

# THE WIGHTWICK WAY

## WELCOME

Dear parents/carers and Friends of the School,  
The trust have appointed our new Headteacher and we look forward to welcoming and working with Mr Alex Steer, who will join us in September. He will be around at events prior to this, so look out for him!

This has been a short half term, however, it's still been a busy month. Exam season has started and in full swing, and we wish all our students every success. The Library floor that was water damaged in the winter, is now restored and we look forward to using this amazing space again next term.

We introduced the two new platforms, Seesaw and Medi Tracker, and have seen a good response from parents using the platforms. We encourage any parent/carer who hasn't signed up yet to do so. Any queries please contact the school office.

Summer is almost here and we are heading into the last half term of the academic year. We have Transition days, Leavers Assembly, the Summer BBQ and Prom to look forward to, as well as, weather permitting, Sports day. Letters regarding all these events will be coming out shortly.

There are several staffing changes this term;  
We welcome Lizzie Guise, Beth Mallick and Jack Maiden who will join us in June, but we say goodbye to two members of staff Millie Steventon, who is going on to do her Masters, and Mrs Lucy Onions who leaves us in early June. We wish them both success in their future endeavours.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 2nd June, ready to embrace our final half term of the year. With Sports Day, the Summer Concert, and our Year 6 Leavers events ahead, it promises to be a memorable and celebratory end to the school year.

## REVIEW



### 8th May - VE day Celebrations

On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025, we invited all students to come to school dressed in red, white and blue to reflect the spirit of the occasion. We held a street party/picnic on the lawn to help celebrate and everyone joined in the fun and celebrations and Oscar Haywood played a medley of wartime songs on his trumpet. (see photo gallery)

### 2nd May - Loudmouth Productions

Loudmouth Education and Training is a highly respected and innovative theatre in education company. and provides a range of programmes and formats that can support safeguarding and relationship education. Loudmouth's work aims to ensure a future where all children and young people are healthy, happy, safe and resilient.

This year so far Wightwick Hall School have saved 4.360 trees through recycling shredded paper.

## UPCOMING DATES



May Half Term - Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May

19<sup>th</sup> June - Choir - Endeavour to Inspire Concert @ Two Rivers High

4<sup>th</sup> July - Summer BBQ

11<sup>th</sup> July - Leavers Prom

Summer Holidays - Monday 21st July

New School Year 2025 - Starts Wednesday 4th September

Staff inset days - Monday and Tuesday 2nd & 3rd September 2025



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# THE WIGHTWICK WAY

**NOTICEBOARD**

**Our Communication Platforms**

ARBOR PARENT PORTAL	SEESAW
<div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  </div> <div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <b>PAYMENTS</b> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dinners</li> <li>Trips</li> <li>After School Clubs</li> <li>Voluntary Contributions</li> </ul> <div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <b>CONSENTS</b> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Photo Consents</li> <li>Local Area Visit Consents</li> <li>Rebound Consent</li> <li>Trampoline Consent</li> </ul> <div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <b>TRIPS/VISITS</b> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consent to attend a trip</li> </ul> <div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <b>SEND IN-APP MESSAGES TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE</b> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report a student absence</li> <li>update of medical information</li> <li>inform school of a medical appointment</li> <li>any queries or questions you may have</li> </ul>	<div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  </div> <div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <b>MESSAGE CLASS TEACHER (ONE TO ONE)</b> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>update of medical information</li> <li>home school diary</li> <li>general communication</li> </ul> <div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <b>SCHOOL NOTICES AND POSTERS FOR SCHOOL EVENTS</b> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fayres</li> <li>Meet the Teacher</li> <li>Parents' Evening</li> <li>Coffee Morning</li> <li>Concerts</li> <li>Fundraising Events</li> </ul> <div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <b>SEE STUDENT WORK THAT IS SHARED BY THE CLASS TEACHER</b> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep up to date with what your child is learning</li> </ul> <div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <b>PARENTS CAN SHARE POSTS/ PICTURES/ VIDEOS WITH THE CLASS TEACHER OF LIFE AT HOME.</b> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sharing experiences from home</li> </ul>

