

WETHERBUZZ

2021/22 | Spring Term | Week 14



WEEK 14 — Monday 10th to Sunday 16th January 2022

Monday 10th January:

- Staff Meeting – 8am
- **7+ & 8+ Assessment Week (School for Wetherby Boys as normal)**
- CE French Listening Mock Exams for Years 7 & 8 this week
- CE French Speaking Mock Exams for Year 8 this week
- CE Mental Maths Mock Exam for Years 7 & 8 this week
- SRE Parent Talk via Zoom – 5-6pm <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9685104416>

AFTERNOON CLUBS:

- Advanced Drama,
- Coding,
- Debating LS,
- Football 3-5,
- Homework Club,
- Indoor Sports,
- Fencing Year 3 and 4,
- Rock Band Year 7,
- Rock Climbing,
- Wetherby Voices

Tuesday 11th January:

- Year 5-8 SRE talks – all day
- U9 A – D vs. Thomas's Fulham (A) - 2:15pm Return 5pm

MORNING CLUBS:

- Dodgeball,
- Guitar Ensemble,
- Mental Maths,
- Rock Band,
- Tennis Club,
- Touch Typing

AFTERNOON CLUBS:

- Arts and Crafts,
- Upper School Chess,
- Upper School Choir,
- Coding Creative App Design,
- Homework Club,
- Mythology,
- Quiz Club,
- Rock Band,
- Fencing Upper School

Wednesday 12th January:

- U12 A – C vs. Rokeby (A) - 2.15pm Return 5pm
- U13 A – C vs. Rokeby (A) - 2.15pm Return 5pm
- Senior Management Team Meeting – 2:45pm
- Teach Meet at 4:30pm

MORNING CLUBS:

- Card Tricks and Magic,
- Handwriting,
- Running,
- Rock Band,
- Swimming Lower School,
- Swimming Upper School,
- Tennis Club

AFTERNOON CLUBS:

- Chess Year 5,
- Coding,
- Cookery,
- Drawing,
- French Homework,
- Music Composers,
- Reasoning,
- Rock Climbing,
- String Ensemble,
- Swimming Year 3 and 4,
- Table Tennis,
- Fencing Year 5

Thursday 13th January:

- Year 7 Art and Music workshops – all day
- U10 A – D vs. Thomas's Battersea (A) 2.15pm Return 5pm
- U10 E – F vs. Falcons Prep (H) - 2.15pm Return 3.45pm
- School Management Meeting – 4.30pm

MORNING CLUBS:

- Arts and Crafts,
- Football,
- Mental Maths,
- Swimming Lower School,
- Swimming Upper School
- Wind Band

AFTERNOON CLUBS:

- Advanced Fencing,
- Chess Year 3 and 4,
- Creative Writing,
- Dodgeball,
- Homework Club,
- Maths Revision,
- Mythology,
- Phantom Comics,
- Rock Band,
- Science

Friday 14th January:

- Staff Meeting—8am
- Whole School Assembly at Church of Annunciation and streamed **LIVE on Instagram**  - 8:30-9:30am
- Friday pm Club Programme

Saturday 15th January:

Sunday 16th January:

From the Headmaster



Dear Parents,

Thank you to all the parents who completed our questionnaire at the end of term. The sample size of 77 isn't huge but I take it that those that didn't respond are happy for the School to make the decision here which is reassuring. In answer to the first question about Parents' Evenings, 62% would prefer to continue online. This surprised me as I thought it would be more 50/50 but clearly the ability to do this remotely and the lack of queuing have made this a 'Covid keep' and we will continue with online Parents' Evenings this term. As a concession to the 38% and to give a bit of variation, the Year 5 Parents' Evenings scheduled for the Summer Term will be 'in person' events. I reiterate that parents are always welcome to come to the building and have in person meetings with me and any of our staff - there are no visitor restrictions here.

1. Parents' Evenings. From next term would you like Parents' Evenings to be 'in person' events or 'online'?

[More Details](#)

 In person	29
 Online	47

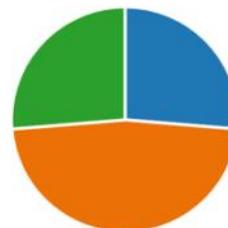


For evening event start times, there was a clear preference for 6pm but as one parent emailed me, "It depends on the nature of the event: social or informative." I agree with that and as such we will start events like the PTA Quiz Night at 7pm but more formal information evenings at 6pm.

