

# MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM ALL AT WELLAND PARK ACADEMY





#### **KEYSTAGE NEWS**

#### **KEYSTAGE 3**

As we approach the end of the winter term, we want to share some highlights of the incredible journey our students have had so far this year.

Our Year 7 students embarked on a thrilling Outdoor Pursuits trip earlier in the year, where they built rafts and conquered high ropes courses, showcasing teamwork and resilience.

The magic of literature came to life for Year 7 with two enchanting trips to the Harry Potter Studio Tour. Additionally, the Christingle service yesterday was a heart warming experience as our Year 7s actively participated, raising valuable funds for the Children's Society.

Today, our school is alive with the festive spirit as we host our annual Christmas fair. The highlight being an impromptu 'just dance' performance by 40 students and teachers, it is a fun way to end to a successful term.

Year 8 students have seamlessly settled back into school life, setting an exemplary standard for our Year 7s. Their active participation in various sporting tournaments, from netball to rugby this year has been commendable. We encourage this enthusiasm for extracurricular sports as they progress through the school.

Year 9 students have embraced the Future Ready program, gaining valuable life skills and self-awareness. A Design Technology Careers trip to the Harry Potter Studio Tour added a touch of magic to their learning experience and prompted conversation about the future. We were delighted to see so many parents at our recent Parent's Evening and look forward to meeting you again at our Options Evening in February. This event will mark an exciting milestone in the transition to GCSEs and beyond.

We extend our appreciation to parents for the invaluable support provided at home. Your efforts in calming nerves, assisting with bag packing, and offering support during last-minute homework panics have undoubtedly contributed to the students' successful term.

The KS3 team are immensely grateful for the overwhelming generosity shown by all parents in supporting the Jubilee Food Bank and other charitable causes this term. Your contributions have made a significant impact on the lives of those in need.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Wishing you all a restful break.

#### **YEAR 10**

Congratulations to our Year 10 students for a commendable start to their Key Stage 4 journey! Transitioning from Key Stage 3 to 4 can be a daunting step, but students have handled it with grace, now studying their chosen options alongside core subjects. Key Stage 4 moves at a fast pace, and it's inspiring to see students already looking towards their future. Many students have completed work experience applications, attended careers interviews with Mrs. Hix, and actively participated in the biennial Careers Fair, where they had the opportunity to attend presentations and engage with colleges, sixth forms, and employers. Well done on your proactive approach to shaping your academic and professional path!

In addition to academic endeavours, year 10 students have embraced various enriching experiences such as the eyeopening Police Drugs Workshop, attending the Iceland residential, and participating in a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and Duke of Edinburgh Award. Students' active involvement supporting a VASL afternoon tea session, caring for flour babies, and leading sessions as Mentors in Violence Prevention underlining their compassion and willingness to contribute positively. We are proud of your multifaceted achievements and the positive impact you're making within and beyond our school community. Keep up the excellent work!

#### **YEAR 11**

When I met with families and students in September at the 'Welcome to GCSE' event, I said that Year 11 is a dynamic year. The past few months have certainly been that! Year 11 have been involved in trips to Wales, Hunstanton and Cadbury World as part of their Geography and Business courses. The school sports teams have also been incredibly busy and have celebrated a number of well-deserved successes over the past term.

With the immense support of Mrs Burgess (and even some Sumos suits!!), the prom squad has been raising funds for the biggest party of 2025. Donations for the Eco Wardrobe continue to flood in and it was wonderful to see so many of our current Year 11 students modeling outfits alongside former students. The students who will be embarking on the 2025 Costa Rica expedition with Miss Gray have also been raising funds both inside and outside school.

