

WETHERBUZZ

2019/20 | Spring Term | Week 15



WEEK 15: Monday 13th — Sunday 19th January 2020

MONDAY

- 7+/8+ Assessment Day – NO SCHOOL FOR BOYS
- Staff Meeting – 8am

Monday Clubs

TUESDAY

- Swimming for **5K, 5O and 5T** – 9-11am
- Games for **Year 6** – 9-11:30am
- Games for **Year 3 and 4** – 1:30-4pm
- U9 A, C, E, G vs. Thomas's Fulham (A) – 2:30pm
- U9 B, D, F, H, I, J, K vs. North Bridge House (A) – 2:30pm

Tuesday Clubs

- Morning Mental Maths – 7:45-8:20am
- Morning Running – 7:45-8:20am
- Wetherby Voices – 8-9am
- Chess – 4-5pm
- Cricket Academy – 4-5pm
- Fencing – 4-6pm
- Latin – Common Entrance – 4-5pm
- Robotics – 4-5pm
- Wetherby Choir – 4-5pm
- Homework Club – 4-5pm

WEDNESDAY

- French Listening Exam for Year 8 - am
- Games for **Year 3 and 4** – 9-11:30am
- Games for **Year 7 and 8** – 1:30-4pm
- U12 A-C vs. Rokeby (A) – 2:30pm
- U13 A & B vs. Rokeby (A) – 2:30pm
- U13 C & D vs. North Bridge House (H) – 2:30pm

Wednesday Clubs

- Swimming – Upper School Swim Squad A&B – 7:30-8:30am
- Elite Chess – 8-9am
- Code Club – Lower School – 4-5pm
- D&T / Engineering Club – 4-5pm
- Fencing – 4-6pm
- Music Club – Theory and Musicianship – 4-5pm
- Reasoning – 4-5pm
- Rock Band – 4-5pm
- Table Tennis – 4-5pm
- Rock Climbing – 4-5pm
- Swimming – Lower School Swim Squad – 4:15-5pm
- Homework Club – 4-5pm

THURSDAY

- Year 3 Outdoor Learning – 11am-2:45pm
- Games for **Year 7 and 8** – 9-11:30am
- Games for **Year 5** – 1:30-4pm
- U10 A-F vs. The Hall (H) – 2:30pm

Thursday Clubs

- Morning Drawing – 7:45-8:20
- Morning Mental Maths – 7:45-8:20
- Rowing – 7:15-9am
- Swimming – School Swim Squad – 7:30-8:30am
- Morning Guitar Club – 8:00-8:30am
- Chess – 4-5pm
- Code Club – Upper School – 4-5pm
- Drawing Club – Upper School – 4-5pm
- Fencing – 4-6pm
- Maths Revision – 4-5pm
- Science Club – 4-5pm
- Science Club – 4-5pm
- String Orchestra – 4-5pm
- Homework Club – 4-5pm

FRIDAY

- Staff Meeting – 8am
- Whole School Assembly at the Church of the Annunciation – 8:30am
THIS EVENT WILL BE STREAMED LIVE ON INSTAGRAM 
- Games for **Year 5** – 9:15-11:45am
- U10 Pre-Season Cricket Training – 5-7pm

Friday Clubs

- Whole School Clubs – 2:15-4pm

SATURDAY

- School Play Rehearsal, WPS - all day

SUNDAY

From the Headmaster

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year !

I trust everyone had an enjoyable holiday and fun Christmas period. We were at home for Christmas and then went skiing over New Year. We haven't been skiing for some years and it took Patrick and Joseph (and me and Brigid) some time to get the hang of it again but a few initial panics on the chair and drag-lifts notwithstanding, we were flying down (sort of...) the slopes in no time at all. We travelled with a couple of families and, for the first time, stayed in a fully-catered chalet. I am sure this is not news to many that read this column but it really opened my eyes to the whole skiing experience - that really is the way to do a skiing holiday now one is of a certain age.



Gift-wise, no dog appeared sadly, but my mum really came up trumps with her present to 'the Baker Boys'. Not only was I chuffed to be in the same present age-bracket as a 13 and 12 year old but the gift itself was amazing. A metre-long Lego Roller Coaster, complete with a mechanism that winds the cars to the top and falls with gravity. The set comes in two parts and then joins together so we could all genuinely contribute to its 'manufacture'. It took us the best part of Boxing Day and the 27th but it was a great experience and there was a massive sense of achievement at the end. See picture below which is a still from a video I took of it in full flow. It's truly amazing and I will happily bore you or any of the boys with the actual video if you have absolutely nothing better to do...