2. Evening events. What time is most convenient for our evening events to start?

[More Details](#)

 5pm	20
 6pm	36
 7pm	20

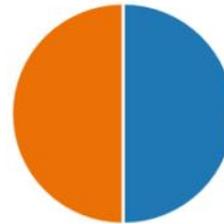


Probably the most controversial question was predictably exactly 50/50. I know from speaking to many of you over the years that some of you love the fact that boys can wear games kit due to ease of dressing, washing, comfort but there are also others that feel that money is wasted on expensive formal uniform that the boys rarely wear. As a parent and as a teacher, I sympathise with both views. A [recent study](#) confirmed my long held belief that there is no correlation between uniform and order in the classroom (and interestingly confirms my belief in the importance of school branding) and I would argue that the boys, particularly in the summer term, work better as they are more comfortable in games kit on hot days. Either way though, the School would *expect* boys to be in uniform during the Autumn and Spring Terms if they did not have Games or an after school club on that day.

3. Uniform. Do you think we should insist on school uniform on non-games days?

[More Details](#)

● Yes	38
● No	38

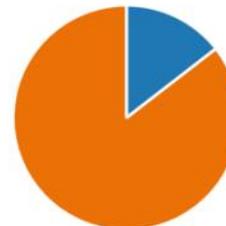


Lastly, the old chestnut of school food. As long as there are school lunches, there will always be complaints about school lunches – I haven't attended or worked in a school where this hasn't been the case. Catering Manager Peter and I recognise that there are things that boys like and don't like and we try to tailor the menu towards child-friendly meals but it is impossible to please everyone, every day. Whilst we respect that some boys will have dietary issues that require them to have packed lunches, I think the below supports our stance on being strict about the requirements. I know how unwelcome pressure put on parents "because everyone else has a packed lunch" is and as such it would be a huge inconvenience for many and doesn't promote tolerance of different foodstuffs going forward.

4. School lunches. Should we become a packed lunch only school?

[More Details](#)

● Yes	11
● No	65



Thank you for sharing your views! Have a good weekend,

Nick Baker

Covid Update

We started this term with no covid cases but as the week has progressed we do now have **one** member of staff as a confirmed case who was in school (though asymptomatic) yesterday. We also have **three** confirmed cases amongst the boys but these three have not been in school this week.

Electronic Calendar Card

The boys have their own red calendar cards but please do email Jude if you would like your own copy to see all the events for this term. Additionally, an electronic version is [here](#)

Bursary applications

We are looking to formalise applications to the Wetherby Bursary Fund going forward so the trustees have more time to consider and allocate resources. As such, the deadline for applications for the 2022-2023 school year will be **31st January 2022** – no applications will be considered after this date. if you want to make an application, please email me and I can send you the form and explain the procedure. Those with existing bursaries have been written to separately.

7+ and 8+ Assessment Week

Those of you that have been with us for three years or more will recall that pre-covid (seems like a long time ago...) we would excuse the boys from school on our 7+ and 8+ Assessment Day. Due to numbers applying and the slightly different (electronic) way we are assessing the boys going forward, the applicants are coming throughout the next week. As such, there is no day off for our existing boys and they attend school in the normal way.

Staff News

Miss Sheldon had her baby over Christmas!

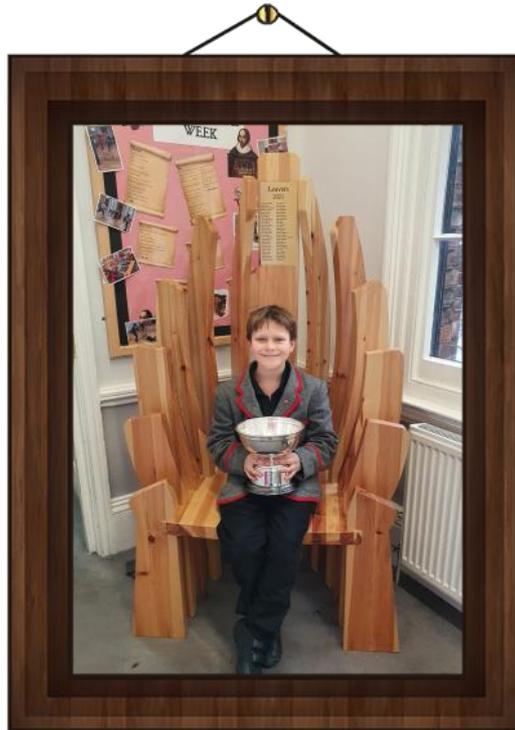
I am delighted to announce the birth of Emilia (Emmie) Sheldon-McCullagh weighing exactly 8 pounds. Emmie and Miss Sheldon are very well and loving getting to know each other!



Citizen of the Week

This week's Citizen of the Week is Tyler N in 7L. Ever dependable, ever reliable, always committed, always with a great attitude, Tyler has always been a standout character throughout his time here. The complete Wetherby Citizen!

