

Parent Bulletin



14th - 18th March 2022

Week 2

Lordswood Girls' School
www.lordswoodgirls.co.uk
0121 429 2838

Upcoming dates

Date	Event
Wednesday 16th March	Parent Forum 8-9am
Week beginning Monday 21st March	Year 13 Mock Examinations
Thursday 24th March	Whole school PSHE Day
Friday 25th March	Year 11 Results
Thursday 31st March	Year 10 & 11 Drama Trip

Curriculum

Many thanks to all the parents who have been completing the parent voice surveys that were shared last half term. One common theme of concern was a lack of information regarding the curriculum that students' study each year.

We are currently working on a plan to ensure that there are more opportunities to learn about the curriculum content next year. In the meantime there we have made some small changes to the school website to make it easier to find information relating to the curriculum being taught in each subject.

We hope you find this information useful. If you have any questions/anything is unclear please email lgs-enquiry@lordswoodtrust.co.uk with your query and your concern will be forwarded to the relevant Lead Professional.

Invitation to attend our Virtual Parents' Forum – Wednesday 16th March 2022 at 8.00am

We would like to invite you to our Parents' Forum meeting that will take place **virtually** on **Wednesday 16th March 2022 at 8.00am**.

Our Parent Forum events give parents and carers the opportunity to meet with staff and share their views on the school and how we can improve in a relaxed and informal atmosphere. At this meeting, we would like to invite you to join us in an update on the new school uniform and merger with King Edwards VI and we will also endeavour to answer any questions that you may have.

If you would like to attend, please click on the link below to complete the form so that we have details of your email address and any questions you would like answered at this forum by **Monday 14th March 2022**.

<https://forms.gle/dcV5ZoX1Jv9k6zMU8>

As this event will be held virtually, the joining details will be emailed to you, using the email address provided when you confirmed attendance by completing the form. You will also need to have access to a computer device with a video camera and microphone. Please be aware that the maximum number of people for this event is 20 and that this meeting is for parents only.

We look forward to seeing you on 16th March 2022.

Free School Meals

Your child may be able to get free school meals (FSM) if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Even if your child chooses not to utilise the free food element, we encourage all parents who are eligible to apply, this is because by qualifying for FSM the school will also be allocated additional funds to support your child's education.

If check if you qualify we encourage all parents to complete an application via the following link:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham/>

Year 13 Mock Examinations

The Spring 2022 Year 13 Mock Exam timetable is available on the sixth form website:

<http://lordswoodsixthformcentre.co.uk/examination-timetables>

Years 10 & 11 Drama Trip

As part of our collaboration with The Hippodrome, our students have been given the fantastic opportunity to work towards their Live Theatre examination at the theatre. They will be introduced to the play 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time' with a pre-recorded digital launch workshop in school and then attend a page to stage event at the theatre, followed by a performance at 2pm.

Students should attend school as normal on this day but will leave from 10.30am to travel to the theatre in the school minibus with Miss Briggs and Mrs Swallow. They will need to be either collected or given permission to make their own way home from the theatre at around 4.30pm. This experience is being offered at a reduced cost and therefore we would ask for a voluntary contribution of £10 per student towards the event.

Please pay via parent mail and state how you would like your child to be dismissed from the event.

Exam pressure

As we approach 'exam season', it is normal for students to feel apprehensive or nervous about their forthcoming exams.

Pressure is something that we all have to learn to deal with at some point in our lives and for some students, examinations are the first time they will experience pressure that parents cannot control or remove.

The following websites offer some excellent guidance on how parents can support their children through these challenging times:

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/advice-for-parents/help-your-child-beat-exam-stress/>

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/student-and-parent-support/managing-stress>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/resources-for-managing-assessment-related-anxiety/resources-for-managing-test-related-anxiety>

Please note: Whilst an element of pressure is good for children's development, if this becomes overwhelming please seek support from a medical professional or contact the school who might be able to signpost to additional support.

Parent Smart Website

The following link has practical tips for supporting children's wellbeing and behaviour.

