

Yateley School Parents' Bulletin

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Learning Together – Empowered for Life

Dear Parents,

Those who know me well know that I'm rarely lost for words. However, at the moment, the greatest news by far is that we are progressing smoothly and efficiently and above all superb teaching and learning is taking place. My senior staff and I, along with Heads of Department and Heads of House frequently walk the school site and take a close interest in the classrooms. We're met with calm and purposeful lessons and great relationships between the students and staff. In terms of our most important responsibility as an educational institution, I'm very pleased by what's being achieved. Thank you and well done all.

School Governor Vacancy. Have you ever been intrigued by the inner workings of a school as complex and interesting as this one? Do you have the professional background, skills or interest to give something important to your local school community? If so, you may have seen a letter via School Comms inviting applications for the post of parent governor, as a vacancy has recently arisen.



What do governors do? Governors are crucial to the running of a school. The different perspectives governors can and do bring are invaluable to me as Headteacher and to the staff and students. Governors work with the school to promote continuous improvement and they collectively make decisions on the overall direction of the school, working with me and a number of others to establish vision, strategy, policies, improvement plans and more. Governors decide how to make the best use of the school budget for the benefit of the children's education. They also make sure that as a governing body, they themselves are equipped to deal with the changing face of education. Governors work as a team, deciding on things jointly and sharing responsibilities for the decisions they make.

What is involved in being a governor? The Yateley School Governing body meets once a month during term time, usually in the early evening. You will have the satisfaction of getting involved in school life and visiting the school to see the governing body's decisions and policies put into practice. There will also be the opportunity to attend professional training sessions to help you in your role. Many employers encourage their staff to become governors and allow time off with pay, although this is not a legal requirement. Being a governor is usually a four-year position. But don't feel you have to stop there! If you are eligible, you could seek re-appointment or re-election for further terms of office.



Refurbishment. How many Yateley students current or past will remember the former OLC – the near-derelict space opposite the Headteacher's office? An insufficient number of computers for a class and an odd mishmash of furniture occupied the space. That is until Lee Beetham, our superb and visionary Site Manager got to work with his team, largely during the lockdown period. This is now the open-plan admin hub for the school and is a fabulous, bright and airy space; much appreciated by the staff who now work there. The work was completed on a shoestring and the

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furniture sourced second-hand by Mrs D'Alton, so excellent and very cost-effective work all round. (For anyone concerned, the computers now reside in the MFL corridor, so students are properly getting the use of them!)

Subject review evenings (parents' evenings). These are, as you'd expect, moving online. We have obtained software which was trialled for the first time with the Year 7 meet the Head of House/Tutor meetings this week. Thank you to all the parents who attended and thank you also for your excellent and invaluable feedback. The software worked well and is really easy to use. We'll make sure that instructions are issued as the various evenings come up – but be warned, the system is brutal and only allows 5 minutes! The obvious plus side being that the evenings run rigidly to time and you won't be delayed waiting for an appointment. Forthcoming evenings for your diaries are Year 11 parents' evening on 26th November; Year 9 parents' evening on 3rd December and then followed by the Year 9 GCSE Options Information Evening on 10th December.

Have a safe and enjoyable weekend.

Yours sincerely

Paul German

Headteacher

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CRISIS LINE

A reminder that Hampshire & IOW Children & Young People's Crisis Line is still accepting calls. Their trained staff members have the capacity to accept more calls and to reach even more young people that need some extra support with their mental health and wellbeing.

- The Crisis Line is open: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 3-8:30pm including bank holidays
- For any young person 11-17 years old living within/residence of Hampshire County Council & Isle of Wight Council (not Portsmouth or Southampton)
- Freephone: 0300 303 1590
- Email Address: cypcrisisline@easthantsmind.org (contactable for professional and young people)

The Crisis Line can provide:

- Immediate access to safe & confidential one to one emotional support via freephone
- Crisis de-escalation
- Self-harm/suicide safety planning
- Advice of healthy coping skills & resources such as CBT/DBT skills, mindfulness, relaxation, self-care, positive mental health
- Signposting for both young people & parents

ThinkUKnow

Thinkuknow is the education programme from NCA-CEOP, which is a UK organisation that protects children both online and offline. It is a fantastic resource for young people, parents and schools. Please do take a look.

- ThinkUKnow Website – [CLICK HERE](#)
- Parent Site – [CLICK HERE](#)

YEAR 7 PARENTS AND HEAD OF HOUSE MEETINGS – WED AND THURS

Every year around this time we welcome in all the new Year 7 parents to meet with the Year 7 tutors and Heads of House to see how the new Year 7 students have settled into secondary school life. Of course this year we have not been able to hold this event in person, however the Heads of House were able to meet with Year 7 parents virtually this Wednesday and Thursday night. We are pleased to see that on Wednesday and Thursday night we had 81% of parents attend and the feedback from Heads of House was that the meetings were very positive and useful. Thank you to all Year 7 parents for taking the time to attend your meeting.

