WEEK	Date	Morning 8.55	Break 10.55	Morning 11.15am	Lunch 12.15	Afternoon 13.00
1	Mon 26 Feb	<b>SCIENCE BIOLOGY Paper 2</b> 1 hour 45/ 1 hour 15				<b>HISTORY USA</b> 1 hour 15
	Tues 27 Feb	<b>MATHS Paper 1 Non-Calculator</b> 1 hour 30				<b>RELIGIOUS STUDIES Christianity/Judaism</b> 1 hour 45
	Weds 28 Feb	<b>COMPUTER SCIENCE</b> 2 hours  <b>ANCIENT HISTORY (Rome and its Neighbours)</b> 1 hour 45				<b>FRENCH READING</b> 1 hour/ 45 mins  <b>SPANISH READING</b> 1 hour /45 mins
	Thurs 29 Feb	<b>ENGLISH LANGUAGE Paper 1</b> 1 hour 45				<b>GEOGRAPHY</b> 1 hour 30
		<b>Morning 08.55</b>	<b>Break 11.10</b>	<b>Morning 11.25</b>	<b>Lunch 12.25</b>	<b>Afternoon 13.00</b>
	Fri 1 Mar	<b>SCIENCE CHEMISTRY Paper 2</b> 1 hour 45/ 1 hour 15				<b>ENGLISH LITERATURE</b> 1 hour

WEEK	Date	Morning 08.55	Break 10.55	Morning 11.15am	Lunch 12.15	Afternoon 13.00
2	Mon 4 Mar	<b>GEOGRAPHY</b> 1 hour 30  <b>HISTORY</b> (Cold War) 55 mins				<b>SPANISH Writing</b> 1 hour 15/ 1 hour <b>FRENCH Writing</b> 1 hour 15/ 1 hour <b>HOSPITALITY (11HL)</b> 1 hour 20
	Tues 5 Mar	<b>ENGLISH LANGUAGE</b> Paper 2 1 hour 45				<b>OPTION D Subjects</b> Design Technology 2 hours Hospitality 1 hour 20 Sport Science 1 hour 15 Travel and Tourism 2 hours
	Weds 6 Mar	<b>MATHS Paper 2</b> <b>Calculator</b> 1 hour 30				<b>RELIGIOUS STUDIES</b> Themes 1 hour 20
	Thurs 7 Mar	<b>SCIENCE PHYSICS</b> <b>Paper 2</b> 1 hour 45/ 1 hour 15				<b>MUSIC</b> 1 hour 15
		<b>Morning</b> <b>08.55</b>	<b>Break</b> <b>11.10</b>	<b>Morning</b> <b>11.25</b>	<b>Lunch</b> <b>12.25</b>	<b>Afternoon</b> <b>13.00</b>
	Fri 8 Mar	<b>OPTION C Subjects</b> Computer Science 1 hour 45 Sport Science 1 hour 15 Design Technology (11C/GDC +11C/DTC) 2 hours Enterprise 2 hours				<b>FURTHER MATHS</b> <b>CALCULATOR</b> <b>1 HOUR 45</b>
- DRAMA all day -						

WEEK	Date	Period 1 8.55	Period 2 9.55	Period 3 11.15	Period 4 12.15	Lunch 13.15	Period 5 14.00
1	Mon 11 Mar	<b>11H/Es1L SPANISH Listening</b> 45 mins/ 35 Mins <b>11HL/Fr2L FRENCH Listening</b> 45 mins/ 35 Mins		<b>MATHS Paper 3</b> <b>Calculator</b> 1 Hour 30			<b>11C/Es2L SPANISH Listening</b> 45 mins/ 35 Mins <b>11CL/Fr1L FRENCH Listening</b> 45 mins/ 35 Mins
		<b>MUSIC Performance/ Composition and MFL SPEAKING TEST DATES TO FOLLOW</b>					

### Additional dates:

Music Composition: Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February Periods 2, 3 and 4

Music Performance: Wednesday 20 March All Day

MFL Speaking Mocks: Wednesday 21 February  
Friday 23 February

Teacher will provide students with their time slot for MFL.

