

JWS Update



28 June 2024

News

Over the past two weeks it has been a pleasure to meet individually with our rising Year 7 students and their parents/carers. We have very much enjoyed meeting our new families and welcoming them into our community.



Last Friday night, our Year 11 had their prom at Aston Villa and, once again, lots of staff were there to welcome them and spend a little time with them on what was a very special evening. There were lots of highlights, with students and staff dancing and singing, but I guess the most special thing was the chance to just chat with students. We reminisced, laughed and took the opportunity to just enjoy an evening that reflected the culture created at our school. I have such a unique job and I often talk to

friends and family about just how special it is to work with young people every day. I want to thank all our Year 11 students for all they have contributed to our school. They are a lovely group of young people and I know they will make a difference to the world they are about to enter and the people they are yet to meet. On behalf of the school, we wish them every success and happiness.

Summer Celebration Evening: Thursday 2 July from 5pm

We invite you to join us for an exciting evening celebrating the work of our students in art, music, drama and dance. Please purchase your tickets on ParentPay.

Year 10 Mock Exams: Monday 1 July to Friday 12 July 2024

Year 10 summer assessments begin on 1 July for two weeks. It is important that students are on the playground for line-up at 8:40am with the correct equipment and full school uniform. The summer exams will be taken in the gyms and follow full JCQ guidelines. Students will need to hand in any electronic devices prior to going into the exams. All assessment timetables will be available on Showbie. Students have received important information about how best to revise and the code of conduct for mock examinations. As parent/carers, will be receiving topic lists of revision to prepare for their assessments.



All Year Groups: Assessment Week: Monday 8 July to Friday 12 July 2024

During the assessment week students will be finishing school at 2:30pm and school buses will be provided. Students must bring their iPad to school during assessment week as they will be required to use them during revision sessions.

The Royal Sutton School Cross Fit Gym

We are hosting an official opening ceremony of our Cross Fit Gym on Friday 12 July at 3:30pm. As part of this event, we would like to invite you to join a fitness workshop, led by professional Cross Fit instructors for our parents, staff and local community. We do hope to see you at this event. To register email enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk please title the email Cross Fit Gym.

Year 10 Mock Interviews

Tuesday 16 July Year 10 students will be participating in mock interviews. We have 18 employers visiting in school to spend time with Year 10 and put them through practice interview questions. Year 10 have received a separate letter this week with some key questions they can prepare for. This is a valuable experience for all students in building confidence in an interview setting.

School Sports Day: Wednesday 17 July

Wednesday 17 July is our Sports day. This is an exciting internal event where students from all forms compete against each other for the Sports Day title. Students are currently working with their Form Tutors to build their ideal Sports Day team. All students will be asked to engage in at least one activity on the day, to contribute points towards their Form Virtues overall total.

To help facilitate Sports Day, **students participating in events, must attend school wearing their full JWS PE kit. All other students should wear their uniform as normal.** In addition, please remind your child to bring a water bottle to stay hydrated. In the event of the sun coming out, they may also need some sunscreen and a hat as protection. The afternoon events will start and end slightly earlier in order to accommodate a staggered orderly dismissal of each form by their tutors.

Culture Day: Friday 19 July

Friday 19 July is our last day of school for the academic year and also our second Culture Day, a day requested by our student body, who feel very deeply about the importance of diversity and celebrating our differences. It will be a fantastic day of learning, trying new things and focusing on the importance of diversity, tolerance and respect for all. We have invited staff and students to wear their traditional cultural clothing or remain in their uniform if they prefer.

Parent Teacher Association (PTA) next Meeting Wednesday 18 September at 5:30pm

We are now running a school affiliated PTA WhatsApp group. In this group we will post pictures and key date reminders. If you would like to join this group please email pta@jws.bham.sch.uk. Please title the email PTA WhatsApp and include your name, child's name and number. Once your number is checked on our records we will send you the code to join the community group.

'John Willmott School – the first 50 years' hardback book – Are you interesting in capturing a little bit of history? The PTA are selling copies of this book for £5.00. Copies can be purchased from school main reception or at PTA events.

