

Yateley School Parents' Bulletin

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Learning Together – Empowered for Life

Dear Parents and carers

Despite the unseasonably grim weather, we have made great progress and it is good to see the green shoots of our extracurricular clubs and activities starting to appear, where it is safe and purposeful to do so. Equally, learning has continued apace across all year groups and oddly for a year with no external exams in the conventional sense, we have of course been doing assessments galore and it has never been busier in terms of exam marking and feedback. I should put a word out for the teachers here and say that they have an enormous volume of material to process, so please be patient if some marks or grades take a bit longer than usual to emerge.

Senior Students. The process of selecting our Senior Students is rigorous in the extreme – as it should be for the most prestigious student roles in the school. This year the talent pool amongst our Year 12 students was quite extraordinary and Mr Conway, Mrs D’Alton and I were honoured to bring eight very different and very able students to final interview earlier this week. Having already faced an array of selection activities, this interview then had to make the final decision and our deliberations were challenging! I am delighted to announce that our new Head Girl is Sophie Green and Deputy Head Girl is Megan Scotford. The new Head Boy is Tom Branch and Deputy Head Boy is Freddie Rutter. Congratulations to all involved. The text below is Tom and Sophie’s personal statements to you and the whole school community.



Head Boy. Hello, my name is Thomas Branch and I am honoured to be your head boy for Yateley School! I’m excited to get into the role to start representing the student body and implementing the ideas I have. Yateley School and Sixth Form have helped me a lot, and I can’t wait for the chance to give back to the school. I believe Yateley School is a family, centred around teamwork which is demonstrated in our motto “Learning together, empowered for life” and want to make it feel as such. Students already have a great relationship with each other and teachers, but I want to create more interconnectivity between the years, with the sixth form playing a more active role in helping the younger years.

I pride myself on being an extremely dedicated, and I’m a very effective team leader which I believe makes me fit the role very well as I can surround myself with my peers who collectively can find solutions for issues that fit everyone. I am currently studying history, politics and geography, and I am also a Corporal within the Army Cadets, which I am extremely passionate about. I also play football for Yateley, where I am the captain of the team, and many of my friends from football are also at this sixth form! After sixth form I always planned on joining the army as an officer, but due to medical reasons, this isn’t an option, and therefore I am now putting my effort and drive into joining the Metropolitan Police as a Counter Terrorism officer.

The school and army cadets have both helped me achieve incredible things; such as many first aid qualifications, Duke of Edinburgh awards and a lot of charity work, raising money for Naomi House, Help for Heroes and many more.

I cannot express how proud I am to be representing Yateley School for the coming year alongside the other senior students, and I can assure you we all hope to make some really positive changes together for the betterment of our school.



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Head Girl. I am Sophie Green and I can't put into words just how excited I am to be Head Girl of Yateley School 2021-2022. This is such an incredible opportunity as I am eager to give back to the school to the best of my ability!

There are five simple words the school stands by - 'learning together, empowered for life.' I believe this perfectly encapsulates just how much of a journey your time at Yateley is, due to the care and devotion this school provides. From the exceptional house system and learning support team; to the long list of extra-curricular opportunities that the school offers; as well as the Ofsted assessed 'Outstanding' Sixth Form, it's truly an honour to be representing such a supportive and encouraging school.

To introduce you to who I am, I would point you to the school VLE where I can be seen in the background of embarrassing photos for Grease as a very shy year-seven chorus member. Now, I am studying English Literature, Psychology, and Theatre Studies in Sixth Form, with the goal of pursuing *Psychological Behavioural Sciences* at Cambridge. Throughout my time at Yateley, I have been involved in: Main School productions, Lower School productions, French Spelling Bees, House competitions of music, dance, drama, basketball, netball, Sports Day - you name it! In my opinion, this is one of the most fundamental things about Yateley School, because, aside from the personal achievements that these academic and extra-curricular experiences bring, the interface between the local community and range of year groups is a prime example of the Yateley family.



I've also had the chance to have had the roles of Charity and School Council Representative respectively, as well as being appointed Drama Captain in year 11, and volunteering at a Special Needs school to make up free school meal parcels during the first lockdown. Consequently, I have seen the importance of leadership, communication, and teamwork, which has ultimately led me to be driven to create efficient and effective ways to hear the student voice.

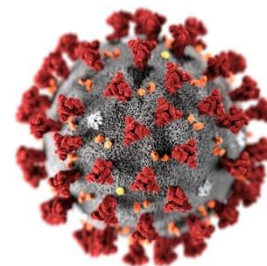
There is so much positive change that I am motivated to make for the school and Sixth Form during the upcoming academic year, and I am very grateful for this opportunity to represent Yateley School alongside the rest of the incredible senior students.