## Parent/Carer forum success

PC Andrew Kevan delivered his Cyber Safety Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January here in school, receiving some extremely positive feedback regarding the session.

His 'No nonsense', frank look at what happens when children are given unfiltered access to the Internet/Social Media platforms, without strict guidelines and parental support was well received by those in attendance.

The parents/carers in attendance really benefited from Andrew's expertise and his practical support and guidance, and we know we will build on this year on year, particularly with the ever-changing world we live in.



## Bereavement Cafes

The below message has also been included in our safeguarding newsletter, however, we will like to make sure you are aware of the below support:

Bereavement organisations from the north-west are holding unique forums to help people who have lost a loved one. It is hoped the drop-in sessions will bring hope and strength to the deceased's family and friends. Known as bereavement cafes, this supportive environment is a place where all are welcome regardless of where they live and people can speak openly without worrying about being judged. Meetings are taking place at the below locations in Warrington and the surrounding area.

- Halton Lea Library, Runcorn Shopping City, WA7 2PF 10.30am-11.30am, first Monday of the month.
- The Pavilion, Alexandra Park, Stockton Heath, WA4 2UT - 9.30am-11am, second Tuesday of the month.
- Halton and St Helens VCA, St Maries Church, Lugsdale Road, Widnes, WA8 6DH - 12.30pm-1.30pm, third
- The Pavilion, Bank Park, Warrington, WA1 1UP - 10am-11.30am, last Tuesday of the month.
- St Paul's Church, Clay Lane, Burtonwood, WA5 2RX - 10am-12noon, Every Wednesday.
- Kings Community Centre, Marina Avenue, Great Sankey, WA5 1JH - 12noon-1.30pm, Wednesdays (term time)
- Green Acres Bereavement Group, Rainford Park, WA11 7HX - 10.30am-12.30pm, last Saturday of the month.

## **Attendance matters at Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School**

We will continue to promote 'Moments Matter, Attendance Counts' for all students. Check in with your child to see if they currently know their attendance, check their ISP for their attendance overview and don't forget to use the Arbor Parent Portal to keep up to date with their headline attendance figure.

As a school, we celebrate improved attendance just as much as sustained outstanding attendance, particularly as we recognise there may be genuine reasons for absence. So, as we end this half term, set your child some targets in readiness for the next. Remember, we are here to support and our work with parents and carers is key to the success of all students.

Remember, if your child is off, they miss out. Together let's make sure they have the foundations to achieve great things through strong attendance (96%+).



### **MFL Oxplore**

On Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January, Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, students from Years 7, 8, 9, and 10 participated in Oxplore events in MFL.

Oxplore is a project in conjunction with Oxford University and TCAT which provides students with the opportunity to participate in fun events with Oxford University students. Years 7 and 8 had a session in school entitled *Introduction to Phonetics* and Years 9 and 10 attended the Pyramid Centre in Warrington with the other secondary schools in TCAT.

Year 9 participated in a *Language Escape Room* and 2 of the groups from our school came 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Year 10's session was *Do we see colour the same?* and looked at how language represents colours and whether we all have the same perceptions of colour. All students enjoyed the sessions and fed back that they learnt something new and important from the sessions.



## The Mercians

"Be kind" was the message students received from The Mercians - an indie pop band who performed to all the students in Years 7-10 this week. Alongside an amazing performance that had the whole school rocking, students listened to the bands mental health stories.

Topics covered included depression, misogyny and discrimination. The overall message was to be kind; you don't know what anybody is going through.

Students received information on how to seek help if themselves or others are struggling.



