

JWS Update



12 January 2024

News

Welcome back and I hope you all enjoyed a happy, peaceful and restful holiday. I also hope that 2024 will be a positive year for you all. Our students have made a very strong start to 2024 and I hope they have the most amazing and successful year.

Ofsted News!

I am delighted to announce that we have officially received our Ofsted Report and can confirm that we are graded as a **'Good'** school in all categories: The Quality of Education, Behaviour and Attitudes, Personal Development and Leadership and Management. You can access the report by clicking this [link](#).

Here are some of the highlights:

- 'Turning potential into reality' is the motto that the staff live by.
- There is a sense of pride among pupils. They can see that the school has improved rapidly in recent years.
- Pupils enjoy a wide range of opportunities for personal development.
- Staff know the pupils well.
- Pupils feel supported and safe.
- Teachers have a strong understanding of their subject and the important knowledge they want pupils to learn.
- Pupils experience an effectively delivered curriculum that helps them to know and remember more.
- The school has raised expectations of behaviour.
- The personal development curriculum is responsive to the needs of the pupils.
- Careers education is well planned and sequenced carefully for pupils.

I am incredibly proud that we have been officially recognised and that our wonderful students now have yet another reason to be proud of our learning community. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in the inspection itself, especially staff, members of ATLP, advocates and our students who shone during the inspection process and continue to impress us every day.

I very much hope that you enjoy reading the full report and are as proud as I am. We are open and transparent and understand that despite being rated as 'Good' in all areas our hard work does not stop here. We are already implementing additional strategies that will further support our students reach their potential, as we maintain our focus on the development of our 8 moral virtues.

I would like to thank all parents/carers for their support which has contributed greatly to our successes so far. Families of students who are approaching the end of their five-year journey will have seen first-hand how much our school has changed over recent years and this would not have happened without the strong relationships we have built with you all. Please feel free to share this report with friends and family so that we can spread the good news through the wider community.

This week

We have been lucky to have our termly reward assemblies. It was a joy to see students recognised for how they demonstrate our school virtues in their daily interactions and in lessons. This says a great deal about the culture here that so many of our students are getting it right so often.

Equipment

I want to thank each of our parents and carers for ensuring your child has the correct equipment for school.

Pencil Case, Black ink pen x 2, Green ink pen x 2, Pencil x 2, eraser, ruler, protractor and a Scientific calculator

Parents Evenings

Year 11 - Thursday 18 January The support and challenge you provide is hugely appreciated. You are interested in the education we are providing and the opportunities to grow our community. Last term, we have held three Parents' Support Evenings and a Parents Evening for Year 7. The average attendance at those evenings is high. We are looking forward to seeing the parents of our Year 11 students, please click [here](#) to make appointments for your child. Thank you

Year 9 – Thursday 1 February Emails will be sent out shortly.

Homework and Revision - SENECA Learning App



We have invested in the SENECA Learning App for all students. This is an online platform with a wealth of high-quality resources for all key stages and subjects to support students with their learning. An email has gone to parents/carers with details for how to view the tasks set for students. This is a great way for students to make effective use of the school iPads. Please talk to your child about their use of this app for their learning.

Reminder: Launching Kerboodle for students in Years 10 & 11

We are excited to announce the latest addition to our online educational resources – comprehensive online textbooks for GCSE Geography and History. Students can access these resources online to deepen learning taking place in the classroom and as a revision tool. These resources are free and available to all Year 10 and 11 students and login information will be shared shortly.

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.

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. Click [here](#) to read more about a **NHS Careers Untapped Webinar**.

Year 7 to 10 - Unifrog

Students have access Unifrog and will be using this in their Character Development Lessons.

Work Experience

Can you help provide work experience placements?

Do you or a family member own a business that could offer one of our Year 10 students a work experience placement? We are looking for support in securing placements for our Year 10 students from Monday 20 May to Friday 24 May 2024. We hope that this becomes an integral part of our Careers Education moving forward.

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 optional 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 10:	J3CPH
Year 8:	9HKNM	Year 11:	3BUAA
Year 9:	CDFRF		

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.

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 trips 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 emailing enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk.

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

Winter illness: We know that the cold, winter months can increase the chances of minor illnesses, coughs and colds, but it is important that students make every effort to attend each day. NHS guidance tells us that "It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat."

We want to reassure you that students feeling under the weather will be well looked after. Students with coughs and sore throats are permitted to use throat sweets throughout the day. Tissues and a hand sanitizing station will also be available to prevent the spread of minor illnesses.

For detailed advice on when to keep an unwell child at home and when to send them to school, follow the link to the NHS page here - [NHS 'Is my child too ill for school?' guidance](#)

In the rare event that your child is unable to attend school, please remember to 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
If we do not receive a reason for absence, we are required to record this as unauthorised absence**

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

On average, every 19 days of school missed = one grade less progress

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.

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.

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. We also have other online safety advice that can be found on our website [here](#) and other additional useful links and support [here](#).



Winter Water Safety

As the weather gets colder, please see this [link](#) for advice about safety, especially winter water safety.

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](#)

Reminder of the new bus service

77B New Oscott to Bishop Walsh School via Sutton Coldfield | Fairfax & John Willmott Schools | Falcon Lodge

Monday to Friday from 7th January 2024

	Sch
New Oscott, Tesco	0752
Sutton Coldfield, Parade	0803
Fairfax & John Willmott Schools	0813
Falcon Lodge	0816
Wylde Green Rd, Walmley Rd.	0828
Bishop Walsh School	0830

Sch: Schooldays Only

77B Bishop Walsh School to New Oscott via Falcon Lodge | Fairfax & John Willmott Schools | Sutton Coldfield

Monday to Friday from 7th January 2024

	Sch
Bishop Walsh School	1525
Wylde Green Rd, Walmley Rd	1529
Falcon Lodge	1537
Fairfax & John Willmott Schools	1540
Sutton Coldfield, Parade	1552
New Oscott, Jockey Road	1608

Sch: Schooldays Only

Safer Travel



Have you experienced anti-social behaviour on your bus journey? Report it to us.
Text 'SeeSay' to 81018 with incident details.



Reading Recommendation

It's New Year's Eve. The best night of the year. As old friends the Wiksells and the Anderssons raise their glasses, their teenage children host their own party across town, finally free to let loose. But the next morning, seventeen-year-old Jennifer Wiksell is missing. The hours tick by. The police get involved. And no one knows who to trust. These two families have a lot to hide. Could the answer to Jennifer's disappearance lie close to home?