

THE LION NEWSLETTER

WYMONDHAM
COLLEGE



February 2021 Half Term | Edition 32

Welcome from the Headteacher



I would like to start by thanking all of you for your support over the last half-term. Life continues to be challenging due to the Covid pandemic but it is a joy to see students engaged in their Home Learning and read the many messages of thanks, this is reflected in the article below written by Mrs Edmunds-Grezio.

After many years of dedicated service, Mr Philip Norton (Chair of the Local Governing Body) has stepped down from his role as he prepares for his move to Derbyshire. Phil has dedicated himself to supporting the College in driving forward many initiatives in both his time as Chair and Vice Chair. He has been an enormous support to me personally and his wise and sensible approach will leave a legacy for many years to come.

Our new Chair of the LGB is Lt Col Matt Woodeson who is both a current parent and alumni of the College. I would like to welcome Matt to his new role, and I know that he will bring an enormous wealth of experience and passion to the College throughout his tenure as LGB Chair. I would also like to extend my welcome to our seven new Governors; Sally Bashuan, Helen Dolding, Caroline Saint, Douglas Hayton-Williams, Sophie Gitiba, Jodie Hosmer and Jane Mann.

Their details will shortly be uploaded to the following page of the website [Local Governing Body - Wymondham College](#)

Despite the ongoing challenges brought by Covid, I have been delighted to have sent over 150 Headteacher Awards to deserving students and an additional highlight has been the start of the Floreat Inspirational Speaker programme, when we welcomed Anthony Willoughby (explorer, adventurer and entrepreneur) who met with our Year 12s this week via Teams. His message was a simple one; don't complain, be clear, be bold, be free.

Wishing you a happy, safe half-term.

Floreat Sapientia

Mr Dan Browning – Headteacher  @mrdrowning

Home Learning

As we complete the first half term of Home Learning we would like to say a big 'thank you' for the sterling effort you have made in supporting 'our students' and 'your children' in their learning at home. We understand that many of you are juggling lots of plates; sometimes supporting more than one child and in more than one different year group, alongside trying to sustain your own careers and duties at home. We are extremely grateful for all you have been doing and very much appreciate your constructive feedback. Whatever your personal circumstances, we think you are doing a great job...Well done!

We know that we have high expectations and that following a full 'live' timetable is really tiring. We appreciate that everyone's circumstances are different and that for a number of reasons the 'Home Learning' experience will not be the same for everyone. All we can ask is that students do their best. The most important thing is that students are all safe, loved and well cared for and are ready and excited about coming back to College to continue to learn as soon as it is safe to do so.

As I write this, we continue to wait for information from the Government about the return to school and the methods for assessing our Year 11 and Year 13 students this Summer. Please be assured that we will be in touch as soon as we have any news.

In the meantime, please take time out over this half term break to relax, take your children away from the screens and enjoy time with one another.

Mrs J Edmunds-Grezio, Deputy Headteacher

Medical Centre

This half term has certainly been a different one. As I write this, we have yet to be told a date in which we can expect the College to fully re-open. Therefore, I would remind you that although we may not be running a full service, if there are any queries, I am on hand to help.

I would also remind you that if your child boards at the College and you have seen a GP locally whilst school has been closed you may need to re-register them at Wymondham Medical Practice once college opens and they return.

Equally if they will have any on-going medical needs that are new or have changed whilst the College has been closed then please let us know prior to their return.

When children do return to the College can I ask wherever possible they return with 2 weeks of medications as it is very difficult to ensure a seamless supply of medication when children return with less!



A reminder of our email for all contact is medical.ad@wymondhamcollege.org

All that's left is to wish everyone an enjoyable half term break.

Mrs K Almand-Chinn, Lead Nurse

Boarder Activities



The College has a very small number of critical keyworker children and vulnerable students staying in boarding. During the weekends they have taken part in various crafting activities together with an attempt to build the largest snowman.



PIC-COLLAGE



Food Studies

We are at our most creative and imaginative when working within constraints.... This is certainly true of the staff and pupils completing practical tasks in KS3 Food Technology and KS4 Food Preparation and Nutrition.

Teachers have broadcast live from school, from their own kitchens, recorded demonstrations and always set alternative work for students that are not able to cook. Student responses have been truly overwhelming, every bit as creative and imaginative.

Positive highlights from the past weeks include students participating in live 'cook along' sessions, connecting with relatives via Zoom – different generations cooking and talking together whilst apart. We have had students, miles apart, cooking together – Norfolk working with Yorkshire, Switzerland, London, Hong Kong (8 hours ahead of us)!



Thank you to Evie Smith, year 8, for sending her work area and pinwheel scones photographs.

The Virtual Bake Club has started with over 60 members in the Team so far. It is streamed into kitchens at 4pm every Thursday, ingredients posted 5 days before. The club logo says 'Food is the ingredient that binds us together'... That can only be a good thing!

