

Walton High School Newsletter

Headteacher's Message

It's hard to believe that it's May already and so much of this busy year is already behind us! This half term is always a very poignant time in school as we say goodbye to our Year 13 students who have been with us for the past seven years. They have been a wonderful year group and we wish them every success in their A level exams before they set off either to University or the world of work. We hope that the class of 2010 will keep in touch with us here at Walton.

We also wish our GCSE students the very best of luck as they go on study leave prior to their exams. However, we know that the large majority of them will be coming back to join our very popular Sixth Form in September. The number of applications this year has been extremely high, including many from outside Walton, and we look forward to having a full and vibrant Sixth Form Centre in September.

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KEY DATES COMING UP:

Friday 12 May	Year 11 Leavers' Day / Revision session begins for Year 11 and Year 12
Monday 15 May	GCSE/GCE Exam Season begins
Mon 15 May	Y10 Geography Trip to Carding Mill Valley
Tues 16 May	Y10 Geography Trip to Carding Mill Valley
Friday 26 May	Year 13 Leavers' Day
29 May - 2 June	Whitsun Half Term Break
Monday 5 June	Back to school

Sainsbury's Active Kids

There are still a few days left to collect the vouchers from Sainsbury's. Collect vouchers between 25th January – 3rd May and donate them to us by 30th June.

We are hoping to exchange them for exciting new cooking and sports equipment for our students.

Year Group Photographs

Although the weather wasn't kind to us this year and we were unable to have the year group photos taken outside, the main school hall was the location for the Year 7, 11 and 13 photo shoot. Please pass any outstanding orders to your child's tutor as soon as possible.

Welcome Back

We welcome back Miss Humphreys to the Science Department at the end of the month after the birth of her son. Which in turns means we say goodbye to Mr Elliott Taylor who has stood in during her absence.



You may be interested in how our Cloudbase Bee Garden is progressing – please follow this link

<http://www.wildaboutgardensweek.org.uk/events/Cloudbase-Bee-Garden>

Orienteering Champs 2017

Congratulations to all who took part in the Orienteering Championships at Hanley Park Forest, particularly the Year 9 and 10 students who won the POTOH High School Shield!



Sporting Success!

Sport Stafford Borough Awards Evening is an annual event that recognises local achievements in sport during the year. The 2016 awards evening took place in March. This year's celebration was held at Staffordshire County Showground. Walton High School are again celebrating some notable achievements:

Javelin star Beth Rees, whose 2015 season culminated in finishing third in the UK Under-20 rankings and one place above Jessica Ennis-Hill in the senior rankings, won the Under 18 Sports Performer of Year (Female).

Congratulations also go to ex-student Tom Derbyshire (Swimming) who won Sports Performer of the Year (Male) and Hollie Stodgell (Orienteering) who was a finalist in the Under 18 Sports Performer of the Year (Female).

Easyfundraising Update

As promised last month, an update on the number of members now supporting us by raising funds through Easyfundraising – we now have 79 members. Please continue to join us, we will have another update next month!!



Spring Concert

Our Spring Concert took place in April, presenting to the audience the huge range and variety of music that goes on every week in school. Mrs Lewis paid tribute in their last concert to the many Year 13 students who have given so freely of their time and musicianship over the years.

Well done to everyone who took part in these events. Keep an eye on the school website for details of our Cabaret Evening later this term.

Attendance Leader Board

Deercote 96.65%
Kingsley 96.35%
Hazelslade 96.19%
Oldacre 96.18%

Free School Meals – are you eligible?

Did you know? You can claim free school meals for your children if you are in receipt of any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Eligible for Child Tax Credit but not Working Tax Credit and the household income (as used by HMRC to assess tax credits) is not more than £16,190. Please note: anyone eligible for Working Tax Credit, or if you have a partner and they receive it, regardless of Income, you will not qualify
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit (from 30th April 2005)
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- In receipt of the 4 week run of working tax credit (this is where someone becomes unemployed or reduces their hours and so is no longer entitled to working tax credit but will continue to receive it for a further 4 weeks and is entitled to free meals during that time)
- Universal credit

Follow this link:

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk>

Safeguarding our students

You may notice some subtle changes to the main reception when you next come in to school, as we introduce a new “signing in” system at school.

Our electronic sign in system will ensure we continue to safeguard our students and also make signing in at reception much swifter and easier for parents, students, contractors or visitors...

Year 11 Leavers' Day

We say a fond farewell to our Year 11 students on Friday, 12th May

This will be an unforgettable day when students can enjoy a leavers' assembly and share in the memories they have had together throughout their time at Walton High School.

We would like to thank parents for their support throughout the last five years and look forward to some successful results in August.

Swimming success

Congratulations to Ben Cope whose hard work in swimming now ranks him 12th in Great Britain. We look forward to hearing about his progress over the coming months.

New Prefects

For those students who have applied to become a Prefect for the next academic year, interviews will take place week commencing 22nd May.

Royal Observatory Visit

Year 10 GCSE Astronomy students recently visited the Royal Observatory in Greenwich, London to provide support to their course from professional Astronomers and Astrophysicists.

Activities included workshops on the expanding universe, cosmology and galactic formation. As well as touring the interactive exhibits on display the pupils enjoyed a spectacular presentation in the planetarium.