Kindness Cup



Thomas J 5S

Just a short note to let you know that during the bake-sale an adorable boy came to me and said, "Hi, they told me that you have helped organised this. I have bought you a cookie to thank you for all your hard work" and handed over a bag with a big chocolate chip cookie inside. I melted of course, told him a thousand times thank you and that I was so impressed by his kindness. *Mrs Godoy*

Other notable 'Acts of Kindness'

♦ **Harry W**

Harry realised that I had hurt my leg during Games and came over to see if I was alright and then looked after me for the rest of the lesson. Harry always does things like this for me and is a great friend. *Cyrus F*

◆ **Henry S**

I would like to nominate Henry for spending about 15 minutes trying to recover my lost TPR presentation from my computer. So kind and helpful, thank you! *Alexandros A*

◆ **Aman G**

All of 8O and Miss Orpwood would like to nominate Aman. He knew a few of the boys would be off school when we were doing our Secret Santa and brought in extra gifts so nobody would feel left out. We couldn't ask for a better friend and classmate! Thank you, Aman! *Miss Orpwood and 8O*

◆ **Form 5L**

The boys donated £100 as part of the class Secret Santa presents, with monies going to the NSPCC Christmas campaign. Such an important thing to do for others at this time of year - I was so proud! *Miss Lister*

◆ **Miss Sternik**

I would like to nominate Miss Sternik as she very kindly got me lots of art materials. I thought it was very kind of her. *Archie A*

Notices

Mrs Gourlay writes...

Relationships and Sex Education talks for boys in Year 5, 6, 7 and 8

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all well and had a lovely break over the Christmas period.

I wrote to you in the Wetherbuzz on Friday 3rd December about the upcoming Relationships and Sex Education talks for boys in Year 5, 6, 7 and 8. These are taking place next week (Tuesday 11th January) and I am attaching the letter again for your information.

I look forward seeing as many of you as possible on Zoom for the parent talk on Monday (10th), from 5-6pm. Here is the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9685104416>

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Hood writes...

Community & Outreach

Once again, a huge thank you to all at Wetherby Prep for your generous donations for the Christmas Hampers. We received the following message from Forrester Court Care Home just before Christmas:

"Thanks soooooo much you have made our Christmas so special this year. You have no idea what a difference your gifts will make this year. Today we had some Christmas parties and have given early Christmas presents to our residents from your hampers. They were smiling from ear to ear!"

It was generous beyond belief - we are going to make a Santa's grotto on Christmas Eve and give out the remainder of the presents!!!"





This week in History



3rd January:

1870 - Construction begins on the Brooklyn Bridge

1924 - The Mummy of Tutankhamen was located

1959 - Alaska became the 49th State of the United States of America

4th January:

1809: Louis Braille was born in France. Blinded as a boy, he later invented a reading system for the blind using punch marks in paper

1954: Elvis Presley recorded his first demo record

5th January:

1914: Henry Ford introduces \$5 per day for his workers

1919: The German Worker's Party (Deutsche Arbeiterpartei) was founded by Anton Drexler in Munich. Its seventh member was Adolf Hitler who (in April 1920) changed the name to the National Socialist German Workers Party (Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei) commonly shorted to the Nazi Party

1933: Work began on Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco Bay

6th January:

1412: Joan of Arc was born in France. After a series of mystic visitations by saints, she inspired French troops to break the British siege at Orleans and win several important victories during the Hundred Years' War (1337-1453) between France and Britain. She was eventually captured and sold to the British who tried her for heresy and burned her at the stake. In 1920, Joan of Arc was canonized a saint by the Roman Catholic Church

7th January:

1714: A patent was issued for the first typewriter designed by inventor Henry Mill "for the impressing or transcribing of letters singly or progressively one after another, as in writing"

9th January:

1960: With the first blast of dynamite, construction work began on the Aswan High Dam across the Nile River in southern Egypt. One third of the project's billion-dollar cost was underwritten by Soviet Russia. The dam created Lake Nasser, one of the world's largest reservoirs, at nearly 2,000 square miles and irrigated over 100,000 acres of surrounding desert. The dam was opened in January of 1971 by President Anwar Sadat of Egypt and President Nikolai Podgorny of the Soviet Union





In 2022, the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust have decided that the theme of Holocaust Memorial Day is 'One Day'. Each year we put aside 'one day' (27th January) in which we remember and learn about the Holocaust and as we do, we hope that 'one day' there will be a world without genocide, hatred and horror.



"You didn't think about yesterday, and tomorrow may not happen, it was only today that you had to cope with and you got through it as best you could."

Iby Knill - survivor of the Holocaust

In honour of this theme (and as part of our own remembrance) here at Wetherby we are running a competition in which you should use the inspiration of 'one day' to write a poem.