Rehearsing hard for the end of Year 11 Leavers' Assembly celebration and the Performing Arts showcase are Carter Harris (drums), Sam Yung (bass), Charlotte Payne (lead guitar), Jonny Willis (vocal) and James Stark (rhythm guitar). Separate details have already gone out by letter to Year 11 parents and carers about the forthcoming arrangements, but a highlight will undoubtedly be the assembly and shirt signing which all takes place on Friday June 11th. Another noteworthy date, of course, is the Year 11 Prom on Friday July 2nd. All of these things are planned to run, although as with anything else, they all remain dependent on the ever-changing situation with the virus. The same can also be said for the Year 5 and 6 events in the summer and the associated parents' evenings. We are planning for them all to run, but these plans might be subject to change at the last moment.

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Having managed to steer largely away from Coronavirus related matters for a few weeks, I must now add in a note of caution. I am aware from the local authority, from PHE and from the publicly available information on the news media that incidences of transmission are markedly higher and rising in the Hart area. This has impacted on some schools in the area and the number of children and groups having to self-isolate has once again increased sharply. Of course, with the vaccination rate being so much higher than even when we returned in March, the situation is different from that even as recently as two months ago, but I will be monitoring the emerging situation very closely and will be in a position to change tactics quickly if required. At the moment, our risk mitigation strategies, which include some use of face coverings, are considered sufficient, but this may change at short notice. You should also be aware that we are reintroducing morning tutor time and year assemblies (not House) after the half term holiday, but that will be kept under review too.



Have a super (if possibly rather damp) weekend.

Yours sincerely

Paul German
Headteacher

PE Extra Curricular

We have seen a rise in numbers at our extra-curricular clubs this week, which has been wonderful. It's been lovely to see so many of the younger students turning up and enjoying themselves after school hours.

We have included the timetable again as we know there are still many students that would like to come along, but have been confused by the timings.

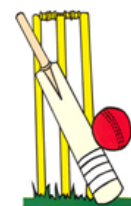
All clubs are free, and they run to 4pm. Students that want to attend need to wait on the tennis courts at the end of the school day, they will be greeted by a member of the PE team, to register them for the club.

PE department

PE EXTRA CURRICULAR

All Clubs start week beginning Tuesday 20th April

	After School Activities 3.10 – 4pm	Year Group
Tuesday	Athletics Club	Years 7 & 9
Wednesday	Tennis Club	Years 8 & 10
	Striking and Fielding	Years 8 & 10
Thursday	Athletics Club	Years 8 & 10
Friday	Tennis Club	Years 7 & 9
	Striking and Fielding	Years 7 & 9



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Mobile Phones – No contact in the school day

Can we please remind parents to **NOT** text or call your child during the school day. Students are informed to keep their mobile phones away during the school day and turned off ideally. If it is urgent and you need to get a message to your child or speak to them then please do contact the main school reception and we will get a message to your child or get them to be able to speak to you. Please can we also ask that you remind your child of this expectation at home and that they should not be making contact with you during the day using their phone. If a student needs to contact home they can ask permission from staff and we will organise this.



Year 11 Group Photo – Tuesday 25th May

It will now take place on **Tuesday 25th May**. 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 Tuesday 25th 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.



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 5 and 6 is below:

- 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:

<https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register>

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.



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- ☎ 01865 987 732
- ✉ ukcoaching@elevateeducation.com
- 🌐 <https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register>
- 📱 www.facebook.com/ElevateParentsUK/

Year 9 Twilight Dance Group

This has been an exciting year for the twilight group of dancers in Year 9. Over twenty students attend the weekly dance class afterschool to have fun, learn new skills and choreograph. The students this year have embraced musical theatre numbers including 'Grease', 'The Lion King' and now 'Chicago'. The group have also learnt a contemporary dance piece.

The group are now working on a piece inspired by the musical 'Chicago' which will be performed in The Performing Arts Summer Showcase on Tuesday 20th July.

Many of the students of this group will go onto to study GCSE Dance in Year 10, whilst others will have fond memories of having fun and keeping healthy.

This class is a great way to continue studying Dance in Year 9 and physically prepares you for studying GCSE!

I will be sending out more information to all Year 8 students who may like to consider joining this class in September.

Mrs Wearing, Head of Dance



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Yateley School



Performing

Arts

Summer

Showcase

2021

DO YOU LOVE
TO ACT,
SING OR
DANCE?



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.

Maths Corner 22



What is my Number?

If I double my number the answer is bigger than 60. If I multiply my number by three the answer is smaller than 100. My number is a multiple of 4.

What is my number?

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

Answer to Maths Corner 21 – Weight a Minute!

Weigh 6&6, discard lightest. Weigh 3&3, discard lightest. Weigh any 2, if one is heavier that is it, if they are both the same it's the third one.