## Collective Worship

This week as part of Collective Worship, students have been focusing on our Christina Value of Endurance. We have looked specifically about how we can support our friends and family during times when they are struggling. We used the scripture from Galatians (6:9) to discuss the importance of supporting others and not giving up when times are tough:

**“Do Not Grow Weary In Doing Good. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”**

Four of the Worship Ambassadors led a Collective Worship for the Ethos committee this week. William Kenwright, Lily-May Kelly, Bea Fox and Joen Lowry spoke wonderfully about the importance of Collective Worship at Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School and the amazing work they have been doing for the prayer services and the Ethos Council.

The Governors were impressed with their maturity as they led worship on the theme 'The Wilderness of Youth', explaining the isolation teenagers can experience navigating their faith in the world today. Well done on a successful term Worship Ambassadors! Please keep up to date with our weekly prayer and scripture via social media.







We are excited to announce that tickets for the Production of 'The Periodicals' by Sian Owen will go on sale when we return to school after the February half term.

Tickets are available for a Matinee performance on the 19<sup>th</sup> March and Evening performances on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> March. Please see the fabulous poster designed by Miss A Roberts, for information.

Ms Armstrong, Leader of Drama and School Productions.





National  
Theatre

CONNECTIONS  
2024

SIR THOMAS BOTELER CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL PROUDLY PRESENTS

THE  
PERIODICALS

WRITTEN BY SIAN OWEN

19TH & 20TH MARCH 6.00PM  
MATINEE - 19TH MARCH 1.30PM  
IN THE SCHOOL HALL

TICKETS £2.50 ADULTS & £1.50 CONCESSIONS  
TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE MAIN SCHOOL RECEPTION



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



# DANCE EXPLOSION



**Showcasing  
a variety  
of year  
groups  
and dance  
styles from  
across the  
decades**

**22nd February 2024 ★ 6pm**

**At Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School**

**£2 per ticket**

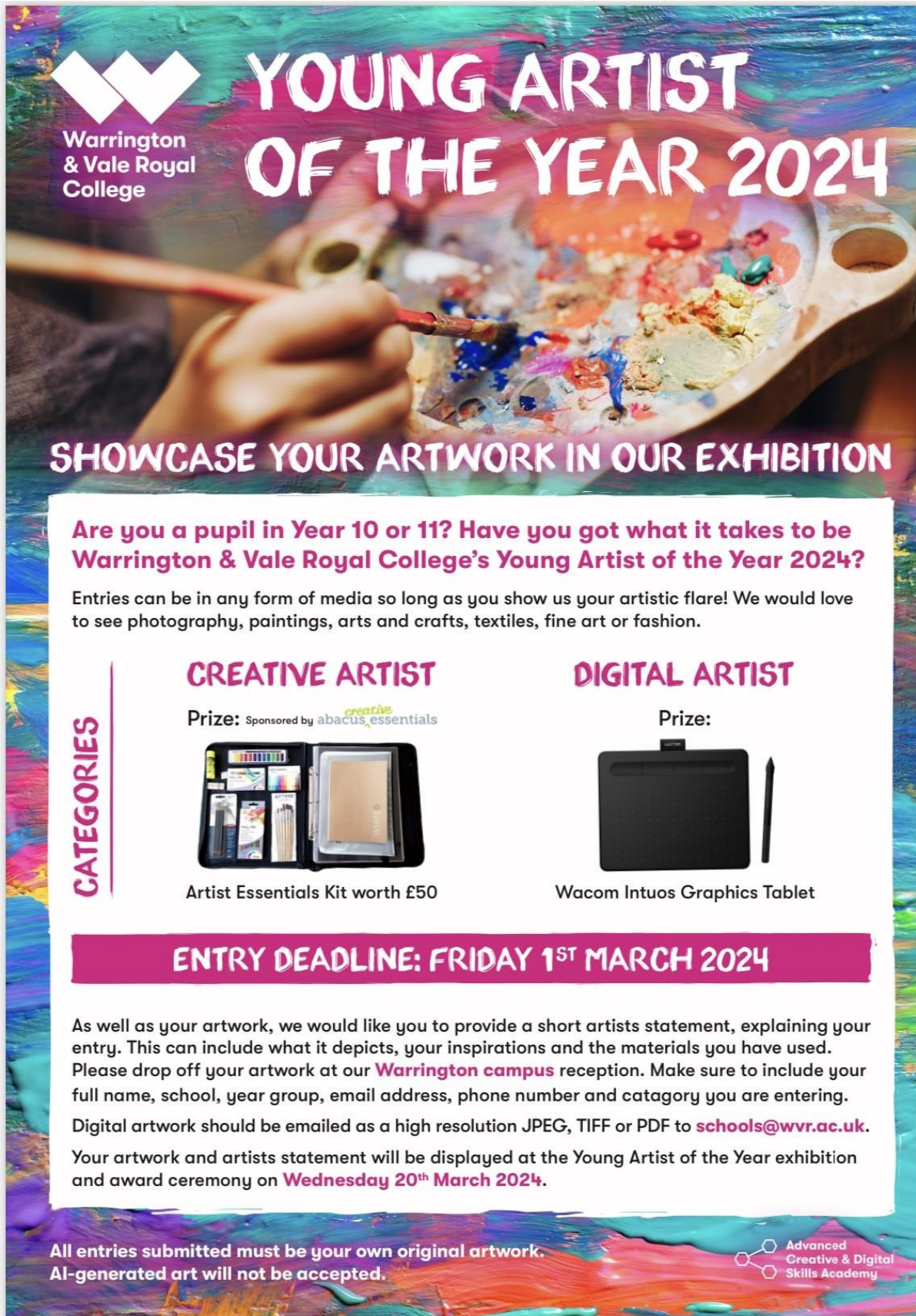
**Tickets available from the main school office**