The best gift though was one not directly aimed at me personally but certainly one that gave me the most satisfaction. Watford's three wins and a draw out of their four festive fixtures was every fan's best present - and timely after a torrid early season! Having experienced all the highs and lows over the years, I was never in any doubt that we would start to win again, even though those around me were in doubt. An old friend of our family, Coventry City supporting Paul the Decorator, having experienced many years of teasing from yours truly said to me in the autumn that he would only come back to finish the house, "when your team start winning again". True to his word he started back to finish the boys' bedrooms on Monday...

New Term, New Decade...New Initiative for the Wetherbuzz! At the end of this edition (yes, its position is aimed at those of you that only read this page and the weekly calendar!) you will find our new weekly feature 'Skool Daze'. Here, I intend to interview our staff to find out about their experiences at school and how it compares with what our boys currently experience at Wetherby Prep. First up is Deputy Head, Mr Blundell. It's a great read...with some even better pictures...certainly something to put a smile on everyone's face at the start of the year.

Have a great weekend.

Nick Baker





Citizen of the Week

This week's Citizen of the Week is **Elliot S in 6M**. Elliot has made an excellent start to the term and has been focused and 'switched on' in all classes. Staff this morning reported that he was an 'asset to every lesson'. Great to hear—well done, Elliot.



Sportsman of the Week

This week's Sportsman of the Week is **Ziyang P in 5A**. Ziyang was 'Man of the Tournament' in yesterday's fencing fixture against L'Ecole Battersea, fencing superbly and encouraging his teammates. Well done, Ziyang!



Class-Achievement

Miss Lister's 5L

Kindness Cup



Alexander de B 4E

Alexander has been an absolute star this week during Science lessons by helping a new boy with our routines and catching-up with the topic we have just finished. Alexander even used his own 'teacher skills' to assist him with a quiz that we were doing.

Miss Lister

Other notable 'Acts of Kindness'

♦ Thompson H 8S

Thompson kindly set up a cartoon for these boys waiting for 4pm buses to watch in the Drama Suite at the end of the day. Although the technology was being a little temperamental he nevertheless persevered and solved the problem in order to help entertain 100+ boys. It gave me the chance to focus on making sure that boys knew where they were going. I am very grateful to him for his kindness. *Mr Lock*

Staff News

New baby has joined the Wetherby family!

On Monday 6th January at 4:25pm, Alice and James welcomed Oscar William Delano Furnell to the world. Weighing in at a very healthy 9lbs, all three are back home adjusting to newborn life.



From the Director of Studies

WPS Senior School Exams

Week Commencing Tuesday 21st January

Day	Year 7	Year 8
Tuesday 21st	Maths Non Calculator (60mins) RS (60mins) English Paper 1 (75mins) <i>Break as normal</i> <i>Lunch as normal</i>	English Paper 1 (75mins) Biology (40mins) History (60mins) Maths Non Calculator (60mins) <i>No Break</i> <i>Lunch as normal</i>
Wednesday 22nd	English Paper 2 (75mins) French (45 mins) Maths Mental Arithmetic (30mins) <i>Games as normal</i> <i>Lunch as normal</i>	Chemistry (40mins) English Paper 2 (75mins) Maths Calculator (60mins) <i>Games as normal</i> <i>Lunch as normal</i>
Thursday 23rd	Maths Calculator (60mins) Geography (60mins) Chemistry (40mins) <i>Games as normal</i> <i>Lunch as normal</i>	French (60mins) Geography (60mins) Physics (40mins) RS (60mins) <i>No Games</i> <i>Break - 1200-1330 (packed lunch)</i>
Friday 24	History (60mins) Latin (60mins) <i>Normal lessons from 1215</i> <i>Clubs as normal</i>	Latin (60mins) Maths Mental Arithmetic (30mins) <i>Normal lessons from 1215</i> <i>Clubs as normal</i>

Note that revision sessions have been added throughout the timetable for the week.

Notices

House of Wetherby Second Hand Uniform Sale

Wednesday 22nd January 2020 at 8:15am

Come along and top up on all those uniform and sports items lost and grown out of over Christmas!

Apple Watches

A number of boys may have received Apple Watches as a present this past Christmas time. Our rule on watches is very similar to our rule on school phones in that we are happy for boys to have them in school as long as they do not use or interact with them during school hours. By 'use' we mean making calls, sending messages, browsing the internet or even, heaven forbid, playing games. If boys are caught doing any of the above, we will confiscate the watch or phone and hand back at the end of the day. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Miss Bevan writes...