When setting 'assignments' students are always instructed to gain permission from their primary carer, it is made clear that no additional trips to shops should be made. Ingredients can always be adapted and there is no obligation to cook. An alternative task is always set for those not able to join in with practical work.

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the parents and carers that have supplied the food and allowed their children into the kitchen (hopefully they have all cleared up properly...).

Mrs J Minnis – Lead Teacher for Food Studies

College Office

Hello from the College Office.

Firstly, we welcome a new member to the College Office team, Miss Paige Blundell, who joined us on Monday 4 January just in time for another lockdown and the introduction of Covid testing on site. It was certainly an interesting start for Paige, who joins a busy team undertaking a variety of tasks along with supporting our Deputy Headteachers.

We hope you are all keeping well and thank parents and carers for their continued communication to inform us of any absences during this period of home learning and student attendance of those registered on our Critical/key Worker and Vulnerable student register. Please keep us informed, as you normally would of any medical/dental appointments as these are still recorded on registration system.

Both College Office and the College Reception are functioning as normally as is possible at this time although the Reception will be closed during the half term period. College Office will remain open should you need to contact us and if ringing the College main number, please choose College Office in the menu.

The new addition to our working week this term is the Covid testing process, which will continue to take place each Monday morning until further notice. Our students have been super with the testing process, which to begin with, was a little daunting for some but now feels like a normal routine and it's lovely seeing the regular faces on a Monday morning. We had initially asked parents to wait until students had their test result, but this is not necessary, and we would be in contact if a student were to receive a positive result.

Contact emails

I have listed below some email contact details for your information:

collegeoffice@wymondhamcollege.org for normal day to day College operations such as **main school student absences**, registration, general correspondence, and general school day enquiries.

attendance6@wymondhamcollege.org for Sixth Form attendance

admissions@wymondhamcollege.org for applications and enquiries to join Wymondham College as a day student, boarding student and to register for open days/events.

enquiries@wymondhamcollege.org for general questions about the College

AccountsDepartment@wymondhamcollege.org supplier related enquiries or general student accounts

wc-fees@se-trust.org fees, payments/invoicing - student related enquiries



hr@sapientiaeducationtrust.org for staff vacancies and personnel enquiries

Stay safe, stay well

Ms Flint and the College Office Team

Dates for your Diaries

Date	Start Time	End Time	Event
12/02/2021			Half Term begins
21/02/2021			Half Term ends
25/02/2021			Year 8 Parents Evening
04/03/2021	15:00		Virtual Open Event
12/03/2021			Exeat weekend (tbc)
17/03/2021			Y13 Parents Evening
25/03/2021			Y11 Parents Evening
26/03/2021			End of Term

Firstly, a big thank you to all of you who have continued to support the PSA, either by way purchasing on-line raffle tickets via Parentkind or by purchasing your gifts through Hodge Podge at Christmas time.

We are still taking orders for the PSA shop during its closure, so if there are any items of uniform that you need before the school re-opens, then please let us know via email wymondhamcollegepsashop@gmail.com and we can advise you of stock and how to pay. All items, once paid for, will be safely delivered to either reception or your child's house.

Whilst we have not been able to fundraise to the extent that we normally would have by this time of the year, we have been supporting the students and staff at the College. We have provided funding for the following since September term: -

- Stainless steel bowls for the Food Tech Department. They now have more individual equipment to avoid sharing once the students return
- 4 Hue HD Visualisers for the Science Department to improve delivery of on-line teaching and learning
- 10 computer headsets to support critical/vulnerable students in fully accessing online resources and to aid communication with their teachers
- Purchase of additional hardware to support online teaching in a domestic setting and provision of internet extenders
- Purchase of two History subscriptions and 2 Hue HD Visualisers for the History Department to improve delivery of on-line teaching and learning
- 20 Graphics tablets. These little "game changing" gadgets are being used by teaching staff to assist with the writing/drawing on computer screens during on-line learning. They will be incredibly useful too once the students return to the College
- Microphone, tripod, flexible tripod, and lighting equipment to assist teachers and technicians in producing educational training and demonstration videos for the practical subjects, i.e. Design & Technology and Food Tech.

There are still ways in which you can continue to support us: -

200 Club

Every month we draw two prizes of £75.00 and £35.00. In September we have a massive draw of £2000.00 and £1000.00. Email our co-ordinator at wymondhamcollegepsa200club@gmail.com and for £5.00 a month you could be in with a chance.

Fundraising

We are registered with EasyFundraising and Amazon Smile, there are thousands of retailers who will donate, for free, including Amazon, eBay, John Lewis, Argos, and Waitrose. Your shopping won't cost you anymore and you can raise money on all the things that you buy anyway. It's so easy and free money for us!

Please sign up at either smile.amazon.co.uk or Easyfundraising.org.uk and look for Wymondham College PSA.

Thank you again and we look forward to seeing everyone again soon.

Mrs Ellen Leary, PSA Secretary

www.facebook.com/WymondhamCollegePSA