Key Dates

1 July	Year 10 Summer Assessments begin
2 July	Summer Celebration
3 July	Year 6 Transition Day
5 July	Teacher Training Day
8 July	Year 7-10 Summer Assessments begin
16 July	Year 10 Mock Interviews
17 July	Sports Day Year 10 Geography Field Trip
18 July	Rewards Trip
19 July	Culture Day Reports sent out End of Term

Return to school in September

Wednesday 4 September	Year 7 will be in school at the usual time
Thursday 5 September	Years 7 & 11 will be in school at the usual time
Friday 6 September	All students in school: Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 at the usual time

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 and 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.

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 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.



Year 9 work Experience

Year 9 had their introduction to work experience assembly this week and were introduced to Matt Franks who health and safety checks all of our work experience placements. Year 9 have received a letter and consent forms for work experience and will now need to start and seek a placement for their work experience 19 May 2025. All consent forms need to be completed and approved before students can go out on work experience. Consent forms to be returned by Thursday 28 November 2024.

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. We have received information from **Kings College Hospital** who are offering a number of online events and visits over the summer for any students who maybe interested in a medical career. Students can register with the support of parents and carers via [this link](#).

Doctors Surgery Live

SurgeryLive - Virtual Surgical Theatre Operating Experience - Saturday 6 July 2024

SurgeryLive course is an innovative and interactive virtual course that gives students a real glimpse of what it's like to be a surgeon in an operating theatre, delivered by practising surgeons <https://doctorslive.co.uk/surgerylive/>.

Free School Meals and Child Benefit

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. 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. [Apply online](#). For more information [click here](#). Families could be missing out on a minimum of £24 per week! If a parent/carer is responsible for bringing up a child who is:

- under 16
- under 20 and in approved education or training

They could [claim child benefit](#). There's no limit to how many children a parent/carer can claim for, but only one person can get Child Benefit for a child. To find out more visit www.gov.uk/child-benefit.

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, focusing and practicing: -

	Year 7 Champion	Year 8 Champion	Year 9 Champion	Year 10 Champion
Kindness 	Jack T	Madalina G & Lucas H	Logan S	Sarah A
Commitment 	Lucas H	Tallecia W	Daniel H	Bethany B

Attendance

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](#)

Attendance: the top facts to know & share

MOMENTS
MATTER.
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.

The link between attendance and attainment is clear:

- In 2018/19, **just 40% of persistently absent (PA) children in KS2 achieved expected KS2 standards**, compared with 84% of pupils who regularly attended school.
- **36% of PA children in KS4 got 9 to 4 in their English and Maths GCSEs**, compared to 84% of regular attenders.¹

And it's never too late to benefit from good attendance:

- **More than half (54%) of pupils who were PA in Year 10 and then rarely absent in Year 11, passed at least 5 GCSEs**, compared to 36% of pupils who were persistently absent in both years.²

But attendance is important for more than just attainment:

- Regular school attendance can facilitate **positive peer relationships**, which is a **protective factor for mental health and wellbeing**.³

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. Our Attendance Team are here to support with any barriers to regular attendance.



Useful Attendance Reminders:

- Students should attend school even if they have a cold or feel slightly unwell
- Holidays in term time cannot be approved
- Written proof of medical and dental appointments must be provided

iPad Devices

All students should have joined their Year groups on Showbie using the following class codes:

Y7: 6JACP Y8: 9HKNM Y9: CDFRF Y10: J3CPH

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.

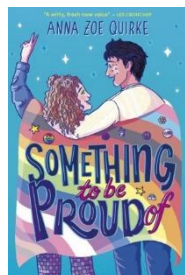
Trips and Visits

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 an email concerning the fixture, a consent slip will not need to be returned.

Reading Recommendation



We have celebrated Pride Month in assemblies and considered how to be part of a truly inclusive society. In 'Something to be Proud Of' a head girl, musicians, an artist and a star baker assemble to help plan pride and tackle injustices in their school and beyond.

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.

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.

Mental Health Information

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