NSPCC Talk

The NSPCC visited Wetherby Prep on Wednesday to deliver the '**Speak out. Stay safe.**' assemblies and workshops. These are sessions available to all schools in the UK and they aim to equip children with the knowledge and understanding they need to stay safe from harm and get help if they have any worries. It was a very worthwhile and empowering session for both boys and teachers. The NSPCC staff and volunteers all commented positively on how engaged the boys were and they were impressed with how they approached each topic in a mature and responsible way. Well done, boys!

The NSPCC's work in schools will help encourage conversations about staying safe and they have a number of child-friendly materials to help you carry on the conversation afterwards. If you would like to know more about the NSPCC's work, or take a look at the wide range of information and advice which is available for parents and careers, please visit their website [nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe).



School Council

Miss Lister writes...

Happy New Year to everyone at Wetherby and I hope you had a lovely Christmas break. I am delighted to be stepping in for Mrs Furnell to run School Council and am looking forward to catching up with the boys next Tuesday 14th January at 8.40am at the first meeting of this decade! Let's see what 2020 will bring us... (after 'Christmas Shrek' I can only imagine good things).



You will notice that one of the old 'House Bears' has reappeared in the main reception which will wear the tie of the winning house each week.

English Department

Figurative TOP 5

#1

"Everywhere, the words 'win big' or 'make your dreams come true'. Grand brick buildings plastered by blinding light and text housed fancy golden machines with spinning cherries pouring out gleaming coins, cascading out of this harbour of wealth."

- Jake G, Y8

"In the buttery desert, the blazing sun struck the ground."

- Zaym Z, 3H

"Just another day in the blazing frying pan, a palaeontologist was digging in the Cairo desert."

- Lucas P, Y5

"August saw a tremendous sight; green tender grass, a lake full of fish happily swimming around, and bunches of sweet smelling flowers."

- Matthias C, Y4

"He delicately brushed away the pineapple sands that had guarded this magnificent artefact from the roaring feet thundering by."

- Quinn G, Y5

MATHS CHALLENGES!

Mr Gascoine writes...

Below is a very special and very difficult Mathematical Challenge.

The Sudoku is from the people at GCHQ (Government Communications Headquarters) in Cheltenham.

It one of the questions of an annual competition that MI6 set. So, it's a tough one! I have two prizes for the winners from the upper and lower school.

Good luck!

Competition

Following the popularity of the GCHQ Christmas card Competition last year, here is another competition to test your mettle!

Like the previous competition, this one has various parts to it, and these will require both puzzle-solving and codebreaking skills. The first part of the competition is below, and is in the form of a Sudoku. Solving this will lead you to the next part.

Good luck!

	A		S		G			
		U			P		N	
		P	N	M			G	
				N			I	U
				U	A	N	M	
N	M			P			S	
E		S			M	A	U	



Art Department

Miss Kirby writes...

Year 8 have started their design project looking at logos and branding. This has generated much discussion and excitement in the Art Room and it is great to see them so enthusiastic about creating their own acrylic painting logos. Welcome back, artists!



Music Department

Introducing our new peripatetic teachers

Miss Baines LRAM DipRAM



Miss Baines is a dramatic soprano; a graduate of the Royal Welsh College and the Royal Academy of Music. She enjoys singing very much which is a good job as she is the new singing teacher at Wetherby! Her other interests are walking, sailing, the theatre, the opera, travelling and spending time with lovely friends and family.

Mr Broadbent



Jason Broadbent is delighted to be starting at Wetherby this year. He has been teaching guitar and bass guitar for 25 years in various schools and colleges, including Winchester College, Haileybury, Edge Grove, Camden School for Girls and more, after gaining an LGSM from the Guildhall while studying on the postgraduate jazz diploma. He has taught a wide variety of ages, abilities and styles, including running ensembles in rock, pop, jazz, soul and funk as well as occasionally performing.

French Department

Madame Sebag writes...

In Year 3 we celebrated the feast of the Epiphany

In France traditionally the French people eat a '*galette des rois*', a delicious sweet almond paste cake.



Wetherby Preparatory is a nut free school so we had to ask Chef Peter to make another cake, which boys loved as well.

La galette is sliced, and the youngest person in the room is blindfolded and then chooses the person to whom the slice is given, saying the name of each person in turn.

