

THE LION NEWSLETTER

WYMONDHAM
COLLEGE



September Exeat | Edition 22

Welcome from the Headteacher



Welcome to the first edition of The Lion of the new academic year. It has been a brilliant start to the term, it is a delight every day to see our students engaging in lessons, Wymondham Life activities and enjoying their time in their boarding houses. It is a reminder of how lucky we all are to be part of such a positive community.

I am delighted with the examination results achieved by our students in the summer holiday. Initial data suggests that we are the highest performing state school for GCSE results in Norfolk and Suffolk (Level 4+ in English and Maths) and our A Level progress is higher than last year and given we were the highest performing in Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire, I am confident that we have maintained our position as the premier Sixth Form of choice for those wishing to pursue A Levels post 16.

We are very lucky to have a wonderful PSA (Parent Staff Association) who are tireless in their fundraising activities. If you are a parent new to the College, please do come along to one of their meetings, follow them on Twitter or join their Facebook group. They are a wonderful group of people, united by their desire to support the education of our students. The money they raise goes directly to support a myriad of academic and pastoral projects across the College.

We are constantly working on new projects to further improve what we do at the College. To give all in our community clarity regarding our long term aims, I have published a 'Six Year Vision' for the College. You can read this by visiting the following link <https://www.wymondhamcollege.org/346/our-mission-and-values>

Finally, I know that our car parks can be very busy at peak times. I have written to parents about this in a separate letter. However, I ask for your support in following all road signs and giving due consideration to other road users in order for our car parks and approach roads to operate as smoothly as possible.

During the summer, road markings and signs were renewed, and new information signs were fitted all three car parks. A reminder that these state;

1. Please do not leave your engine idling
2. No smoking or vaping on the Campus
3. No dogs (other than those of residential members of staff)
4. Please take litter with you or place in a bin
5. CCTV is in operation across the Campus



I know that this will be another great year for all in our College community and I wish you a relaxing Exeat weekend.

Mr Dan Browning – Headteacher



@mrdbrowning

Road Casualty Reduction

The risk to pedestrians and cyclists on the approach roads to the College, increases with the darker Autumn mornings and evenings. It is strongly recommended that anyone walking to the College wears high visibility clothing or displays reflective items. Where there is no pavement, pedestrians should keep to the right hand side of the road so that oncoming traffic can be seen. Please ensure any student cycling to the College wears reflective clothing, a helmet and has working front and rear lights. When driving near to the College please be alert for pedestrians and cyclists and slow down to the advisory 20 mph on Golf Links Road

Mr G McCurley – Health and Safety Manager

IRIS Connect

Building on teaching excellence through collaboration and sharing practice

We are delighted to be using 'IRIS Connect', an innovation in teacher professional development, which uses a secure video system to enable teachers to reflect and share their many examples of excellence with our team of teaching staff across the school. Our aim is for all teachers to be as good as the best, and through sharing our outstanding practice, teachers can reflect, amend and trial new and creative teaching, learning and assessment techniques to ensure the very best outcomes for all pupils.

The lessons captured by IRIS Connect are only accessible by the teacher that recorded them, or within their network for specific professional development. The recordings take place in a normal lesson and will not require any additional participation.

All we ask is that your children continue to work as hard as they always have done.

If you need any more information or if you have any questions regarding this project then please do get in touch.

Mr J Pointon – Assistant Headteacher



Year 11 Mock Competition

Our Year 11 team are in rehearsals for this competition on 16 November (Exeat weekend). If there are any families with legal backgrounds who would like to help mentor the team please contact arnoldbe.staff@wymondhamcollege.org.

Pupil Premium

The Pupil Premium is an allowance provided to the College to support the education of children who are Looked After or have been previously Looked After by the Local Authority, currently or in the previous 6 years in receipt of Free School Meals or parents are in the Armed Forces currently or in the previous 4 years. Our full policy detailing how this money is spent is on the College website. If your child is eligible and you have not received an email from the College this term please contact arnoldbe.staff@wymondhamcollege.org



Congratulations

Congratulations to Doris Thomas (Peel) for her fantastic sporting achievements over the Summer. She has won a range of golf tournaments including the net prize at the East Region Girls Golf Champion and has brought her handicap down to 11 from 21 at the start of the season.

Mrs R Arnold – Deputy Headteacher

Karting Team Season Review



To give you some background, Josh Adams and Finn Pharaoh asked to meet with me two years ago to request we enter a Karting Team into the British Schools Championship, why me I don't know, but they did. The boys had prepped all information and all I had to do was help organise with parents. The boys recruited a third member in Jenson Holloway and the team was set. The boys qualified for the Regional Final following a tricky local final in Ipswich on an indoor small track which is not ideal. So, it was onto the Regional Final where the boys were outside on a big track and unbelievably they brought home the victory and were off to the national Final. In the national Final the College finished in the top ten. This was all possible because of two boys' initial passion to get something going.



For the first time ever Wymondham College had its very own Grand Prix where 24 boys were put into teams of 3 and raced to see who would represent the College in the Regional Final depending on times (as this counted as a local final). Due to some fast times, the British Schools Karting organisers awarded the College 3 places in the Regional Final. This was superb considering we only had one last year following the local final. The Regional Final was held at Daytona Milton Keynes. Despite an enjoyable day, two teams were not quite quick enough and failed to go through to the National Final, not surprising considering this was their first real experience of competitive

Karting. However, our dream team of Josh, Jenson and Finn won again, posting some exceptionally fast times and making it through to the National Final, a superb achievement yet again.



