

JWS Update



27 October 2023

News

We are proud of all our students at the end of a busy and exciting half term, full of diverse opportunities and a wide range of events. Students have been to Tamworth Castle, Duke of Edinburgh participants has got underway, our students have enjoyed many adventures in Drama Club, our Dance Team have performed at our Open Evening and many students have taken part in our Inter-Form Competitions: Basketball Shoot-Off and General Knowledge Quiz. Our sports teams continue to impress us with their talent and teamship. The energy that our students bring to their learning and the way that they demonstrate our virtues is at the heart of our school and is bringing us together as a community. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the wonderful teachers and support staff who work incredibly hard to make sure our high expectations are lived and breathed in everything they do. We hope you have a wonderful half term break

Year 11: Parent Support Evening – Mock Exam Weeks, Revision and Intervention - Thursday 9 November

Year 11 parents come and join us for Curry, Rice & Naan on Thursday 9 November from 4:30pm for a 5:00pm start (5:00-6:00pm). We will be sharing with you the plans for Year 11 and providing useful information regarding how you can support your child in preparing for their external examinations. For catering purposes please [register your place](#).

Does your child travel to school by bus, or would you like them to?

Parents in Sutton Vesey ward and adjoining areas have launched a petition asking for National Express and Transport for West Midlands to provide additional buses and a more reliable, safer service with suitable capacity to support children attending both John Willmott and Fairfax schools. If you would like to support this campaign, you can find out more and sign the petition online [here](#).

Behaviour and sanctions

At John Willmott School we uphold our behaviour policy to ensure our students are safe and learning is optimised. For the behaviour policy to be applied effectively, staff members issue sanctions when the expectations are not met and reward students with virtue points when behaviour is exceptional. We thank you for your continued support to ensure students show integrity by attending their detentions when mistakes are made, for those who do not attend their detentions, sanctions escalate with students facing leadership detentions and/or time spent in the reflection room. Schools and academies have the right to detain students for breaches of the behaviour policy, there is no requirement to give parents/carers notice for afterschool detentions or tell them why a detention has been given. We do, however, ask all teachers to state the reason for the detention on our recording system which will be displayed on the My Child at School App, which is why we ask all parents to download and monitor the app frequently. Thank you for your ongoing support.

iPad Devices

We have begun giving the iPad devices to students who were absent for the first roll-out. All students have been asked to join their Year groups on Showbie using the following class codes:

Year 7: 6JACP

Year 8: 9HKNM

Year 9: CDFRF

Year 10: J3CPH

Year 11: 3BUAA

A video is available [here](#) to help students create a Showbie account and access resources. Please view [here](#) the behaviour expectations for all students with an iPad and consequences for misuse of an iPad, that is aligned to our Praise and Behaviour Policy.

Parental Meetings

We would like to remind parents that all requests for meetings and information will be responded to within 48 hours of the request being received. Parents should always seek to arrange a time to meet with staff and should not expect to be seen without an appointment. Should you have any concerns about your child please contact their

form tutor or Head of Year. We appreciate that the vast majority of parents always act respectfully and fairly, and we would like to thank those parents, and we look forward to continuing to work in respectful partnership with you in future to the full benefit of the children.

ADHD

October is National ADHD Awareness Month. Please use this [link](#) for ADHD questions and answers from respected researchers and ADHA professionals.

Kooth Online Safety webinar for Parents

On Monday 6 November there are 2 time slots to join the Webinar 'How Kooth promotes and supports staying safe online for parents' click [here](#) to book 12:00pm or [here](#) for 6:00pm.

Post 16 Careers Update

Please [click here](#) to view a list of dates and providers for upcoming post 16 events and open evening.

Year 11 - Post 16 Assemblies

We have a number of providers coming into school the week beginning 13th November to host Post 16 assemblies for their school or college. This will allow Year 11 the opportunity to find out more about possible destinations and enrolment onto courses.

Careers

On site we have a careers advisor who will support current Year 11 students with their destinations post 16. If you have any specific questions please do email Yvonne.green@jws.bham.sch.uk.

Work Experience Year 10

We are delighted to share with you that Year 10 will be completing a work experience placement 20 May to 24 May. Letter and consent forms will be sent out. Students should be seeking work experience placements that interest them. The placements will all follow a risk assessment before students are permitted to attend.

