



WEST HILL SCHOOL

Aiming High Since 1927

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Subject: End of Spring Half-Term

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful half-term it has been. Our Year 11s have worked incredibly hard in showing their excellent resilience in the 2-week mock exams, with our team of invigilators noting their exemplary manners and effort. Our Year 7s remain an outstanding cohort, showing promise and potential under their Form Tutor and Mr Rothwell's guidance. Additionally, we have introduced and embedded our Standard of the Week, identifying an area of responsibility that we want the boys to improve on, refocusing on the standard and its importance to pull it up to our high expectation, and then moving on once we have evidenced an improvement. For any families that follow our social handles, you may have noticed our additional recruitment drivers, notably in our pastoral staff in order to ensure we identify need and respond as quickly and appropriately as possible to support our boys and families. Please help us by sharing these opportunities within your family and friendship networks in order to help us find the best people out there to make our school, and your son's experience, the best it can be.

Upcoming Next Half-Term:

Monday 24th February: return for normal school day after half-term.

W/C 24th February: Year 10 Assessment Week 2.

Thursday 6th March: World Book Day Events. Year 9 option confirmation feedback begins.

W/C 10th March: Year 10 reports issued.

Thursday 13th March: Year 8 Form Tutor Consultation (in-person event).

W/C 17th March: Year 9 Assessment Week 2.

Thursday 27th March: Year 10 Progress Evening (online).

W/C 31st March: Final Year 11 reports issued.

Friday 4th April: Spring Term ends.

Tuesday 22nd April: Summer term begins with return to school as a normal day.

Head of Year Recognition

Mr Rothwell wanted to recognise the excellence in Noah T (7W) who has been the top achievement point earner in the whole school twice this year, earning many cakes from my office. George H (7E) who played the cornet to an audience at the Year 7 Celebration Evening; he shows not only his excellence in Music but also in his co-curricular cricket, too. Dexter T (7H) who is not only a budding sportsman but was also crowned the Year 7 Spelling Bee Champion, representing West Hill at Great Academy, Ashton. In terms of charity, 7I and 7W spearheaded the West Hill Foodbank appeal earning their January treats but also, doing much for our community in need. Not only this, but 7I and 7W also won the interform football.

Mr Evans wanted to shout about the everyday excellence in many of his year group. Arch H (8T), Caleb M (8E), Kean P (8E) and Archer T (8E) are regulars in the Headteacher's Monday celebrations for doing the right thing and representing our 3Rs so credibly. A huge well done to Freddie F (8S) too, for his outstanding creative writing entry into our January competition, but also writing additional stories in English, and Charlie G (8S) for his winning of the Year 8 Spelling Bee.

Mr Lawton is incredibly proud of the 50+ students undertaking their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award, committing to services to the community, learning new skills, improving in various sports and pushing themselves out of their comfort zones. In the coming months, they will be preparing and training for their expeditions in order to prepare for their hike in the country and overnight camping. Additionally, Mr Lawton wanted to recognise Cameron S (9W) for his selection to represent Liverpool FC Academy alongside his school studies, being chosen to play in an international tournament in Poland. Tyler J (9I) continues to excel at karate in both local and national competitions at higher age groups. Within our Computing competition, a deserved well done to Ollie S (9T), Rylan G (9I) and Seb M (9H) for coming out on top despite being a smaller group. As a whole, Year 9 have shown maturity in their option discussions



as Mr Butterworth and Mrs Heath currently review these to ensure that we support as many boys' preference as possible, enabling them to succeed.

Ms Corrigan has commented on a wonderful start from most boys in Year 10. Their first term of option subjects has shown a maturity and high engagement in their studies. Consistently high achievement point earners are Daniel R (10W), Alfie H (10T), Lennon S (10S), Josh H (10S) and Coby T (10T) who have particularly stood out for many staff with their outstanding effort and resilience to all that they do. Well done to Jude M (10I) for his excellent participation in the Spelling Bee in front of a full auditorium too. As the Year 10 interform competitions commence, the race is fierce with forms trying to overthrow the sporting 10W with Mr Battarbee at the helm, with a student teacher battle between sir and Olly H (10I) – we are not so secretly rooting for a student win.

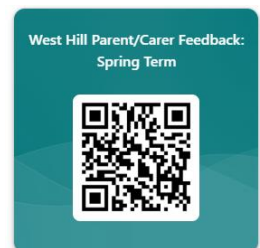
Ms Largey's Year 11s have had an excellent round of mock exams, gruelling in content, but maturely handled. Individuals to recognise have been Alex H (11I) and Owen S (11H) who have shaved their hair to support a peer currently battling significant health concerns, showing kindness and empathy.

Headteacher Recognition

As you may know, each week we measure achievement points earned from Monday to Friday so that the boys who have earned the most in that standalone week have the chance to be recognised and celebrated with me – a highlight of my week. However, being out on lunch every day with the boys also allows me to see some unsung greatness in our boys. This term the following boys have stood out for always stopping, talking, offering to help litter pick, holding doors open and using wonderful manners when I greet them between buildings or as they leave school: Jack G (7T), Xander C (8I), Jack H (9T), Jayden W-J (10E) and Lenny S (11T). They all make me proud, but these five have stood out of late.

Parent/Carer Survey 2: Deadline Friday 28th February

As we approach the midpoint of the academic year, I ask our families to spend less than 5 minutes completing our parent/carers questionnaire. These are largely the same questions each time in order to allow us to compare improvements or drops in your perception and experience. Largely, in completing it, please note that this is anonymous, so if you are requesting for details back, we cannot. If there are any queries that you need help with, please contact the school as per the letterhead above. Any individual staff thanks are always passed on from the comment box too. Access to survey: <https://forms.office.com/e/QZVgW8f0aV> or via the QR code here. We are currently in negotiations around an improved, app-based communication platform which we aim to launch later this year, ready for September.



The half-term always passes very quickly. As of Tuesday 22nd April, it is summer term and this is when boys may opt to wear tailored shorts when the weather presents the opportunity. A reminder to families on the suitable choices of tailored shorts will be sent out in the end of spring letter in April.

To end, thank you for your ongoing support, clear communication and for backing us to educate your son(s). So much of our work is possible through your support and, together, we know we are shaping their futures to be the best they can be. It is a privilege to work with your son, shape their education and work with wonderful colleagues every day.

Kind regards,

Ms C. Cronin
Headteacher