If you require any support on our communication platforms or have yet to receive an invite to set your account up please contact the School Office

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**Work experience will take place on the following dates:**

-Summer Term 9th – 13th June 2025

Work Experience is a valuable opportunity in helping our students to prepare for the world of work and develop their employability skills. It also provides a sample of a potential career pathway, and most importantly, allows the student to gain the independent skills of searching for a job, communicating with employers and fulfilling a role within an organisation. It will provide a fantastic opportunity for students to experience the world of work.

### 14<sup>th</sup> May - Careers Fair

Our second annual Careers Fair was held on the 14<sup>th</sup> May, we had twelve contributors including Staffordshire Police, NHS Trust, Royal Fleet Auxiliary and various colleges and businesses. Lots of information and advice was on offer and it was wonderful to see so many students engaging confidently with the providers and employers. The atmosphere was buzzing with curiosity and enthusiasm, and it was clear that the students were making the most of the opportunity.

Parents have expressed a desire to be included in the future at this event. This is a great idea, and it's certainly something we will look into for the next academic year.

As with all events, I'll be reviewing what worked well and what could be improved for future fairs. Some changes were already implemented this year, especially as this was only our second careers fair.

### The Golden Ticket

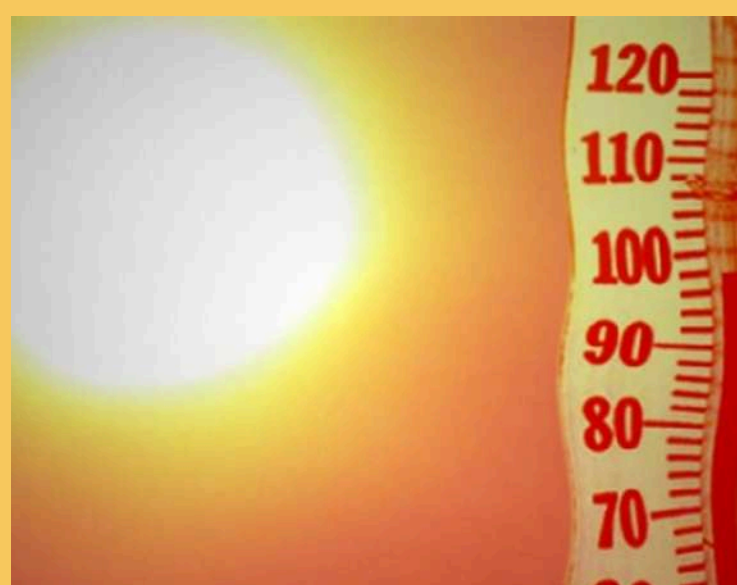
The Golden Ticket winner this half term is Victoria Ojo

The secret behaviour was:

Move around school sensibly and safely.



## SUMMER WEATHER



With the recent warm weather and with summer fast approaching, we are all aware of the importance of keeping safe and hydrated in the sun.

We ask that you please apply sun cream to your child before school. If at all possible, please use an 'all day' sun cream.

Please could you also ensure that your child has a water bottle (no glass bottles) that can be re-filled throughout the day and named sun hat in school at all times.

Thank you in advance for your support in keeping our students safe.



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# THE WIGHTWICK WAY

## STAFF PROFILE

Name: Mr Raphael James  
Teacher

Here are some of my favourite things!

Favourite Colour:  
Red

Favourite Band: (Singer)  
Weather Report

Favourite Sporting Team:  
Wolverhampton Wanderers

Favourite Book:  
1984

What animal would you be and why?  
A Lion - they look after the Pride.

