

9th June 2021

HEAD OF SCHOOL: Mr I Bacon

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 7 Students,

After three successful familiarisation days, I am delighted to welcome students to our new state-of-the-art facilities on Barrosa Way. I wanted to take this opportunity to update you with some information, outlining some of the events that we have completed over the last term and to give further details on forthcoming extra curricula activities.

House competitions

This term students have competed in three competitions:

1. House races and challenge activities - Over the course of two familiarisation days at Barrosa Way, students have completed a series of races and physical challenges in their PE lessons. Congratulations to Laine house who narrowly beat Marshall House for the victory.
2. Mr Williams' Killer Sudoku challenge - The first round took place on Thursday 20th May, with 36 students facing off for a place in the final, congratulations to the following students who will represent their house in the final-
 - Avalon Simpson – Laine House
 - Freya Whitting – Leyh House
 - Malika Ranka – Marshall House
 - Josh Memery – Rutherford House
 - Seb Day – Turing House
3. Minecraft/Roblox: Create a famous landmark with a twist - Students were tasked with recreating a famous landmark using Minecraft or Roblox, they then added their own personal twist. The standard of the entries was exceptionally high, and congratulations go to Oliver Dougherty who won the competition with his version of Big Ben.

Clubs

After a fantastic take up for our extra-curricular activities we are pleased to confirm that the current clubs will continue to run. We will also be adding Badminton and Netball clubs this half term (these will start week commencing 14th June). There is no need to book into these two new clubs, simply turn up.

All after school clubs run from 3:30pm – 4:30pm with lunch time clubs running from 12:55pm – 1:25pm.

Respect / Responsibility / Kindness

Day	Club	Time	Member of staff
Monday	Italian	Lunch time	Mr Scott
Tuesday	Lego	After school	Mrs Wall
Tuesday	Netball	After school	Miss Scarr / Miss Bell
Wednesday	Coding	After school	Mr Bartlam
Thursday	Maths drop-in	Lunch time	Mrs Wall
Thursday	Art	After school	Ms Piper
Thursday	Badminton	After school	Mr Gibbs
Friday	Music	Lunch time	Miss O'Rourke

LORIC

At the start of the academic year, we launched the PIXL LORIC scheme with our students (please follow this link for further information [PixL Edge - Our Pledge to Give You the Edge - YouTube](#))

To achieve the apprentice level students are required to complete 2 tasks for each of the LORIC attributes (Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Initiative, Communication). We are asking students to complete as many of these tasks as possible by the end of the school year. Students have learnt about the LORIC attributes in their Tutorial sessions, and we are now encouraging students to complete tasks at home. All students have login details and there is a list of tasks that can be used to achieve the LORIC attributes required to achieve the Apprentice level. Once they have completed a task they simply record it on their account for the form tutor to sign off.

Punctuality

At the start of the school day students are required to be in the Academy by 8:40am when the main gates will close. Any student arriving after this time will sign in as late. We ask that if possible, Parents / Carers alert us in advance if their child has a valid reason for being late by contacting the Academy reception.

Stationery

To ensure that all students are all fully prepared to take part in lessons we ask that they attend the Academy with the following stationary-

- Blue or black for student work, red pen for self-assessment, purple pen for peer assessment.
- Pencil, pencil sharpener, rubber
- Ruler, protractor, compass
- Highlighter
- Glue stick
- Scientific Calculator
- Pencil case

The Academy supplies filled pencil cases for £2.50 and small scientific calculators for £2.00 each which can be purchased through the online shop in SIMS pay and collected by the students from the Admin Hub.

Shoes / Uniform

As we approach the time of year when students start to grow out of their school shoes, can I remind parents/carers that black trainers and ankle boots are not part of our Academy uniform. If parents/carers are unsure if shoes are suitable, please could they contact their child's Form Tutor to seek advice before purchasing.

Finally, please could I ask that parents/carers label their child's PE kit now that they are changing prior to lessons.

I am tremendously proud of the student's attitude and behaviour at Watling Academy and I am looking forward to continuing to work with you as we settle into our new building.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mr Gibbs', written in a cursive style.

Mr Gibbs
Head of Year