Year 7 to 10 - Unifrog

Students will receive an email from Unifrog to their school email address today (27 October). This is a fantastic investment in supporting all students with their careers and post 16 choices. To better understand the purpose and how it works please watch [this video](#) to support your child's engagement as they begin to explore future choices. There will be a

Free School Meals

[Apply online](#) In light of the current circumstances, it is possible that family financial situations may have changed and that your child may be eligible for free school meals and we strongly recommend you apply if you believe you may be eligible. It is quick and easy to find out if your child is eligible for Free School Meals by applying through the online checking service which will instantly advise you if your child is eligible. Your details are also updated automatically so there is no need for a formal review process, everything is kept up to date after your initial application. For more information [click here](#).

Trips and Visits

Please note, all information regarding trip letters will be sent out by email. Consent can be given via the link to parent pay. It is important that we have all correct and current contact information including an email address, if you have changed any of this information please update us by completing this [form](#).

School Fixtures

Students participating in school fixtures and have consented to local visits we will send a letter of communication concerning the fixture, a consent slip will not need to be returned.

My Child At School App

If you encounter any connection difficulties with the My Child At School App, please email enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk using the email title of 'My Child At School Parent App'. The school is unable to reset passwords but can send you a new link to get you connected if you get locked out of the system.



Attendance

If your child will not be attending school you must notify us every morning of their absence, before 8:30am. You can:

Email: attendance@jws.bham.sch.uk

Telephone: 0121 378 6564

Please ensure that you clearly state your child's name, Tutor group and the reason for absence. Thank you.

Every day spent in school makes a difference We attend to achieve!

Virtues and Virtues Champions

Each week our heads of year nominate a 'Virtues Champion' - a person in their year group who has gone above and beyond to demonstrate our virtue of the week.

Thank you to our Virtues Champions for leading the way and focusing and practicing:-

| | Year 7 Champion | Year 8 Champion | Year 9 Champion | Year 10 Champion | Year 11 Champion |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Gratitude | Siyan F | Amy C | Oliver P | Jakhadi M | Summer W |
| Respect | Honey G | Ruby B | Isabelle E | Jadida M | Shivraj L |

School opening times

Please be aware that students do not have access to the school playground or building before 8:00am. If students arrive before 8:00am, they will need to sit in main reception until they are directed through to the main hall or playground, students do not have access to any other parts of the building or site until they are escorted in by form tutors.

Safeguarding

Please [click here](#) to view some important parental safeguarding information. If you have a concern that any student is being harmed or is at risk of harm, you can contact school reception and ask for a **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)**. Alternatively, or in the case of school being closed, if you are worried about the safety or welfare of a child or young person you can contact **Birmingham children's advice and support line** on **0121 303 1888**. The emergency out-of-hours number for **CASS** is **0121 675 4806**. If you are concerned, always call **999**.

The SHARP system - You can report any incidents of concern within the school or local community using the SHARP system which is located on the school website.

Help and support for children and adults click [here](#) to view support and guidance services.

Online safety – please see this [link](#) for advice about keeping your child safe online during the summer holiday. We also have other online safety advice that can be found on our website [here](#) and other additional useful links and support [here](#).

Managing Anxiety

Cherished have announced a podcast called 'Connection Counts'. It offers advice about how to connect with a child with anxiety. Cherished have collaborated with Jennifer Wyman from the organisation 'Bridge the Gap', on what anxiety looks like, how it can be displayed in the classroom, and some easy wins for supporting well. They have lots of other helpful podcasts, so please take a listen!

Here's the link to the podcast on

Apple  <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/connection-counts/id1694897376>

Spotify  <https://open.spotify.com/show/7BSiALohnG9JiZyZk2NfHb>

Mental Health Information

Please see this [link](#) where you can find other information about managing anxiety and free webinars to watch.

Early Help Partnership Sutton Coldfield

Their latest newsletter is available [here](#).

Reading Recommendation



Evie and Lottie are twin sisters, but they couldn't be more different.

- Evie's sharp and funny, Lottie's a day-dreamer.
- Evie's the fighter, Lottie's the peace-maker.

What they do have in common is their Jewishness - even though the family isn't religious. When their mother gets a high-profile job and is targeted by antisemitic trolls on social media, the girls brush it off at first - but then the threats start getting uglier. . .

What We're Scared Of is a taut thriller, a tale of sibling friendship and rivalry - and a searing look at what happens when you scratch beneath the surface.