



The Weekly Word

No. 72 Friday 11th January 2019

A note from the Principal

A belated Happy New Year to everyone and a warm welcome back to all students. The new term has started very well and we have welcomed some new colleagues to the team. We have Miss Maree in humanities, Mr Mayers in maths, Ms Smith in art and Mr Jess in computer science. The vast majority of children have returned to school dressed impeccably, with all of their equipment and on time every morning. Thanks to you as parents for supporting us daily in keeping the highest possible standards. We applaud those children who are making the sensible decision to wear trainers or boots to walk to school. However, as you are all aware our uniform policy is very clear in that we expect children to wear polishable shoes during school time. We therefore ask that children bring an appropriate pair of shoes to change into when they reach the school gates. We will lend any uniform item on a one-off basis but following that normal sanctions will apply (a time in IE) for students who persist in not meeting our expectations.



[Link to calendar](#)

I wanted to take some time out on this edition of the Weekly Word to express my growing concern about the way in which a significant minority of students are crossing Springfield Avenue on their way to and from school. I know that you will have all taught them road safety when they were little but there seems to be some confusion about where the crossing is. Whilst we will be talking to all year groups next week about this issue, following warnings this week in assembly, please can you reinforce that pedestrians only have a right of way on the designated crossing where the belisha beacons are. The “sleeping policeman” on the shop side of road is not a right of way but many children seem to think this. I have had to speak with two very distressed drivers in the last two weeks and seen dashcam footage of a very near miss when children have stepped out en masse into the path of cars who have been driving appropriately and have right of way. I am sure you are in total agreement with me when I say that I do not want to be visiting a hospital or worse because of poor road sense by your children. In addition to the safety issue I have also seen footage and had witnesses phone me to tell me about abuse they have received from children as they cross the road in the wrong place with total disregard for traffic. I ask for your support in making sure that this pattern of behaviour stops now as it both brings our school community into disrepute and is a slur on the families concerned.

Reminder!

Dates for your diary:

Year 9 Parents' Evening- Thursday 17th January 2019

Open Evening - Thursday 24th January 2019

Year 10 Parents' Evening - Thursday 28th February

Year 12 Prepare Lunch

In AEP sessions the year 12s work on employability skills. At the end of last term, before choosing a new project in January some of the students asked to work on University skills. A dozen worked in the food tech room on making a meal for under £2 a portion. They all succeeded in making a delicious lunch, chicken curry being the most popular task.

Vol 1 no 2 Friday 20 September 2016



For Year 10 and Sixth Form entry

OPEN EVENING
Thurs. 24th Jan 2019, 6-8pm
Banbury Aspirations Campus



Space Studio
Banbury



Wykham Park
Academy Banbury



Banbury Aspirations
Campus Sixth Form



spacestudiobanbury.org

wykhampark-aspirations.org/sixth-form/

01295 257942

Banbury Aspirations Campus, Ruskin Road, Banbury, OX16 9HY

Attendance

Congratulations to all students whose attendance improved and whose attendance was 100% before Christmas. Some of these students are looking forward to the attendance reward trip at Oxford Ice-Rink next week! The following students won a prize for their outstanding attendance:

- ⇒ Imogen Barnett
- ⇒ Eve Washburn
- ⇒ Olivia Malcolm
- ⇒ Sam Pyatt

A reminder for all:

- It is the responsibility of the parents or carers to contact the Aspirations Campus by 08:30 if their child is going to be absent. We will contact you on the first day of any **unexplained absence** to ensure that you know that your child is absent from the Academy.

- We require written verification for **any absence**, eg. a letter from the GP surgery if the absence is due to illness.

Any student whose attendance is below 90% is a “persistent absentee”. In other words, their parents may be prosecuted due to their child’s poor attendance.

THIS IS WHAT 90% ATTENDANCE MEANS:

90% attendance = ½ day missed every week!

One school year at 90% attendance = 4 weeks of learning missed!

Over 5 years of school = ½ school year missed!

Research suggests that for every 17 missed school days a year = one GCSE grade drop in achievement (DfE) – the greater the attendance, the greater the potential for achievement.

We are grateful for everyone’s continued support in ensuring that children attend school every day and make the most of all their learning opportunities.

Chris Smith

Assistant Principal, Head of Newark College

Wykham Park Academy



James Ketchell - Inspirational!



James Ketchell came to visit Space Studio Banbury to give a motivational speech to the Year 12s the Year 11s and the Year 9s. Holly in Year 11 said “James’ speech was very inspiring. Sitting and listening to him talk about his experiences made you want to do them yourself. After his injuries he wanted to show that no matter what

has happened in your life you can still do the things you inspire to do and he did! I am going on the Peru trip this year and his message was very encouraging. As I am climbing up Machu Picchu I will not give up and I will use him as Inspiration to get to the top.

James is soon to embark on an expedition to fly around the world in a gyrocopter. The Year 10s at SSB are creating lessons for him to take to the schools he will visit on the way. Year 10 went with James to the VR suite and enjoyed the experience of being on top of the world on the summit of Everest.



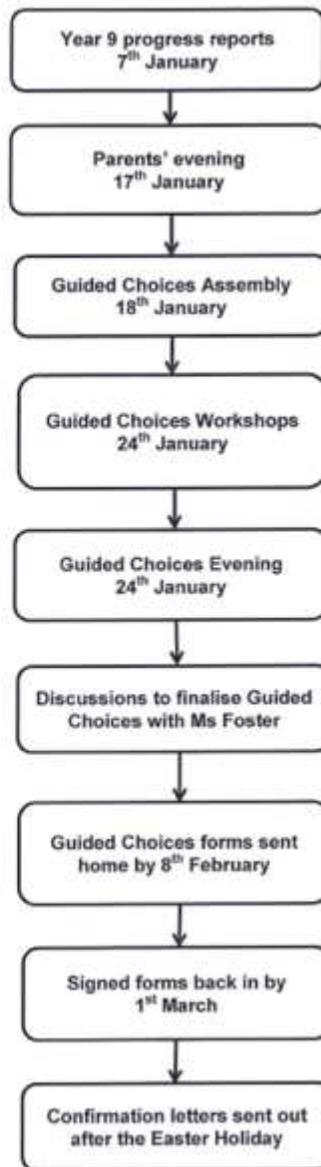
CAREERS
fest

Places are still available for Yr 10, 12 and 13 at the Careers Fest 2019 trip taking place at BMW Mini Oxford on Tuesday 22nd January

There are over 60 exhibitors at the event. If your child is interested in going please make payment on Squid. Any questions please contact Mrs Timms on 01295 251451 ext 127. All information about the trip is on the school website and appears under the “Information” heading then go to “letters”.

Year 9 - Guided Choices Information

Guided Choices Flowchart



Year 9 - Parents' Evening

Letters have gone out this week to advise parents on the arrangements for the parents' evening next week.

Date: Thursday 17th January 4:00pm – 6:30pm

Venue: Buttery & Library

Students have been provided with an appointment sheet to book slots with individual teachers, each appointment is a focussed five minute maximum conversation. If you require a longer appointment please let the individual teacher know and they will book you in for a follow up meeting at a mutually convenient time.

We look forward to speaking to you next week.

Keep up to date with the latest information about what's going on in school. Please follow us on [twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) or visit the [academy website](#)