YEAR 10 ELEVATE EDUCATION – STUDY SENSEI (FOLLOW ON TUTOR SESSIONS X 5) – SESSION 2

Just a reminder that all Year 10 students are having the Elevate Education follow on tutor sessions and resources issued to them via Satchel 1 (Show My Homework). This week (from Monday 12th Oct) they should have completed Session 1, and next week (from Monday 19th Oct) they are working on session 2.

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THEME OF THE WEEK (WEEK BEGINNING 19TH OCTOBER 2020) - THEME = BLACK HISTORY;
WORD = COMPASSION

In last week's bulletin we shared with you the website of <https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/> which has numerous pieces of information about Black History Month.

THEME – When people hear the phrase “Black Lives Matter” some respond by saying “White Lives Matter too!” In fact someone flew over Burnley football club with a banner saying “White Lives Matter”. Discuss this response with your parents. How do you think it makes people concerned about racism feel?

After your discussion, review what these websites have to say on the matter.

- https://www.instagram.com/p/CA6XxybjGN/?utm_source=ig_embed&utm_campaign=embed_video_watch_again
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aUgvS6rRb4c>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y1AJtbgQTXo>
- <https://www.blacklivesmatter.uk/>
- <https://www.cosmopolitan.com/politics/a32744228/black-lives-matter-explained-to-parents/>

“This is not about White versus Black, it is Right versus Wrong”

WORD: Please see the attached PowerPoint

HOUSE COUNCIL SIGNUP – YEAR 7 TO 13

Just a reminder that we have sent to all students via Satchel 1 (Show My Homework) the link to the Google Form to show their interest and signup for the schools House Council/Student Voice body. This is a very important group in the school to ensure the voice of the students are heard when it comes to further development of the school and how it operates. Deadline for showing interest on the form is this weekend. We look forward to seeing how many students what to take part and be the voice for their tutor group and house.

- Signup form – [CLICK HERE](#)

Mr R.Keeble, Deputy Headteacher – Culture

LITERATURE QUIZ FINAL

You may recall back in March that I reported that year 8 students Jess Brooker, Hannah Carpenter, Elliot Casselton and Giramia Thuambe took part in, and won, the regional round of the School Library Service's annual literature quiz.

Well, these students have now graduated to year 9 and recently took part in the county final. I'm sad to say that they didn't win but they can be very proud of their 3rd place.

This is a fantastic achievement by some lovely students whose knowledge of children's literature always astounds me.



Mrs Hood, School Library Manager

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Twilight Dance Class for Year 9 students

I am writing to let you know that a dance class will be on offer to your child if they are interested in studying Dance. The class is called 'Twilight Dance' as it is a weekly timetabled lesson that runs after school. The class will be on a **Tuesday from 3.15-4.10pm** in the Dance Studio.

During the year, your child will study different styles of dance and if they enjoy the subject, they may wish to study GCSE Dance in Year 10. If your child is interested in taking part, please ask them to complete the application form that has been **posted on Show My Homework and submit online**. The deadline is **Wednesday 21st October**. Your child will be expected to wear their PE t-shirt and either PE leggings/plain black leggings or tracksuit bottoms. They will be expected to arrive promptly and bring a bottle of water to keep hydrated. There is no cost for this class.

If you have any further questions, please email me at helen.wearing@yateley.hants.sch.uk

Mrs Wearing, Head of Dance

19TH NATIONAL CIPHER CHALLENGE



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Mr T Glendinning, Head of Secure Pathway Mathematics

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Uniform has come in house

You will be able to order from next week via Scopay

We are pleased to announce that the **NEW PE KIT IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR ALL** our students to purchase



We have been inundated with the same question from all year groups so please see below for our guidance

Q. Can I wear the leggings or Trackpants to every PE lesson?

A. You can wear the leggings or Trackpants in every PE lesson except for when you are taking part in Gymnastics, this is due to health and safety reasons.

- We advise that all students in the summer term be in shorts and t-shirts, this is for personal hygiene and health and safety reasons.
- The 1/4 zip training top is an additional layer for students to wear when they are outside, this top **does not** replace the polo top.

We continue to work with KT Textiles, unfortunately we have a few items unavailable, however, most products will be in stock in the coming weeks.

We will advise on student collection days and points next week.

Maths Corner 2



Dinner Dilemma



Half of the students at school today brought a packed-lunch and didn't buy anything at the cafeteria. Out of the remaining half who bought something, $\frac{3}{4}$ bought ice cream. Half of the ice cream bought was chocolate and one-fourth was vanilla. The remaining 15 ice creams were strawberry.



How many students were at School Today?

1 house point to all parents/student who presents the correct answer to their maths teacher before next weeks Maths Corner is published.

Answer to Maths Corner 1 – Bunk Beds

Robert = Red, Harry = Blue, Brian = Yellow, Kevin = Black, Ian = Green, Liam = Brown