Inside the '*galette*' there is a '*fève*', a large bean. Nowadays, it can be a miniature ceramic figure representing a character or an object, as shown in the following picture.



In Year 3 boys were able to '*tirer les rois*': 'draw the kings or queens'. The youngest boy in the class, Theodore Jones, got to decide which slice was for who. Philip B-S had the '*fève*' in his slice and was crowned king '*roi*'.

Vive le roi Philip!



Charities

COME DINE WITH WETHERBY

Miss Kroiter writes...

On 12th February, by popular demand, we will be hosting another brilliant 'Wetherby Come Dine with Us'. That's right - the staff at Wetherby are going to put their service and culinary skills to the test. At the end of the evening you pay what you feel the evening is worth. All money raised will be donated to our school charities.

This is always a sellout event and so if you would like a ticket please send an email immediately to jude.fekete@wetherbyprep.co.uk as tickets will be sold on a first come first served basis.

Please see the attached poster for further information.

Highest Housepoint Earners by Form Class

Lower School		Upper School	
3H	Elliot S	6A	Raffi P
4E	Hugo S	6C	Zehen S
4H	Miles C	6F	Alexander S
4P	Daniel A	6M	Laith A
4S	Alvaro C		Taymour A
5A	James A	7B	Drago S-J
5K	Alexandre D	7L	Chase D
5O	Dillon Du C	7M	Shivam D
5L	Bear S	8B	Oliver O
		8G	Jonathon C
		8S	Veer M
		8V	Ardavan P
			Nadhmi A

Highest Housepoint Earner for the Week

Nima H – 32

Weekly Housepoint Totals

First Place	Second Place	Third Place	Fourth Place
Dawson Captain B. Govindan	Pembridge Captain G. Granovski	Chepstow Captain A. Pesendorfer	Westbourne Captain M. Papisavvas
484	421	381	353

Yearly Housepoint Totals

First Place	Second Place	Third Place	Fourth Place
Pembridge Captain G. Granovski	Dawson Captain B. Govindan	Chepstow Captain A. Pesendorfer	Westbourne Captain M. Papisavvas
7692	7596	6757	6301

Form Class Winners

First Place	Second Place	Third Place
Form 7L 153	Form 5A 151	Form 5L 130



Skool Daze



In what is to be a new feature in the Wetherbuzz, a member of staff will tell us about their time at school. Boys, always remember, however old or out of touch your parents and teachers might seem to you, we were all at school once!

To kick-off this series, Deputy Head Mr Blundell tells us about his time at Rossall School. Rossall is a co-educational 2-18 school in Lancashire.

(an HMGS to any parent who can identify where the above graphic originates from...)

What was your favourite subject and why?

History and Rugby. I was school 1st XV Captain and just loved being out there on the Games field every day. We played on Saturdays and travelled throughout the North of England. It was great spending so much time with my friends.

Who was your favourite teacher and why?

Mr Kinghorn (History) - one of the smartest people I have ever met. He never used any notes or any resources. He just narrated throughout the entire lesson. He was captivating. He was the sole reason I went onto study History at university.

What was your most memorable trip/residential?

1st VII Rugby trip to London to play in the Rosslyn Park 7s Tournament. It was such a brilliant few days. That tournament holds many great memories for me and it's so great that I can take the Wetherby Prep boys there each year.



What was your funniest/most enjoyable experience?

We played Rossall Hockey on the beach in the Lent Term. It was a hybrid game between Rugby and Hockey and one which is only played at Rossall School. It was fantastic. The sand was hard and we had to go to the beach to mark out the pitch. '6,10,6,6,6,10,6' They were the pitch measurements that were drilled into you when you joined the school. It was a pretty brutal game but I loved it.

What didn't you like about school?

Not getting a good part in the play. I was 'Second Murderer' in Richard III – a non-speaking role.

'First Murderer' had a whole host of lines...

What did you learn most from school?

Looking back, I suppose I took it for granted. I loved every second of it but I didn't really realise how good it was until I left and started working.

If you went to Wetherby Prep, what Clubs would you have done?

Anything sport related. I played a lot of 'Fives' at school also. I have never been horse riding so I would have liked a chance to go to Ross Nye on a Friday afternoon.

Thanks Mr Blundell – a different member of staff next week.



Photos of the Week

Louis L (5A) visited the Imperial War Museum during the holidays, in particular the WW1 rooms. Louis is holding a piece of melted bomb that children used to pick up off the streets and play with. Next to Louis is a suitcase that belonged to a 6 year old boy who was evacuated from London and fled to the countryside.





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