



The Weekly Word

No. 74 Friday 25 January 2019

A note from the Principal

Following last week's Weekly Word I would like to thank those parents who have already emailed me to offer their support in terms of my campaign to get the speed limit reduced on Springfield Avenue where your children have to cross the road. Kieron Mallon has agreed to meet me on Tuesday afternoon next week at the crossroads at the end of Ruskin Road to look at the changes I would like to see discussed by the council and highways. If anyone has any dashcam evidence they feel would be useful in supporting my campaign please don't hesitate to pass it on to me. I have already viewed footage provided by two members of the local community which was very concerning.



On another note completely it has been a very difficult week in terms of illness for both students and staff. We have been hit by the flu and a sickness bug at the same time. Thank you to those parents who have rung in to notify us of their child's absence.

[Link to calendar](#)

I wanted to take the opportunity to remind everyone that we also require written confirmation of the reason for a child's absence once they return. The reason for this is that we have had a number of instances where children have not been off for legitimate reasons but have asked people other than their parents to ring in for them. The written confirmation is therefore our check that the absence was indeed authorised.

I appreciate that we have entered a cold spell but school will remain open unless the conditions are too hazardous for our staff to drive to work and your children to walk to school. You will be notified if the decision has to be made to close the site at any point.

Reminder!

Dates for your diary:

- Year 11 Mock Exams: Mon 4th Feb – Thurs 7th Feb
- Year 10 Parents' Evening - Thursday 28th February

Sixth Form Visit to Hook Norton Brewery

Sixth Form students visited Hook Norton Brewery. Here's Sam's report on their project:



On 21st January, we went to the Hook Norton Brewery as part of our AEP project. We were given a tour by one of the tour guides around the site, to try and learn a little more about the beer making and the whole brewing

process that happens in the historic building.

Our project aims to help them tackle an issue with accessibility to the tours they offer. There are many flights of stairs to the brewery as seen in the photo. This has created an issue for disabled or elderly people trying to get around the brewery. We will be making a 15 minute video tour of the brewery to help make it easier for people with such issues.

Sam Jenkins

Faraday Day at Space Studio

Our school is passionate about giving our students new and exciting opportunities to engage in STEM subjects. A strong UK economy relies on great engineering output, and it is crucial to get the engineers of the future interested at an early age. We hosted a Faraday Day at Space Studio on 23rd January with teams from 4 schools. Our year 8 pupils competed as a Wykham Park team and hope to be in Space Studio's team next year. The SSB team came second and won beautifully handcrafted pens made by, and presented by Professor Will Stewart from the University of Southampton.

The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) runs the Faraday Challenge Days as part of the IET's commitment to show young people the benefits of careers within Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.



New Books in the Library

New books have started to arrive! Thanks to the £8000 grant we won last year from the Foyle Foundation, hundreds of new books have started to arrive in the library.



We've had lots of recommendations from students for a wide range of fiction and non-fiction titles, which is reflected in the new stock ordered. Our librarian is working hard to get them on the shelves and ready to be borrowed soon.

We can't unpack the boxes quickly enough!

Book Review Competition

The library has been running a book review competition over the last couple of weeks.

The winning entry is below written by Rima, Year 7.

Tom Gates: Yes! No. (Maybe.....) by Liz Pichon

I'm recommending Tom Gates (Yes, no maybe) because it is a great, interesting, fun and entertaining book. It has wonderful graphics that you'll never find in any other book and it is amazing if you like comedy.



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