



News

I want to acknowledge the wonderful collegiate approach from our entire community when we held a two-minute silence to reflect on the service and sacrifices the Armed Forces make on our behalf. It was yet another humbling experience to see almost 1000 students vacate the building in total silence and show respect throughout the process before re-entering the school and getting back to learning. In the words of a visitor on the day it was a 'wow' moment.

Over the past few weeks, we have been saddened by the events in the Middle East. It has affected a number of our young people and families in many ways. To support with conversations with your children, we have put some links on our website for families, that can be found [here](#).

Consultation on admission arrangements

Every 7 years each school is required to consult on their admissions arrangements. We have entered into a period of consultation that runs from Monday 20 November 2023 to Monday 8 January 2024. Our proposed admission arrangements are published on the Birmingham City Council school Admissions website [here](#). You can comment on the Birmingham BeHeard website using this link [here](#).

Year 11 Preparation for Mock Exams

We have a mere 3 half terms left until the exams and it is more important than ever to have a mindset that is about being positive, ambitious and driven to work hard. All of our students are capable of doing amazing things this year, but they have to work hard if they are to achieve their ambitions and next steps on to A Levels, College or Apprenticeships.

Year 11 have mock exams in December. This half term is such an opportunity, and they need to use the information we are providing to structure their study routines. Students also need to be attending the revision sessions after school. We would encourage students to find a healthy balance of following their revision timetable and also dedicating time to activities to support their own wellbeing such as going for a walk or meeting friends. A break from the mobile phone screen is also a healthy way to spend some time! Doing well in these mock exams is vital because it will inform them and their teachers about the required next steps based on their performance. We have selected 9 impactful revision strategies which we will be explicitly teaching students this half term: Flashcards; Mind maps, Flowcharts; Mnemonics; Highlighting; Reading Aloud; Post It Notes; Cornell Notes and Exam Practice.

Post 16 Careers Update

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

Year 11 Post 16 Assemblies

We welcomed schools and colleges this week to speak with Year 11 during assembly every morning. Students should be attending open days and applying for courses. Please do support students with this.

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.

Year 7 to 10 – Preparation for Assessment Week

Thank you to all of the parents that attended our support evening. Through the course of this term teachers will be setting homework that will support the student's preparation for assessment week beginning 20 December. Please encourage your child to structure their revision time alongside activities to support their well-being. Doing well in their assessments helps them and their teachers to decide on the next steps in their learning. For those that missed the evening the booklet can be found [here](#).

Year 7 Parents Evening

We are welcoming parents into school for Year 7 Parents Evening on Thursday 30 November 3:30-6:00pm. Please book your appointments [online](#).

Christmas Celebration

Please join us on Thursday 14 December 5:00-6:00pm for a Christmas Celebration hosted by our Expressive Arts Faculty. Ticket information will be available shortly.

Work Experience Year 10

A reminder that all work experience forms need to be returned to student reception by Thursday 30 November 2023.

Year 7 to 10 - Unifrog

Students should have received an email from Unifrog to their school email address. Students can create their account, this will be used in form time and character development lessons.

Parental Webinar on Apprenticeships

On Wednesday 6 December 6-7pm Mrs Lockley will be hosting a webinar provided by Workpays. The teams link is <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/fb19f93f-ea84-4be8-aaea-ee3ba2615816@645473a2-62c5-4bab-8a6d-837c0d96587c> This is for all parents.

PE Lessons – Winter Months

A reminder notice: with the colder months, can we kindly remind parents that students are permitted to wear the following items to keep them warm during PE lessons:

Compulsory items: Sport shirt (Black school sport t-shirt) and long-sleeved school zip top (Black)

Non-Compulsory items: Tracksuit bottoms or plain-black sport leggings

Additional items: Black gloves and black base layer

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

Extra-Curricular activities

We have a wide range of extra-curricular activities available, providing breakfast, lunch and after school clubs to engage students. Along with these activities, we offer trips, both day trips and residential trips across the year groups to enhance cultural experiences and engage student's minds wider than the national curriculum programme. Take a look at the [extra-curricular timetable](#) and encourage your child to attend.

We are always open to new ideas and activities, if your child has an interest and would like to see if we can offer it in school, please speak to Mr Grove.

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
Self Discipline 	Omosijibomi A	Vinne A	Lily Mae B	Japman K	Rhianna C
Courage 	Sienna G	Marshall E	Thomas Mc	Christian K	Toby F

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](#).

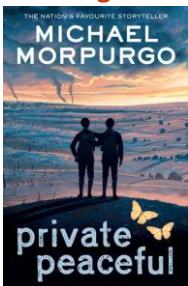
Safer Travel



The graphic features a large stylized eye on the left. To its right, a blue speech bubble contains the text 'SEE SOMETHING SAY SOMETHING' in white and blue. Below the eye, a smartphone icon displays the number '81018'. To the right of the phone, the text reads: 'Have you experienced anti-social behaviour on your bus journey? Report it to us.' Below this, a white box contains the instruction: 'Text 'SeeSay' to 81018 with incident details.'

Or report an incident [here](#).

Reading Recommendation



Set during World War I, *Private Peaceful* charts eight hours in the life of Tommo, a young soldier at the Front, as he looks back over the formative events of his life: his father's early death, his relationship with his loving mother and brothers, Big Joe and Charlie, and their beloved schoolfriend Molly – all set among an evocative and beautifully realised rural landscape. This award-winning story is also an unflinching examination of the horrors of war and the injustice surrounding the execution of soldiers by firing squad, on the – often false – grounds of desertion or cowardice. Former Children's Laureate Michael Morpurgo uses all his superb storytelling skills to weave this powerful, poignant tale of the horrors of World War I, which will touch readers of all ages.