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## Young Artist of the Year 2024

Warrington & Vale Royal College have opened applications for their Young Artist of the Year 2024! Any student in Year 10 and 11 can enter, whether they take GCSE Art or not, either physical or digital artwork. Please see Mrs Guttridge for more details.





Warrington  
& Vale Royal  
College

# YOUNG ARTIST OF THE YEAR 2024


## SHOWCASE YOUR ARTWORK IN OUR EXHIBITION

**Are you a pupil in Year 10 or 11? Have you got what it takes to be Warrington & Vale Royal College's Young Artist of the Year 2024?**

Entries can be in any form of media so long as you show us your artistic flare! We would love to see photography, paintings, arts and crafts, textiles, fine art or fashion.

CATEGORIES

### CREATIVE ARTIST


Prize: Sponsored by  abacus essentials



Artist Essentials Kit worth £50

### DIGITAL ARTIST

Prize:



Wacom Intuos Graphics Tablet


## ENTRY DEADLINE: FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2024

As well as your artwork, we would like you to provide a short artists statement, explaining your entry. This can include what it depicts, your inspirations and the materials you have used. Please drop off your artwork at our **Warrington campus** reception. Make sure to include your full name, school, year group, email address, phone number and category you are entering.

Digital artwork should be emailed as a high resolution JPEG, TIFF or PDF to [schools@wvr.ac.uk](mailto:schools@wvr.ac.uk).

Your artwork and artists statement will be displayed at the Young Artist of the Year exhibition and award ceremony on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024**.

All entries submitted must be your own original artwork.  
AI-generated art will not be accepted.



Advanced  
Creative & Digital  
Skills Academy





# Brick Festival

You are invited to join us at  
**St Elphin's Parish Church, Warrington, WA1 2TL**

**Saturday 10th February 2024 from 10am-4pm  
and Sunday 11th 12-4pm. Keep up-to-date via our FB page.**

**Free-build area**

**Competitions**

**Design a mini-fig**

**Bible Stories in Bricks**

**Craft Stalls**

**Refreshments available**