

TRSS Update



27 September 2024

Year 11 Spotlight!

We are delighted with how well the students have returned to school; they are showing commitment and self-discipline but above all else they are strengthening their relationships with staff so that we are truly working together to succeed.

When the Year 11 team welcomed them back at the start of September, they were played 'Wonderwall' by Oasis as their Anthem for the year, and whilst at times the students may feel that:

***'...all the roads we have to walk are winding
and all the lights that lead us there are blinding'***

If they continue to attend school, arrive on time, work hard, prepare for lessons and complete homework they are poised to celebrate in the Summer.

There are some important dates coming up for Year 11 students we would like to share with you:

Post 16 Assembly Week:

- Monday 21 October Plantsbrook Sixth Form
- Tuesday 22 October Arthur Terry Sixth Form
- Wednesday 23 October Bishop Walsh Sixth Form
- Thursday 24 October BMET
- Friday 25 October Coleshill Sixth Form
- Wednesday 6 November and Thursday 7 November BMET will be in at lunchtime to speak with Year 11 students who wish to apply. Yvonne Green, our Careers Advisor will also attend these events to support students who are seeking apprenticeship opportunities.

Monday 18 November - Trial examinations start and last for two weeks

Please also don't forget that our careers advisor can be contacted by email: yvonne.green@jws.bham.sch.uk

News

As you know, I absolutely love hearing and sharing news about our students and their exploits and achievements both in and beyond school. This week, I learnt that Simran, in Year 9, received the award of Player of the Year from Edgbaston Cricket Club. She is a very bright, talented and determined young lady but also very humble. To be selected for this award is a huge achievement. Congratulations.

Homework Update

Children who regularly complete homework have better school outcomes than children who do not. This association is stronger at secondary school than primary school, where the evidence base is also more secure. Homework has a number of potential benefits including consolidation of what has been learned in lessons, preparation for subsequent lessons and tests, and the development of independent learning skills.

This term's homework overview can be viewed [here](#). Staff will generally set homework on iPads, using: Seneca; Socrative; Sparx or Showbie. Staff will also now be setting this on Classcharts so you can see upcoming deadlines; however we still ask that students write down their homework in their planners.

Missed homework will result in sanctions as we know that regular completion of homework allows students to become better independent learners and develop strong habits to become independent learners.

Evidence based research shows that 'self regulated learners are aware of their strengths and weaknesses and can motivate themselves to engage in, and improve, their learning. By regularly asking themselves questions like:

- 'Is this task asking for knowledge I can remember?'
- 'Are there easy bits I can do first?'
- 'What strategies can I use if I am stuck?'

Students are more likely to develop automaticity around planning, monitoring and evaluating any independent task at hand.

Young Carers

When a young person looks after someone in their family who has a disability, suffers mental or physical ill-health or other health-related issues, they may need a little extra support to help them get the most out of school. As a school community, we are very aware of, and responsive to, the particular needs that young carers may have. In this way we aim to provide a supportive environment for those students who may have more responsibility at home than their peers.

If your child is a Young Carer please contact the relevant Head of Year or our DSL Team to find out more about how we can support your child. Click [here](#) to find out more [Young Carers | YMCA Sutton Coldfield \(ymcasc.org.uk\)](http://YoungCarers|YMCA Sutton Coldfield (ymcasc.org.uk)).

Sparx Study club

There is a direct link between the time you spend practicing maths questions and the grade you achieve in assessments and exams. Based on analysis, those who complete their weekly sparx homework between 90-100% of the time, will achieve a grade **above** what they are expected to achieve. We want every child who attend The Royal Sutton School to be successful in mathematics. The maths team welcome all students to attend a Sparx Study Club every Tuesday lunch time.



Sparx Maths

SPARX study club

When?	Every TUESDAY lunch time
Time?	1:30pm – 2pm
Where?	Maths (M5)
Why?	Support with homework

If you have any queries, speak to Miss Rindi (Room 47)

Extra-Curricular

Our extra-curricular activities have launched and the timetable will be shared on Showbie. There are a number of different activities at lunchtime and after school. It is really important for students to participate in an extra-curricular activity throughout the year. Extra-curricular activities allow individuals to pursue interests outside the classrooms to foster a love for learning and help them to discover new passions that can shape their future careers and personal fulfilment. They play a vital role in shaping well rounded, resilient individuals who are prepared to face the challenges of life with confidence and character. We would like to challenge all students to demonstrate commitment to participating in an extra-curricular activity this year and receive additional commitment points.