Unfortunately, the National Final did not go to script for the competitors or organisers due to the hot weather which contributed to the kart engines consistently failing which put a slight downer on what should have been a terrific occasion. Only a percentage of the race data was able to be used and out of 25 schools, Wymondham College were deemed to be fourth overall, which shows how close we could have gone should the competition have been completed in full.



Despite the above frustrations, the College is very inexperienced at Karting compared to other schools who have huge budgets dedicated just to karting. All in all, the College is the fourth best school in Great Britain for Karting, WOW, this tremendous accolade is only possible for two reasons; firstly, thank you to Finn and Josh who started this great adventure and secondly, I would like to personally thank Finn, Josh and Jensen's parents who have advised, supported, transported and funded much of

this great opportunity for the young students. I hope in the coming months to organise this yet again, so if there is any interest then do please come and see me.

Mr Collishaw



College Office

Welcome to a new term from the College Office. The start of term has been incredibly busy and we look forward to a successful and happy year ahead.

Registration

We have experienced some issues with the registration system and appreciate your patience if the registration dashboard does not seem up to date. If you are new to Wymondham College, please ensure you have our contact details shown below as we are the point of contact for parents and students for main school student absence reporting whether due to sickness, planned appointments/activities. It is imperative we know where all our students are.

Student Sickness

We have our own medical centre on site and if your child is unwell, they should be seen at the medical centre before decisions are made as to whether they need to go home or can return to lessons. Please do not take your child out of College without the College Office being informed and your child has signed out. All main school students must sign in and sign out at the College Office if arriving or leaving at times outside the normal College day.

Lost Property

We have already had several items of lost property handed in and would remind to name all students clothing and items to help us return items to the owner. We are unable to store items indefinitely and keen for students to have items returned.

Sixth Form Lunch Tickets

The College Office is now responsible for issuing lunch tickets to Sixth Form students until a new system is installed next year. You may be able to pay via your Scopay account and if so, we will see the payments and issue the lunch tickets, otherwise we will accept cash payments at the College Office.

Scopay

If you are experiencing any difficulty in access your Scopay account or have not received your online link access, please contact us and we will organise this for you.

International Students

If you are the parent of an International Student, you may have already used our online form to submit information about travel arrangements for Exeat and term breaks. We would encourage you to use this method which is used to collate all relevant information required to ensure we know where our students will be and how they will travel. You will be sent reminders but are asked to submit information as early as possible.



Your contact details

Please ensure you keep us up to date with any changes to your telephone numbers and email addresses. We use the email system on Schoolbase to contact you with email, letters and general notifications and often have messages undelivered when contact details change.

Telephone: 01953 609075

collegeoffice@wymondhamcollege.org

Ms S Flint, Administration Manager

Dates for your Diaries

Date	Event
20/09/2019	Late House – Lincoln
22/09/2019	Early House - Lincoln
24/09/2019	Art Exhibition (Forum Norwich)
27/09/2019	Year 7 Assembly
28/09/2019 - 29/09/2019	Big Weekender
27/09/2019	Main School Boarder Taster Evening
28/09/2019	Main School Open Morning
30/09/2019 – 04/10/2019	Read to my Tutor week
04/10/2019	Whole School Photograph
04/10/2019	Sixth Form Boarder Taster Evening
05/10/2019	Sixth Form Open Morning
05/10/2019 – 02/11/2019	Sixth Form Argentina Exchange
08/10/2019	Year 9 Head teacher's Assembly
08/10/2019	Year 7 Meet the Tutor
10/10/2019	World Mental Health Day
11/10/2019	Late House Duty - Cavell
11/10/2019	Academic/Sport/Music Assessment Day for Sixth Form places
11/10/2019 – 27/10/2019	Half Term
27/10/2019	Early House - Cavell

We have had another successful start to the year, with our first coffee morning under our belt and plans for the annual Winter Fayre well underway.

Winter Fayre

The Winter Fayre this year is shaping up to be jam packed with a vast array of stalls already booked, including local craftsmen and tasty treats and the ever popular PSA food stall. This year the Fayre will be held on Saturday 9th November from 10-2, so make sure you get the date in your diary and come along to get some wonderful gifts and crafts.

If you are interested in having a stall at the Winter Fayre drop an email to wymondhamcollegepsa@gmail.com, heading Winter Fayre.

PSA Shop

Our PSA shop is up and running again, we are open every Saturday (except exeat weeks) for you to pop in and stock up on uniform and other essential items.

We always welcome good condition uniform and appreciate your donations which enable us to raise funds for the school.

Volunteers

Why not allow yourself to feel the warm glow of fulfilment by offering to volunteer for your PSA. We are on the look out for new volunteers to join us on the PSA. If you have just a few hours a year you could spare to help us with the odd coffee morning, or if you would like to get more involved, please contact us via email or through the Facebook page as we need more people to join our friendly team.

PSA Meet up

Have your voice heard and come along to our forum on 26 September at 18:30 in the staff room, if you are interested in finding out what we do and how we raise money for your children.

Please feel free to join us, we provide tea, coffee and Bob's amazing biscuits.

We hope to meet a few more of you in the months to come so please like our facebook page and follow us on twitter to keep an eye out for our events throughout the year which include Chilli and Quiz, Curry and Comedy and our ever popular Winter Fayre.

Mrs Katy Lavington Woods - Vice Chair and Publicity Officer Parent Staff Association
www.facebook.com/WymondhamCollegePSA