Best Film you can watch over and over:  
Blade Runner

Invite three guests for lunch, who would they be?  
Fidel Alejandro Castro Ruz, Tupac Amaru Shakur & Maya Angelou

Apart from working at Wightwick, what would your dream job be?  
Coach or Manager of Wolverhampton Wanderers

What do you value the most and why?  
Family and friends - shared experiences are

## COMMUNITY



Sports Tournament at Aldersley:

**KS4 Football team entered an Indoor Football Tournament at Aldersley Stadium, they were triumphant and won the trophy**  
(see gallery)

### 6HSM

As part of our ASDAN programme, students recently took part in two enriching off-site visits. The first was a trip to a local café, where each student independently ordered their own drink and snack, helping to develop valuable life skills in a real-world setting. Our second visit was to Wolverhampton Wanderers Football Stadium, where students enjoyed a guided tour of the grounds. Pete, our knowledgeable tour guide, shared a wealth of fascinating information about the history and operations of the club. All students represented the school exceptionally well throughout both visits. Even those who weren't football fans found the stadium tour engaging and enjoyable. Well done to everyone involved! (See gallery)

### Boxing

Our collaboration with Boxing trainer Mia Holland continues this term with a new cohort of students mainly from Willow. The boxing has been a great success and students have really engaged with the program and will benefit from this non contact programme which is designed to promote physical fitness, discipline and self confidence whilst ensuring the safety of all participants. Students will work through a range of topics such as coaching, mentoring, anger management, resilience and interviewing techniques. All participants will receive a certificate at the end of the programme.

### Wightwick Hall Choir

The choir will be taking part in the Endeavour Multi Academy Trust annual "Endeavour to Inspire Concert" The school are thrilled that our talented and dedicated performers have once again the opportunity to shine and entertain. Friends and family are invited to attend, Ticket allocation will depend on the number of students taking part.



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## Wightwick Hall Activities

Changes to the Morning Drop-Off and afternoon collection:

The transport gate will remain closed until 8:45am.

Students should remain in their transport vehicles until 8:50am.

Afternoon Collection:

The transport gate will remain closed until 3:00pm.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding in helping us maintain a safe and secure environment for our students.

**We introduced 'Positive Noticing Day' on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, before we broke up for half term. This is a day where we wrote positive, kind, nice things about other people on a sticker and they wore that sticker all day revealing what people have kindly noticed about them. This applied to students and staff and it all helps to build our self-esteem.**

A reminder that Wightwick Hall School is part of the My School Fund initiative. My School Fund is an exciting initiative that combines the spending power of parents, guardians, carers and teachers to help boost your school or nursery budget.

Visit [myschoolfund.org](https://myschoolfund.org) to register for free and don't forget to link to Wightwick Hall School. From there, everything you spend in participating stores will go towards helping boost our budget, plus your own!

Sign up today at [myschoolfund.org](https://myschoolfund.org)

[MSF\\_parent\\_information\\_leaflet.pdf](#)

## Classroom News

### Willow

DBA - have made a Rock snake called Susan, please feel free to add to her with your painted rocks and see if we can make her grow a mile!

The 3DBA team are exploring World War 1 in History this term. Ellie created this beautiful poster outlining the causes of World War 1. How creative Ellie, well done! 🧑🎨 (see Gallery)

### Bannatyne

Class RGA attended a careers fair today in school. They asked lots of questions and engaged in games at various stalls. Most students won some prizes. I was so proud of how polite and respectful each student was to the people hosting the event. Well done Class.

RGA - In outdoor learning last week the class discussed what emotions we were feeling and what that emotion might look like. We then went for a walk around school collecting nature that we could use to create an image of that emotion on our faces. Once the masterpieces were complete, we returned the nature back to where we found it.