EXTRA CURRICULAR CALENDAR

LUNCH TIME

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Lunch Time 1:30-2pm	Lunch Time 1:30-2pm	Lunch Time 1:30-2pm	Lunch Time 1:30-2pm	Lunch Time 1:30-2pm
Games club ⁹⁶	Table tennis ^{PE}	Table tennis ^{PE}	Table tennis ^{PE}	Table tennis ^{PE}
Table tennis ^{PE}	Maths study club ^{MS}	Maths study club ^{MS}	Maths study club ^{MS}	Maths study club ^{MS}

EXTRA CURRICULAR CALENDAR

AFTER SCHOOL

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
After School 3:15 - 4pm	After School 3:15 - 4pm
Boys Football ^{PE}	KS3 Netball ^{PE}
Drama catch-up club ⁹⁶	Girls Football ^{PE}
Music ⁶²	Drama club ⁹⁶
	NGR Bootcamp ^{Fitness Suite}

Useful Attendance Reminders:

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: login to the Studybugs app (free download and signup, using your email address and follow their steps to report absence or 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.

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

Key Dates for your diary

Monday 30 September	SEN Parent social, coffee morning: 9:30-11:00am – invite only
Thursday 3 October	September intake 2025 Open Evening: 5:00-7:00pm
Tuesday 8 October	SEN Information Report, Parent consultation with Gareth Fowler Pupil and School Support Service – 9:30-11:00am
Wednesday 16 October	Year 7 'The Year Ahead' Evening – Presented by the Leadership Team @ 5:00pm
w/c 7 October	Student Activities Week (SEN and Inclusion)

Work Experience

A reminder that all of year 10 will be participating in Work Experience from Monday 19 May to Friday 23 May 2025. Students will need to seek out their own placements and return the consent forms by 28 November 2024. Work experience will allow students the opportunity to experience real world skills, such as confidence, independence and organisation.

We would also be grateful to hear from you if you are willing to offer work experience to any of our students, please email enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk.

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	Year 11 Champion
Kindness 	Minnie H	Sydnee O	Racheal E	Jevae T	Casey W

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>

Safeguarding

As we start the new academic year, we ask all our students to identify two trusted adults in school that they will feel comfortable in approaching if they have any concerns or worries about themselves or someone else. We will be talking to them in school about this, but you may wish to explore this with your child at home.

They will be provided with stickers to place in their planners where they can write down the names of their trusted adults as a reminder of where they can get help.

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**.

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](#).

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.

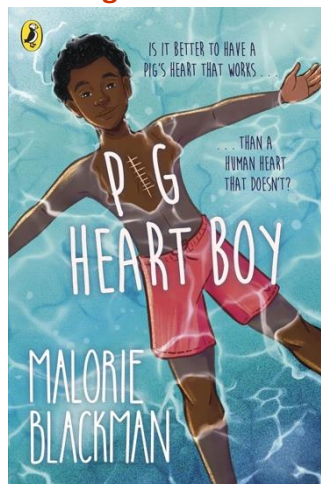
iPad Devices

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:

Y7: 6JACP Y8: 9HKNM Y9: CDFRF
Y10: J3CPH Y11: 3BUAA

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.

Reading Recommendation



It is Organ Donation Week and we have considered the significance of this in our assemblies this week. In 'Pig Heart Boy' by Malorie Blackman, Cameron is thirteen and desperately in need of a heart transplant when a pioneering doctor approaches his family with a startling proposal. He can give Cameron a new heart - but not one from a human. From a pig.

It's never been done before. It's experimental, risky and very controversial. But Cameron is fed up with just sitting on the side of life, always watching and never doing. He has to try - to become the world's first pig-heart boy.

This novel was shortlisted for the 1997 Carnegie Medal and has also been made into a Bafta award-winning TV serial.