<https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

PE Department Extra Curricular Activities

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch Time	Lunch Time	Lunch Time	Lunch Time	Lunch Time
Sixth Form 1.15 - 1.40pm	Sixth Form 1.15 - 1.40pm			
Interform 1.40 - 2.00pm Year 7	Interform 1.40 - 2.00pm Year 8	Interform 1.20 - 1.40pm Year 9		
After School	After School	After School	After School	After School
Practical Study Support 3.05 - 4.00pm All years	Netball Club 3.05 - 4.00pm All years	Extra Curricular Sixth Form Sports Programme		Football Academy 3.15 - 4.15pm Years 7 & 8
Football Academy 3.05 - 4.00pm Years 9, 10 & 11	Martial Arts 3.05 - 4.00pm Students signed up only			
	GCSE Theory Study Support 3.05 - 4.00pm Year 11	Students must have a note in their planner to confirm attendance at school until 4pm		

National Careers Week

To coincide with National Careers Week 2022, Michelle Donelan, Minister of State for Further and Higher Education, is writing to students and parents about the education, training and work choices available to young people after they finish their GCSEs and once they turn 18.

[Open the letter to students](#)

[Open the letter to parents, carers and guardians](#)

Work Experience

If any Year 12 student has completed work experience outside of Work Experience Week, please contact Mrs McInerney.

Community Involvement for Year 12 Students

The Year 12 sixth form students are being encouraged to get involved in community projects to support their wider learning, improve their skills and also make a difference to the community.

We ask parents to be involved in finding and helping students to get involved in community projects. The students will have weekends and their free time outside of school to get involved. The school is promoting these activities but we are not able to organise them. This activity is not compulsory but it is recommended. If parents have any links or are aware of any projects please get in touch with the sixth form team.

Post 16 Bulletin

Please see the link below for this week's post 16 bulletin:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_CMqHrgC-U_6xEYOISCzu0AaO6-jhkiC/view?usp=sharing

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

To help celebrate Her Majesty's 70 years on the throne, a number of exciting activities and events are being organised. To support you and your colleagues to make the most of the occasion, West Midlands Lieutenancy has produced a toolkit for The Big Jubilee Lunch. In addition a short video has been created about the Queen. We hope you will find them useful. These are available for download from the Lieutenancy website <https://wmlieutenancy.org/platinum-jubilee/>

Birmingham Commonwealth Games 2022

Our region clearly has even more to celebrate and participate in this year with the arrival of the sporting and cultural festival which is the Commonwealth Games. We have been asked to bring the following link to the B2022 Youth Programme to your attention. Follow the link and you will find offers for schools and youth groups to complete an expression of interest form for workshops and athlete visits. www.birmingham2022.com/power The opportunities available should prove useful, helping your students to engage in this once in a lifetime event.

Investin Student Career Competition

"If you can dream it, you can do it" (Walt Disney)

In honour of National Careers Week, InvestIN asks students to think creatively about their futures.

The 'My Career, My Vision' Competition:

We invite students aged 12-18 to submit an image depicting their dream career with an accompanying caption. The image can take any form - a photograph, drawing, graphic design, or anything else - as long as it has been created by the student and clearly depicts the career of their dreams. Creativity is highly encouraged! **The deadline is Friday 8th April and students can enter now.**

[Enter Now](#)

Writing Competition

Unmute is a monologue writing competition for 11 - 18 year olds run by Lung Theatre Company, in partnership with the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School and Salamander Street Publishers.

Information is available at lungtheatre.co.uk/unmute

The theatre company will be releasing some videos soon, from industry professionals giving advice and tips around writing. So do look out for those on their Twitter, Instagram and at lungtheatre.co.uk/unmute.

Holocaust Educational Trust Book Club Recommendations

Trautmann's Journey: From Hitler Youth to FA Cup Legend – Catrine Clay

Bert Trautmann is a football legend. He is famed as the Manchester City goalkeeper who broke his neck in the 1956 FA Cup final and played on. But his early life was no less extraordinary. He grew up in Nazi Germany, where first he was indoctrinated by the Hitler Youth, before fighting in World War Two in France and on the Eastern Front.

In 1945 he was captured and sent to a British POW camp where, for the first time, he understood that there could be a better way of life. He embraced England as his new home and before long became an English football hero. This is his story.

The Choice – Edith Eger

In 1944, sixteen-year-old ballerina Edith Eger was sent to Auschwitz. Separated from her parents on arrival, she endures unimaginable experiences, including being made to dance for the infamous Josef Mengele. When the camp is finally liberated, she is pulled from a pile of bodies, barely alive.

The horrors of the Holocaust didn't break Edith. In fact, they helped her learn to live again with a life-affirming strength and a truly remarkable resilience.