

head'sherald

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Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are well. We are having a real push on attendance and we really appreciate your help and support with this. Attendance is key to ensuring your child succeeds and every day counts. Alongside this punctuality is so important. We are teaching them key life skills so when they do go to work they are able to do well. If we were late to our work places then there would be sanctions accordingly, it is crucial that our young people see the value and importance of both punctuality and attendance.

Attendance

Top Attendance Tips

- When arranging medical appointments try to avoid the school day. If this is unavoidable, we encourage students to be in school before and after their appointment
- Children do get colds and headaches often, but they don't always need to miss school. Try giving them something to eat and drink or suitable medication for their age before sending them
- Make sure your child understands the benefits of regular attendance and the link between excellent attendance and academic progress.
- Plan the night before by making sure homework is completed, bags are packed, and uniform is ready to put on
- Report any absences on the day the student is going to be absent
- If your child doesn't want to go to school, try and find out the reason why and work with the school so we can address any concerns
- Congratulations to all the students that received their Gold, Silver or Bronze attendance certificates for their high attendance last half term.

- 320 students received their gold certificate which equals 40.2% of our school roll
- 144 students received their silver certificate which equals 18.1% of our school roll
- 13 students received their bronze certificate which equals 1.6% of our school roll

Assessment and Curriculum

On Monday, an assembly to Year 11 was delivered by Mr Koltan and Mr Kinsey about the importance of the **Mock exams which start on Monday 28th November** and last for two weeks. It was explained to Year 11 about the impotence of revision and exam preparation in the remaining time left at school. Year 11 will only have 15 weeks left of school time when they return from Christmas until the real GCSE exam begin.

Miss Jones (Head of Maths) and Mr Iqbal (Head of Science) delivered a presentation on how to best revise for Maths and Science. At the end of the assembly, all students were issued with a Knowledge Organiser and a Knowledge Retriever workbook to help support students with their revision at home. These resources cost **£30** for the set and have been issued to all our students free of charge.

I would be grateful for your support in making sure these resources are well used at home. They should be used most evenings in the build-up and during the Mock Exam period which ends just before the Christmas break.

Students will be receiving their **Mock Exam Results in assembly on Friday 6th January** in the school hall. We have **Year 11 Parents' Evening on Monday 9th January** where subject teachers will be discussing how students have performed, key information about the GCSE exams and targets for improvement.

YEAR 11 MOCKS

Our mock exams for Year 11 start on **Monday 28th November** and run for two weeks ending on **Friday 9th December**. The **Exam Timetable** has been sent out to students and parents.

Many thanks for the role you are playing in encouraging your child to revise. Your son/daughter's revision should now be increasing significantly over the coming weeks. One of the best forms of revision is answering past examination papers and creating and reviewing summary notes/que cards/knowledge organisers. Please ensure that your son/daughter is active in their revision and revising several subjects each evening to ensure their revision is balanced. Revision lists and resources have been provided to students. Students should spend time revising content for each subject across all topic areas, not just revising topics they are already comfortable with.

It is really important students are aware of what exams they will be sitting each day and that they **bring the correct equipment including a scientific calculator each day**.

Students need to ensure they **arrive on time at 8.10am** and go straight to Period 0 lesson. Their teacher will escort them to the canteen at 8.45am where they will be given a debrief before each exam is due to start.

Students will receive their results on our mock results day which will take place on **Friday 6th January 2022**. Our **Year 11 Parents' Evening** will take place on **Monday 9th January** where you can discuss your child's results with their subject teachers. More details will follow around the logistics and joining arrangements for this parents evening.

Early Lunches

Due to the Year 11 mock exams, it will be early lunches from Monday 28th November up to and including Friday 9th December 2022. Lunch will be at 12.15pm Monday to Thursday and 12.25pm on Fridays.

Pastoral

7AR Celebrating their attendance award.

Mr Robinson is extremely proud of his form and their near perfect attendance. 7AR won the half term attendance award setting the standard for future forms to reach.

'We have definitely set a high benchmark for all forms in the school to try to attain. I do feel blessed that I have such a lovely form. It is an absolute delight to see the students every morning. We are on course for winning again this half term! Big thank you to Mr Willcock for our wonderful treats this morning.' Mr Robinson

'I love attending this school as all the teachers are caring and all the lessons are fun.' Taylor Jackson

'I really like that there are a lot of school clubs on every day to go to'. Harry Rothwell

'The best thing about this form is the students and our form teacher, Mr Robinson. it is fun and he makes me laugh. I also get to meet lots of kind people.' Chloe Robinson

'I like that in Mr Robinson's form we have good conversations, and you always feel welcome'
Niamh Graham

'Coming to Boteler every day means you are always learning new things' Kara O'Donnell

Personal Development

Music trip to "Sound City Music Festival":

Some of the Year 10/11 Music students will be visiting the pyramid centre next Friday 25th November to attend the Sound City Music Festival a Music careers event. This event is designed to inform and inspire 14-16-year old's with a passion for music, highlighting the many career opportunities there are within the music industry, and ways in which they can get started.

