

WELLACRE

23rd September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Principal's Update~23rd September 2022

I hope this letter finds you well. It has been a busy week at Wellacre in which students have been at the forefront of events.

This week's highlights

96 Wellacre students supported the **Open Evening** on Thursday. Their contribution was outstanding and their pride in the school community was evident for all to see. Isaac in Year 7 gave a wonderful speech about how he has settled in and George, Head Boy spoke with assuredness about the opportunities Wellacre has given him; both boys were a credit to the school. **I would also like to thank the teaching and support staff who helped to make the evening such a success.**

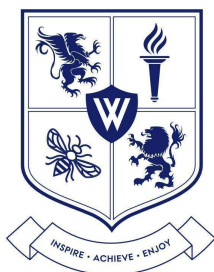
16 students returned today to support over 300 **primary students** from local schools. They demonstrated excellent leadership and organisational skills in helping the day run smoothly.

20 students visited De Brook Lodge Care Home on Wednesday as part of the Community Co-Curricular option. It was heartwarming to hear of the profound difference those students made to the residents they spent time with; providing **companionship and conversation**. Over the course of the year, 160 students following the same option will have the same opportunity. We are really proud of the students' commitment to enriching the lives and experiences of others. Well done.

On Wednesday, during the RESPECT lesson, Year 10 and Year 11 students listened to a talk from a speaker raising awareness of **domestic violence and coercive control in relationships**. It was very well received by all students who provided an attentive and inquisitive audience. The content prompted important conversations between students and with staff. As always, students are reassured and reminded that classrooms provide a safe space for all students for such discussion, and if any student needs support they can approach any member of staff or email care@wellacre.org

The Teaching Assistants organised a **Cake Sale and Coffee Morning for Macmillan** on Friday. The winner of the Wellacre Bake Off was Mrs Siddall with her excellent gluten free chocolate orange brownies! £150 was raised by staff for the charity-well done and thank you to the TAs for organising.

Book looks have been taking place all week across the curriculum. The vast majority of students are taking real pride in their work and its presentation; they try their best. A small number of students need reminding of some basic expectations of all students:



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- Write in blue or black pen
- Draw in pencil
- Underline titles and dates with a ruler

Please continue to support us by sending your son in every day with the correct basic equipment so that he is 'ready to learn'.

Arbor Updates

Nearly all parents and carers are now users of Arbor. Thank you for your support with this. This week, we will enable the function that provides more information about any detentions issued. We have also clarified the assignment submissions with staff, which should make it clearer and easier for students and parents/carers. Thank you to Ms Handley who has had to manually allocate achievement points accrued last year to students' current profiles, as they did not migrate to Arbor. It was a huge job, but an important one. We are now working with Arbor on the right solution regarding how students can 'spend or donate' their achievement points. Please bear with us on this.

Reporting absence

Please make contact with school **by 9.00am at the latest, on the first day of absence**, if your child is unable to attend due to illness and then **on each subsequent day of absence**. This should be done by **telephoning the school on 0161 748 5011 and selecting the attendance line (Option 1)**, providing your name, your child's name, tutor group and reason for absence. You are able to leave a message if you call before 8am. Alternatively, you can send a message via Arbor.

Trafford Thrive

The Mental Health Support Team would like to invite you to a **Coffee Morning at Wellacre in the Main Reception Area on Monday 3rd October from 9.30am - 11am**. It is your opportunity to get to know the team and ask any questions you may have. Please let us know if you would like to attend by using the link below or feel free to drop in on the day!

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/trafford-thrive-ineducation-coffee-morning-tickets-424973506197>

Mobile Devices

Thank you for your support with this new policy. It has had a hugely positive impact in school. Students are more alert, more engaged in the 'present', more communicative and more sociable. The number of phone confiscations and subsequent detentions has reduced considerably this week as there is absolute certainty that the policy will be enforced by all staff in all situations. Students understand this and accept this. This is the new norm.



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Please remember that if you have an urgent message for your child which cannot wait until school finishes, call us and the message will be passed on in the most appropriate way.

If your son feels unwell he must tell a member of staff and not use their mobile device to call home. Normally, he will be sent to the main school office and assessed by trained first aiders. In the vast majority of cases, he will be encouraged to stay at school. If he is too ill to remain in school, then parents/carers will be contacted to make suitable arrangements for collection. If your son has an accident he must tell a member of staff immediately - he may need assistance from one of the school's first aiders. **Under no circumstances should your son contact you directly to collect him. This is a clear breach of our mobile device policy.** We expect your full support with this.

Year 11 Assessment Week

Please look out for the letter and timetable regarding the assessments which will take place **Monday 3rd-Friday 7th October 2022.**

This year, students will continue to work on the GCSE Mindset resources which are proven to have an impact on students' habits, motivation and productivity. In terms of habits, students will explore how to do the most effective things when studying independently; unsurprisingly, reading through notes has little positive impact. **This clip might be useful for Year 11 parents and carers as it explains the importance of practice tests.** Many assignments set by teachers will involve practice testing and for good reason; it will reap rewards.

http://rev.vu/MOZNo5?utm_campaign=Issue&utm_content=share&utm_medium=email&utm_source=The+Friday+Mindset

As always, please contact us at admin@wellacre.org if you have any questions or concerns and we will always do our best to help. We do appreciate your continued support.

Best wishes for the week ahead,

Mrs J Sharrock

Principal