The head student team has also begun to immerse themselves in their roles and have shone in public speaking at our Open Evening and Remembrance Parade in particular. They are currently working with a wider group of Key Stage 4 students to create the first edition of the *Silver Branch* Newsletter of the year and we look forward to it's release in the New Year.

it was an incredibly well-attended evening and we know that it inspired so many students to make their applications! Our internal deadline for applications is fast approaching and the vast majority of our students have made two applications to a college or sixth form. (Apprenticeship deadlines are slightly later) It's incredibly sad to think that our Year 11 cohort only have half a year left with us, but it fills us with an enormous sense of pride that they have had the confidence to make such important choices about their future.

We recently welcomed a number of visitors on-site to interview each of our Year 11 students for a 'job' for which they had to complete a formal application. Every year, the panel of interviewers are incredibly complimentary of our students and this year was no exception. Our students are an incredibly mature, spirited and fascinating group of people who all made the most of the opportunity to show our visitors their diverse and interesting nature.

I'm sure you'll all agree that it has indeed been a busy term for Year 11!

They are an incredibly resilient group of young adults. They've achieved all of this on top of their first set of mock exams and with the demands of NEA coursework! They will now have received their results for this first set of exams and this feedback should give them a really good foundation for the next steps of their revision programme. I'm sure they are putting their revision packs and strategies from the well-being day in November to good use - but they should definitely make sure they take some time for a deserved break over Christmas too!



#### **FUNDRAISING—PROM 2024**

Another good week for the Hot Chocolate Break Bar.

Due to demand we are going to carry this on for the first half of the Spring term.

We are hopefully going to be announcing some big news in the next few weeks so please keep your eyes on the newsletter and social media!

Thank you to everyone who supports our fundraising. Prom 2024 will be here before we know it.

Nicki Burgess—Prom Chair



Academ Learning I		<u>elland</u> Park Acad Week commend	ing 8th January		
Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Concept	Authentic Italian	American	Best of British	Indian	Fun Friday
Option 1	Chicken Meatballs in Bharat Tomato Sauce	American Cheese Burger with Burger sauces	Roast Pork & Stuffing	Chicken Tikka Masala	Chicken Nuggets
Option 2	Vegetable Lasagne	Classic Mac n Cheese with Crispy Onions	Veggie Bangers	Butternut & Chickpea Passanda	Veggie Burger
Sides	Cous Cous Mixed Vegetables	Potato wedges Slaw	Roasties Honey Carrots	Wholegrain Rice Peas	Chips Beans
Authentic Italian	Authentic Italian Pizza and Pasta Bar				
Hot Deli	Cheese & Tomato Panini  Jacket & Topping	Tuna Melt Panini Jacket & Topping	Cheese & Onion Panini  Jacket & Topping	Roasted Veg Panini  Jacket & Topping	Cheese Panini Jacket & Topping

#### **CHRISTINGLE 2023**









STUDENTS ARE WORKING VERY HARD ON THIS PRODUCTION.

TICEKTS WILL GO ON SALE FROM RESOURCES ON MONDAY 8TH JANUARY 2024

WELLAND PARK ACADEMY PRESENTS

TICKETS £7 ADULTS £5 CONCESSIONS AVAILABLE FROM RESOURCES



MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> TUESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> & THURSDAY 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY at 7pm in the OCTAGONAL HALL

Music by

Lyrics by

Book by

Alan Menkin

Howard Ashman &

Linda Woolverton

Tim Rice

Originally Directed by Robert Jess Roth

**Originally Produced by Disney Theatrical Productions** 

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International.

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI www.mtishows.co.uk



# Welland Park Academy Learning For Life

## **Newsletter Issue 16**

The English Department, with the help of Year 11 students, Mr Leatherland, Mr Jerred, Mr Warren, Mrs Hix and Mr Mander, put on a performance of A Christmas Carol in the Octagonal Hall to years 7, 9, 10 and 11 this week. The performance, which was enhanced by the smoke machine pyrotechnics of Mr Hardy and the lighting and technical wizardry of two Year 11 Drama students, was designed to enhance the students' understanding of the novel (and give us a chance to have some fun on the stage). The audiences were all wonderful and we are already looking to recruit Year 10 actors for next year's show ...