Careers/Post 16

Click on the following link which will take you to our careers page:

<https://www.boteler.org.uk/careers/>

Take a look at the 350 careers in the NHS, listen to the podcasts for parents/carers and see what apprenticeships are available for our Year 11 students.

The Parent Perspective Podcast – all about 'help' and how to move forward if your child has no idea what they want to do next.

Step into the NHS offers careers information and advice on the range of career opportunities, including finding work experience and jobs

<https://www.stepintothens.nhs.uk/>

<https://search.jobs.barclays/Apprentice-Events> – a series of virtual career events where you will get to experience life at Barclays and an exclusive view of their current Apprentice job opportunities for 2023.

Students from Years 8 – 11 are currently completing their evaluations for the school's career fair. All students in school have been emailed a 'Future Skills Quiz' to complete. This looks at what they already know regarding Post 16 options and what they still need to learn.

Please take a look at our career's platform 'Start' there are sections for students and parent/carers. Year 9 have been finding out about which jobs are associated with which subject and how much they could earn. <https://careers.startprofile.com/identity/Login>

Monday 21st: Warrington Vale Royal will be in at lunchtime in room 28 to support Year 11 with their post 16 applications.

Please donate:

The Student Christmas Fayre will be on Wednesday 14th December from 3.00pm – 5.00pm. If you would like to donate chocolate coins, Christmas chocolates, pamper things for our hampers for the raffle please drop off at reception. We are also looking for unused toys which could be recycled to another family this Christmas, these will go on the toy stall. Everything at the fayre will be 50p and under.

Following on from the Cadets assembly please take a look at where your nearest cadet Squadron is. <https://armycadets.com/find-a-detachment/>

Please find our extra-curricular programme here: <https://www.boteler.org.uk/bwc/>

Sport and Performance

Year 9 Football team march on in the Cheshire Cup. Mr Johnson's blue army beat Leftwich High School 6-1 in Round 2 of the FA Schools Cheshire Cup. A great win on a difficult pitch. Matthias L with 4 goals. Outstanding effort, well done. Middlewich High School await us in the next round.

Sports Fixtures

Wednesday 23rd November

Year 9 Football - Round 6 in the Warrington Schools League at Bridgewater 3 - 5pm

Year 10 Football - Round 6 in the Warrington Schools League at Culcheth High School 3 - 5.30pm

Year 8 Girls Football Tournament at Lymm High School 3 - 5.30pm

Boteler celebrates the World Cup!

Each form will be assigned a team competing in the World Cup (randomly selected). Our students will be given points based on their attitude to learning scores (ATL). Students representing a team (form) will pick up points every lesson. Points will be added up for the duration of the World Cup.

Every student can earn the following points:

ATL score of 1 (outstanding) = 3 points

ATL score of 2 (good) = 2 points

For example:

10CB draw England as their team, each lesson on day 1 all students in the form get an ATL score of '2'. There are 24 students in the form, therefore they pick up 48 points for that day.

Attitude is everything. Who will win our World Cup?

We will also be showing England's World Cup games, that fall over our lunch time, in the Hall:

Monday 21st November: England vs Iran 1pm kick off.

Why is our school part of the Oarsome Rowing Project?

As part of a developing relationship with Warrington Youth Rowing and partnering projects, trainee psychologist and PhD student at Liverpool John Moores University Scott Whitfield has begun to shed light on how rowing can be used as a vehicle to teach young people skills which can be used beyond the boat.

Scott's findings have highlighted how rowing provides a great opportunity to teach young individuals psychological skills such as emotional intelligence, resilience and problem-solving as well as social-cultural skills including: team-work, leadership and communication. His work is helping to support the development of coaches within the Warrington Youth Rowing programme to understand how they can highlight the development of these skills in young people more effectively.

Central to his findings is the understanding that coaches have an integral role in helping young people to develop their life skills. What has been surprising however, is that the students do not realise they are developing these skills until given the opportunity to reflect on their experiences of the rowing within dedicated focus groups. Likewise, most coaches have not been fully aware of the extent to which students were developing these skills.

Phase two of the initial research findings is underway, with Scott working closely with coaches and help them to integrate a life skill development focus into their sessions. In doing so, he and the coaches hope that young rowers can begin to recognise the skills they are developing as a result of their engagement in the sport, and learn to transfer these for use in other environments such as in school, work and in the community.

Working in time blocks to focus on specific themes, coaches will support better recognition of life skill development in young people, which will benefit them in both the short and long-term, preparing them for life in higher education or employment.

Thank you to Mrs Graham and all the coaches at Warrington Youth Rowing for providing the opportunity to our Year 8 students this year. Look out for January Indoor competition results and we will also prepare for the grand finale in June at the Warrington Schools Rowing Regatta on the water!

Have a lovely weekend.

With very best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Beverley Scott-Herron'. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Beverley Scott –Herron
Headteacher