### Hickman House

Hi Hickman House Hickman House students have been learning about personal hygiene in PSHE today and have been practicing their hand washing skills. 🧼 A huge well done everyone, you all did brilliantly and you have a special certificates in your bags to show your families. ★

We've been very busy in Hickman House. We have been learning to wash 🧼 our hands in PSHE, finding halves in maths by cutting fruit 🍇🍌🍏, learning how to make a cheese 🧀 sandwich in English and writing instructions for this. We have also been learning about the 'x' sound in phonics and the story of 'Jonah and the Whale' 🐋 in RE. All of our students have worked extremely hard and they have enjoyed cake 🍰 and custard as an afternoon treat and ice-creams 🍦 in the garden. Well done everyone.☀️

Claire

### Interesting Fact:

Football teams wearing red kits play better. The colour of your clothes can affect how you're perceived by others and change how you feel. A review of football matches in the last 55 years, for example, showed that teams wearing a red kit consistently played better in home matches than teams in any other colour.



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# THE WIGHTWICK WAY

## USEFUL INFORMATION

### Help keep your family safer online

**A reminder to parents that during half term their child will want to spend time on their phones messaging friends –**

Family Link provides tools that respect families' individual choices with technology, helping them create healthy, positive digital habits. With easy-to-use tools, you can understand how your child is spending time on their device, share location, manage privacy settings, and find the right balance for your family.\*

### Arbor Parent Portal App

A reminder to parents to download the Arbor app. Arbor lets you book parent/guardian consultation slots, register your child for a club or trip, and manage payments all from one place. You can also use it to check in on your child's attendance, behaviour & academic progress.

### Parent Portal and Parent App leaflet poster.pdf

## OUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Mrs Green - Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Owen - Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Scott - Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Miss Higgs - Deputy Safeguarding Lead

## Want to be a Parent Governor?

We are currently looking for a new parent governor to join our friendly local governing board. Our governors come from a range of different backgrounds, skills and experience but all share a common interest of wanting the best possible education for the children in our school.

We would be delighted to hear from anyone who:-

- Is interested in children's education and the performance of the school
- Is community spirited and would like to represent the community
- Has spare time and the energy for the role
- Is able to work well as part of a team
- Has an enquiring mind and the confidence to ask questions and debate issues that affect the school
- Can consider matters objectively and make informed judgements

If you are interested in finding out more about what this entails, please contact Julie Haynes on [j.haynes@wightwickhall.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:j.haynes@wightwickhall.staffs.sch.uk), who can send you further information, along with an application form.



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# THE WIGHTWICK WAY

## Safeguarding

### Advice if you're worried about your child vaping

It's common for parents to worry about their children trying smoking, alcohol or drugs as they get older. However, in recent years, more young people have been using e-cigarettes, known as vaping. Children are trying vaping younger than ever and the risks are less well known than with other substances.

If you think your child might be vaping or you're worried they might start, it's important to understand what it is and what the risks are so you can talk to them about it. Most children and young people do not vape or smoke on a regular basis over a long period of time, but they might try it. Keeping them informed about the risks, will help them to make healthy choices for themselves.

### What is vaping?

Vaping is inhaling vapour from an e-cigarette or 'vape'.

The vape is a battery powered device which heats a cartridge of liquid. It is the vapour from this liquid that is inhaled. You can get refillable vapes where you can fill it with different flavour liquids, or disposable vapes. These come in a variety of colours and flavours making them popular with young people.

Most vapes contain nicotine which makes them highly addictive. Vapes are intended for adults who smoke to help them give up smoking, like nicotine patches or gum. They are less harmful than cigarettes because they don't contain tobacco, however they still contain harmful ingredients. If you have never smoked, you shouldn't vape. E-cigarettes and liquids are sold in vape shops, newsagents, supermarkets and many other shops. It is illegal to sell vaping products to anyone under the age of 18 or to buy them on their behalf, however like cigarettes and other substances, young people still manage to get hold of them.

