WELLACRE

16th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Principal's Update~Week 7

Snippets

- We said a very **fond farewell to Mrs Rothwell** on Thursday who has retired after 23 years of wonderful service to the Wellacre community. We wish her good health and much happiness in retirement.
- Mr Caslake has had visits to and from **local primary schools** this week and I have enjoyed showing families around our school.
- Well done to **Staff Half Term Hero Draw Winners** for Au1 nominated by their colleagues: Mrs Scott, Mr Bentley, Miss Lockhart, Miss Sanderson,Mrs Ashburn. Mr Tanner and Miss Bailey also won awards.
- Winners of the **Weekly Golden Ticket Draw**: Ryan W Y8, Harry Y Y7, Alfie C Y7, Tyler J Y11, Finley C Y8. Well done!
- Winners of the **Half Term Golden Ticket Draw**: Luke F Y8, Charlie W Y7, Oliver W Y11, Asir Y Y9, Deighton H Y7.Congratulations!
- **The DofE Bronze expedition** takes place this weekend. Good luck to Saul A, Elliot B, Mizar C, Ronnie C, Noah D, Adam D, Max D, Edward D, Rory F, Muzzammil H, Chance H, Noah H, Josh M and Arthur M.
- Please find an **upcoming events** list Autumn Term 2 2026 Events for Parents.docx
- The **Iceland Trip** takes place over half term. Staff and students are excited about the adventures ahead. We hope they have an amazing time.
- The **Y10 Art trip to Sealife** has been rearranged for **Friday 13th November 2026.**

Equipment

It is time to **check and replenish basic equipment ahead of the start of Autumn 2**! The following items of equipment are essential. **Students are not 'ready' to learn without them.**

- A sensible, dark coloured, school bag or back pack.
- Pencil case: pen, pencil, sharpener, ruler, rubber, compass, protractor and a set of coloured pencils.
- A scientific calculator
- A whiteboard marker
- A set of index cards

It is very important that students are well organised. Every evening they should pack their bag with everything they need for the next day. To assist them, they have access to Arbor to check their timetable.

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Tutors will do regular equipment checks and will follow up on issues with parents and carers for your attention and action.

Attendance

The winter illness period typically runs from October to March. **We want to take a moment to remind you about the importance of attendance and sharing some guidance that may help.**

Research from the Department for Education has shown that illness accounts for over half of all school absences during this time, particularly with common ailments like flu and colds. We understand that some parents may feel unsure about sending their children to school with mild symptoms. The NHS advises that children can still attend school if they have common cold symptoms, such as a sore throat, runny nose, or cough, as long as they do not have a high temperature. If you're ever in doubt about your child's health and their ability to attend school, please check the NHS guidance on common illnesses.Is my child too ill for school? - NHS

For families who may have to balance work commitments with caring for sick children, we appreciate the challenges this can present. However, we encourage you to consider the facts shared with schools in their drive to support good attendance—getting children vaccinated for flu and ensuring they can participate in school is vital for their own health and the safety of others. Remember, ahead of and during the winter illness period, all eligible school-aged children have been offered an NHS flu vaccine and many have taken up that offer through school this year.

If your child has a medical appointment during school hours, we expect them to attend school before and after their appointment. They can even wear their school uniform for the visit to reduce the time they are absent.

Thank you for your support with attendance.

House Competitions

House Welly Wanging results are as follows: 1st - Pankhurst (avg throw 18.5m), 2nd - Turing (17m), 3rd - Lowry (14.9m) Longest throws by students: 1st - Jude H 24m, 2nd - Finley M 23m, 3rd - Mir A, Billy S, Jack K 22m.

House Spelling Bee results: 1st Turing 103, 2nd Lowry 80, 3rd Pankhurst 52. Year group winners Y7- Harry W, Y8- Abubakr, Y9 Joel C, Y10 Aiden C, Y11 Mackenzie C.

Well done to all the students who took part.

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An important message from Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue service

Bonfire night and Halloween should be fun, but they can also bring serious fire risks. Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service is encouraging families to attend organised firework and bonfire events wherever possible, but if you are planning your own firework event you should follow the Firework Code.

If children are dressing up for Halloween, please check costumes are UKCA or CE marked so they meet the required safety standards. Keep all costumes away from naked flames, including candles, and consider using LED candles instead.

Please help everyone enjoy the season safely by talking to children and young people about bonfire and firework safety, respectful behaviour and staying visible when out after dark.

Year 10 Work Experience

Parents and carers of Year 10 students will receive a **Work Experience Parental Support Pack** during the half term break via Arbor. This will provide key information, guidance and important dates to help families support their sons in preparing for and securing a work experience placement.

Work experience will take place from Monday 28 June to Friday 2 July 2027. We encourage parents and carers to read the pack and begin discussing potential placement opportunities with their sons.

Lytham Road Combined Storm Overflow (CSO) – Update Letter

I have been asked by United Utilities to share this letter with our school community.
80065860_Customer_Letter_Re_PIE_Fri_30_Oct__Work_Comm_Early_2027_In_Lytham…

Half Term closure

Wellacre is now closed for the half term break. Switchboards are also set to 'out of office'. If you need help or support during the period of school closure please take a look at the contacts here https://www.wellacre.org/files/5716/2702/2977/Mental_Health_and_Welbeing_Poster.pdf

Worried about the wellbeing of a child or young person outside school?

If you are worried about the safety or wellbeing of your own child, or another young person under the age of 18, then please phone Trafford Children's First Response on 0161 912 5125 during the day, or the Emergency Duty Team on 0161 912 2020 if it's an emergency at night or weekend. Alternatively, you can email firstresponse@trafford.gov.uk

You could also phone Childline on 0800 1111 or the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000.

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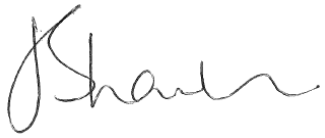
If you or a child or young person is in immediate danger, then call the police on 999.

Thank you as always for your continued support of our school and our policies. Thank you also to our staff and students who have worked hard this half term to make a positive start to the year.

I hope you all have a lovely half term. We look forward to welcoming all our students back on Monday 2nd November.

Best wishes,



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