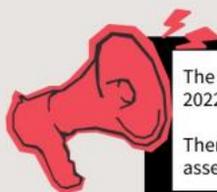
The idea of 'one day' may be interpreted in a number of ways. For example, you may write a poem educating people about one particular day in history/the Holocaust that was monumental (eg: The events of Warsaw 19th April 1943).

Many survivors of the Holocaust use the term 'one day' to tell their story and talk about how their life changed in just 'one day'. You may use your poem to tell their story.

Or you may write a poem about how you believe and hope the world will be one day.

TIMELINE

Holocaust Memorial Day looks at not only Nazi Persecution but the genocides that have taken place around the World since in a bid to raise an awareness and 'one day' stop it. So, here are some major events that you may wish to research and write about for your poem.



The competition begins on the 7th January 2022 and the deadline for entries is 21st January 2022. Send all questions or entries to Mx Cox.

There will be a finale to the competition to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day in assembly (28th January 2022)

Art Department

Miss Kirby writes...

Year 8—Ceramics Project

You may have noticed a wave of exhibitions (Victoria Miro gallery, Tate Modern) in London showcasing the work of Yayoi Kusama. At 92 she has been a loadstar to artists throughout the pandemic and has continued to be a prolific and vocal artist.

Kasuma is a Japanese contemporary artist who works primarily in sculpture and installation, but is also active in painting, performance, video art, fashion and poetry. Year 8 will be working on a ceramics project this term creating pumpkin lanterns out of earthenware clay that will be function as lights and art objects. The first few sessions have been experimental, fun and exciting!



To read Kasuma's 'message to the world' in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, please follow this link to David Zwirner gallery: <https://www.davidzwirner.com/artists/yayoi-kusama>



Out of School Achievements

Milo D in 7L writes...

Cycle from Wetherby to Wetherby

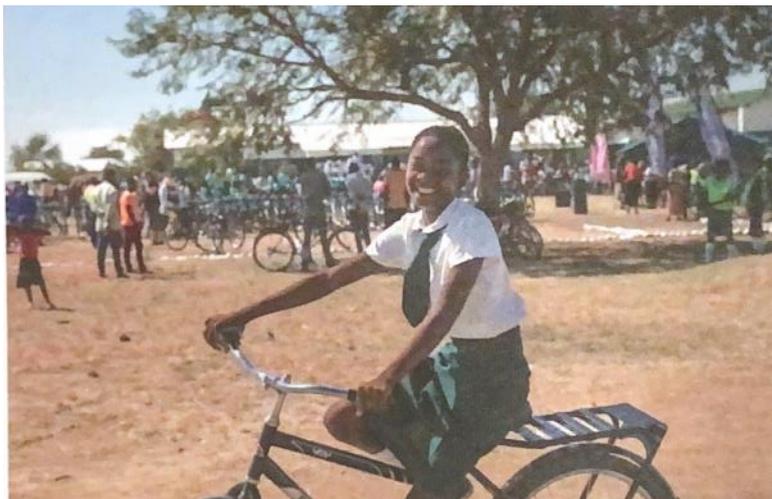
Thank you very much for supporting me on my sponsored cycle from Wetherby to Wetherby. I completed my distance this morning as I was going past the giraffes in London Zoo. Perhaps one day I will be able to cycle to the real Wetherby in two days!

Dear Milo,

Huge congratulations on completing your fundraiser 'wetherby to wetherby' - we are so grateful that you chose to support World Bicycle Relief. Well done on raising nearly 5 buffalo bicycles!

Thank you for believing in the Power of Bicycles.

WBR Team



Ansel G-S 7B

Ansel was also awarded Pupil of the Year at Chelsea Quavers in recognition of the progress he has made this year and his extraordinary Grade 3 and 4 results.



Axel H 4T

Axel volunteered with a charity called Angels for Humanity while on Christmas break which provides gifts for under privileged children. He helped set up the drinks and food stands as well as decorate prior to the children's arrival. He was very proud of his work and engaged with all the children. He worked the cotton candy stand, checking in well over 800 children and organized the bus arrivals of the kids.



Blake P 5F

Came runner up in the Parent/Child Gold Tournament!



Photos of the Week

Science with Miss Lister



French with Mr Carayon



English with Miss Andrews-Bowen



Science with Miss Casserly



History with Mx Cox



Music with Mrs Tomsett-Rowe



Reading with Miss Sternik





Wetherby Scout and Cub Group session 1



Ex pupil Daryus who is currently at Eton speaking to the Year 6 boys about boarding school life





Ayden with a telescope he built



Tye with actor Simu Lui the star of the Marvel movie Shang Chi!



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