### Why is my child vaping?

The reasons children and young people try vaping are similar to any other drug or substance:

- To fit in. Many young people feel pressured to do what their friends are doing. Social status is seen as being very important to teenagers.
- To relieve stress. Young people are often under a lot of stress, from school, work, and relationships. Nicotine can have a temporary calming effect.
- Curiosity. They have probably seen or heard about other people vaping and want to know what it's like.
- Vaping has an extra appeal for children and young people because:
- They come in sweet smelling flavours and bright colours.
- They see them as less harmful than smoking because of the messaging about them helping people to stop smoking.
- They are more discrete than smoking because the smell doesn't last as long and they can be easily hidden.

What are the risks of vaping for children and young people?

- The short-term side effects of vaping include throat and mouth irritation, headache, cough and feeling sick.
- The long-term effects of vaping are still unknown, they are still too new for there to have been proper research.
- Nicotine is highly addictive. There is also a risk when non-smokers try vaping, they might move on to try more harmful cigarettes and drugs.
- There are also illegal vapes being sold that contain dangerous levels of lead, nickel and chromium.

How do I talk to my child about vaping?

- Find a good time to start the conversation. It might be as you walk past a vape shop or see someone using an e-cigarette.
- Ask your child what they know about vaping. You can ask them if they know of people who use them and why they use them. You might ask them if they've ever tried it.
- Listen to your child, their experience, and their point of view. Show you are interested in what they have to say.
- Then you can gently and calmly give them some facts about vaping. Ask them what they think about the facts.
- If your child is already using a vape, then have the same conversation with them and ask them what they like about it. You are not saying it's okay for them to do it, by being interested. You can still be clear about how you feel.
- If they feel pressured into vaping by friends, you can teach them helpful skills of being confident in saying 'no thanks, it's not for me'.

You and your child can learn [more about vaping on Talk to Frank](#).



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# THE WIGHTWICK WAY

## Picture Gallery

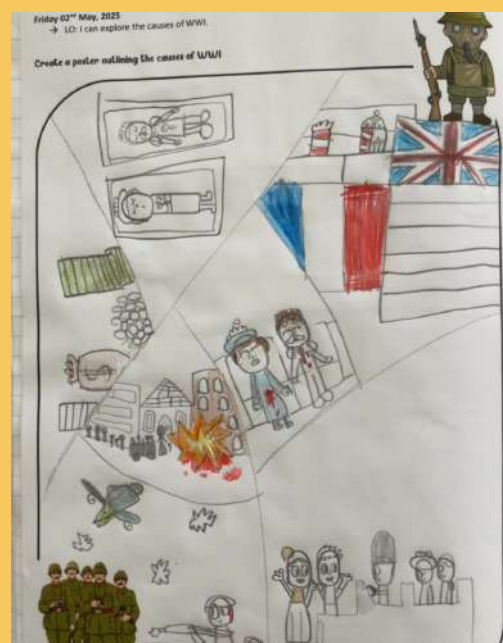
Careers Fair



VE Day Celebrations



6HSM Molineux Tour and Coffee Shop



3DBA Snake and Ellies Poster



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# THE WIGHTWICK WAY



## Wightwick Hall School



### Code of Conduct "Ready, Respectful, Safe"

#### Ready: (To Learn)

- Appropriate, smart uniform
- Equipment
- Punctual
- Positive attitude
- Willing to participate
- Willing to do their best
- Ready to engage in learning

#### Respectful: (To self, others and environment)

- Follows instructions ("first time, every time")
- Listens to others
- Good manners
- Kindness
- keep school tidy and litter free
- Respect our differences, values and opinions
- Respect the school environment and school property
- Behave in a way that does not prevent others from learning
- Appropriate language and tone ("right voice, right time")

#### Safe: (Physical, emotional, in and around school)

- Move around School sensibly and safely.
- keep your hands to yourself
- Be mindful of personal space
- Be someone who promotes equality and fairness
- Be mindful of your actions towards others - bullying is not tolerated here!
- Report any problems to staff promptly
- Mobile phones are to be out of sight, and handed in at the school office (except for sixth form students)



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RESPECTFUL



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