Issue: 20



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Date: 07 May 2021

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@yateleyschool

School Lane, Yateley GU₄6



Learning Together – Empowered for Life

Dear Parents and Carers

Despite a pretty poor showing on the weather side of things, it is a joy to see elements of school life springing back into action. We have the Year 11 photo on Monday – so an earlier start for them and perfect uniform please – more details on this further in the bulletin. This will be a great chance for this year group to finally have a memento of their time here at Yateley School. To say that they've had a tough time recently is probably an understatement, but they've been absolutely amazing throughout and still 'keeping it together' with the long line of assessments that they've undertaken in preparation for this summer's teacher assessed grades. It would be easy for them to flag or lose motivation at this point and in large part their attitude has been exemplary and the same can equally be said of Year 13.

We have also been able to think creatively about our rewards system and ways to enhance what we do to celebrate the various outstanding ways in which our students excel themselves. I was delighted to hear from Mrs Quick, for example, about how magnificently the Year 11s have performed in their Food Technology practicals (the so-called NEAs). We have had to squeeze them in around their other subjects, rather than taking whole days as before and the students are still producing really distinguished work.



Pictured is Alara Turan in 10NN, alongside an example of her stunning Art work. Mrs Breen described her work as incredible – always at the top Grade 8-9 standard and frequently of high performing A Level quality. Her consistency and motivation have



been inspirational and she has kept this going throughout lockdown as well as in school.

We have been treated in the last couple of days to the campaign videos from our candidates for Head Boy and Head Girl. As the most senior student role in the school, this is keenly fought and we have exceptional candidates stepping forward from our current Year 12. Students and staff have a vote and the candidates will also have a detailed and challenging interview with Mr Conway and me in the week commencing 17 May. This will be an exceptionally difficult decision – but what a great problem to have! Expect an announcement in the week commencing 24 May.













Many people will be saddened to hear that Russ, the much loved and very long serving lollipop man at the end of School Lane is suffering from Leukaemia and really needs our help. Having learned this today, we'll be looking at how we can organise help in a structured way from school. However, in the meantime, many parents and students know Russ well and will want to support. A kind-hearted local group has set up a go-

fund-me page to arrange some much-needed help. Please take a look <u>HERE</u>.

MUSIC AUDITIONS FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS SHOWCASE



The time is come to play music live again! So I am calling all interested musicians, performers and composers, who are interested in taking part in **the PERFORMING ARTS SHOWCASE (due on July the 20th 2021)**, to audition their performances for me on two selected dates:

Wednesday, 26th of May OR Wednesday, 9th of June (in M1, between 3:30pm and 5pm)

You can opt to perform solo, duet, trio, small ensemble piece, either vocal or instrumental or combination of both. This can, of course, be the piece you either play for yourself or that you are currently working on with your instrumental teachers. For this performance, you are also welcome to include the members of your family and/or your instrumental/vocal teacher too. Please, bring your own backing track or an accompanist if the accompaniment is required.

If you have any questions or further help, please see me as soon as possible and well before the auditions. I am looking forward to hearing live music in our school and community again.

Ms Pejovic



Year 11 Group Photo

On Monday 10th May we will be taking our Year 11 group photo. We have ensured with the photographers that it will be in keeping with all our health and safety measures which we have in place in the school and the students will only remove their masks for a minute when the actual year group photo is taken.

Due to the time taken to get students ready for the photo, we need all Year 11 students to arrive at A Block playground via the A Block gates between **08.15 and 08.30am on Monday 10th May**. They will then be organised as required for the photo to take place at around 08.50am to enable the students to go to their lesson from 09.05am.

All Year 11 must be in their normal school uniform (the summer school uniform option is not allowed). Students that are not in smart uniform or those that arrive late will not be in the year group photo.

















Mental Health Awareness Week (Nature) – from Monday 10th May

Details and Resources

This year's Mental Health Awareness week has the focus on Nature. Recent National Trust research found a link between feeling connected to nature and having improved wellbeing. To help us all celebrate the week there are some resources about nature and mental health provided below from various online

resources (Mentally Healthily Schools – Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families).

Secondary school toolkit – <u>CLICK HERE</u>

The above toolkit has links for resources to show students and adults. There are also links for adults to support their mental health and wellbeing.

Students

- Booklet (This booklet explores the benefits that nature can have for our mental health, and suggests lots of different activities to try.) – <u>CLICK HERE</u>
- Sir David Attenborough Video (In this video, Sir David Attenborough talks about the links between mental health and nature.). <u>CLICK HERE</u>

As well as the Anna Freud website and resources as listed above, there are numerous other agencies and websites with further resources and information about this important focus week (some other examples are below):

- Mental Health UK CLICK HERE
- Mental Health Foundation <u>CLICK HERE</u>
- Mind <u>CLICK HERE</u>

The Big Ask Student Survey

The Big Ask is the largest ever survey of children, aimed at those aged 4 to 17 in England. It aims to find out children's concerns and aspirations about the future, and the results will be shared with the government. Please do share with your children the below link and see if they wish to complete this for the government.

To find out more about the survey, and then if you wish to take part – CLICK HERE

Action For Happiness – Meaningful May

Please see the below calendar for May which we would be grateful if you would share at home.



















Elevate Education Parent Seminars

We're excited to announce that parents of our school have exclusive access to Elevate Education's Parent Webinar Series this year. Elevate works with our students, delivering high impact workshops on study skills, motivation, wellbeing, and exam preparation. By tuning into their webinar series, you

will learn how to better support your children at home through reinforcing the skills they learn at school.

The remaining schedule for this term is below:

elevate

ducation

- **11th May** | Memory Skills More effective memorisation techniques that will save time and you won't forget!
- 25th May | Time Management Aligning family expectations on homework while maintaining a school-life balance.
- **15th June |** Motivation *How to create and sustain motivation across the year.*
 - 6th July | Technology How to self-regulate technology usage use technology to enhance learning.













Registration is essential and is free for you as a parent of the school. You can register for free at: <u>https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register</u>

The webinar is run **live online from 6pm – 7pm** where the presenter will share Elevate's key research and skills, and will conduct a live Q&A so you can ask them questions directly.

Should you have questions or would like to contact Elevate directly, their details are listed below.

- 🕻 01865 987 732
- <u>ukcoaching@elevateeducation.com</u>
- <u>
 <u>
 https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register</u>
 </u>
- <u>www.facebook.com/ElevateParentsUK/</u>



JFree Maths anxiety webinar

Helping Your Child Overcome Maths Anxiety & Build Mathematical Resilience, aimed at parents of children aged 9 to 14.

Using the latest research and vast experience in this area -

- 1. What maths anxiety is
- 2. How to spot the signs
- 3. Practical strategies to help your child cope
- 4. Actionable tips on helping them build mathematical resilience

The webinar takes place on Wednesday 12th May at 8pm.

For any parent of 9-14 years olds who would be interested, please feel free to pass on <u>this link</u>. They can reserve a place on this page: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qillACidQ7K0PwZ9Tx6tHg</u>















THE DRAMA, MUSIC AND DANCE DEPARTMENTS WILL BE HOLDING A TASTER SESSION ON WEDNESDAY 9TH JUNE 3.15-5.00PM OUTSIDE THE DRAMA BLOCK FOR SOLO, DUET AND GROUP ACTS TO PERFORM IN AN EVENING SHOW ON TUESDAY 20TH JULY! WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO. ALL YEARS WELCOME.

























