

head'sherald

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Dear Parents/Carers

Teaching and Learning

Applying Knowledge and Skills

As you will know from previous correspondence we have placed a significant emphasis on strategies to improve knowledge retention in our lessons. These strategies are very well embedded and as always we look at the where the next gains are to achieve the best outcomes for our students. As WA1 assessments and mock exams loom for our students our emphasis has increasingly turned to 'application'. In assessments students have to write for longer periods of time. It is important that this is reflected in lessons in order to prepare students effectively.

Having knowledge and applying knowledge are two different skill sets. Being able to regurgitate facts is one thing but applying that information to a question which may demand a comparison, an evaluation or analysis is a different challenge. With this in mind teachers are more readily ensuring purposeful time is put aside for students to work for prolonged periods independently. In class this is known as 'task time'. A number of strategies have been shared with students to help 'scaffold' their application of knowledge but come assessment/exam time they are on their own so that staff have an accurate picture of what they both know and don't know. If you get chance please ask your child about the strategies shared with them in class such as PEEL, FAR, BUG, FIFA, sentence structure strips, metacognition etc.

KS3 WA1 Assessments

Students will be sitting their first Working At (WA) assessment of the year in all of their subjects during assessment fortnight (**Monday 14th November – Friday 25 November**). This may take the form of a test or an assessed piece of writing/practical piece of work. Students will be provided with revision material such as their Knowledge Organiser and revision lists giving details of the topics and content that will be tested. We are also encouraging students to take their workbooks home to revise. It is important that students look after their workbooks and check they have the correct books that are needed for the following day when packing their bags for school each evening. The expectation is that students spend time each evening preparing for the assessments. Constant revision and practice is the surest way to fully embed skills and knowledge required to secure strong achievement at KS4.

All tests will be classroom based and undertaken under exam conditions. It is important that students are used to working in this environment, so they are fully prepared for their examinations at Key Stage 4. Students are expected to be fully prepared for all assessments with the **correct equipment** which includes:

Pen

- Pencil
- Ruler
- Eraser
- Pencil sharpener
- Pencil case
- Scientific calculator

Assessment Timetable

Please review the WA assessment timetable for dates and times of the Maths, English and Science tests with your child. It is important that students highlight when the assessments in these subjects are scheduled to take place for their class. Class teachers will go over this with students in lessons and form tutors will also support students in form time. Students are responsible for updating their assessment timetable when class teachers give out information, as to when their test/assessments in all other subjects will take place. The results of the KS3 WA1 assessments will be emailed to parents/carers on Friday 9th December.

MFL - Linguagenut

The MFL department has subscribed to *Linguagenut*, which is an online language learning platform where homework activities will be set for the students to complete. All students have been given their usernames and passwords either the week before the half term break or this week. You can also download the *linguagenut* app from the App Store (Apple/iPhone) or the Play Store (Android/Samsung). Homework will be given once per fortnight and will take no more than 15-20 mins (KS3) and 30-40 mins (KS4). Any issues with logging on, please speak to Miss Cliff.

Personal Development Year 11

Wednesday 9th November from 5pm – 8pm at our Warrington campus, our college will be open for your Year 11 pupils, along with their family and friends, to explore their course options here at Warrington & Vale Royal College after leaving school. As always, please encourage those who are considering vocational courses, T Levels and apprenticeships to come along and find out more. They can also speak to our tutors and current students, as well as tour our fantastic facilities and specialist training centres in:

- Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering Training (AMET) Centre – www.wvr.ac.uk/amet
- Health & Social Care Academy – www.wvr.ac.uk/hasca (NEW for 2022!)
- Advanced Creative & Digital Skills (ACDS) Centre – www.wvr.ac.uk/acds (NEW for 2022!)

To attend, pupils **MUST** register in advance at: wvr.ac.uk/openevenings

Next week in Youth work week and TCAT Parliament are asking all students from across TCAT schools to support the festival. They would like each student to promise not to drop any litter during the week. This is in support of our environment and young people making change to climate one task at a time.

Tuesday 8th November

Year 8,9,10 and 11 will attend our careers fair in the hall. There will be 25 stalls for the students to talk to. Please encourage them to use their time well and gain as much information that they can about their options post 16.

Wednesday 9th November

Our very own TCAT Concert is at the Parr Hall from 6:30pm. If you would like to attend please buy your tickets from reception for £3

Friday 11th November

Remembrance Service will take place at 10:30. We welcome STB 'Old boys' back to school as well as local service men and women. STB Cadets, Student Leadership Body and St Elphins Primary School all help to lead the service along with our music department.

Performing Arts

On 19th October, Year 10 Performing Arts - Acting Students attended a performance of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' at the newly opened Shakespeare North Playhouse in Prescot. It was an amazing production, fast and furious with incredible performances, lights, sound and music. The Students were truly inspired by what they saw and were impressed with the beauty of The Cockpit Theatre space.

The show was created by 'Not too Tame' a Warrington based theatre company who are firmly founded on the belief of ' Theatre for All'. On November 4th the Students will be having a Zoom Q & A with the Artistic Director Jimmy Fairhurst to discuss the production.

Many Year 7 and 11 parents have already been ordering their child's photograph from John Hunt Photography following the photographs earlier in the year. A reminder that the photographs can be purchased by visiting <https://johnhuntphotography.gotphoto.co.uk/login> and entering your child's unique access code.

There will be a follow up session with the company Tuesday 22nd November for any students in Year 7 and 11 that have not had their photograph taken and wish to.

If you have any questions, please email Mr Leonard (jleonard@boteler.org.uk).

Sport

Rugby Players Excel

Congratulations to Chelsea Turner, Lewis Johnson, Samuel Lafferty and Joe-Paul Hannon on being presented with their Man / Made of Steel awards for their Rugby League season 2022. This is in recognition of their outstanding performance and commitment to the sport and their respective community clubs.

Football Success

Our Year 9 Football team are playing Leftwich High School on 16th November in the next round of the Cheshire Cup - good luck lads! Great to see you competing regionally.

Mr Burbidge sent a letter home to all parents and carers this week. If you believe your child qualifies for the below please do contact cburbidge@boteler.org.uk

We look forward to receiving your 'applications'.

Academy Sport+ Programme

Currently attending Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School are a number of students that are competing at a very high elite level within their sport. We are delighted to launch the Academy Sport+ programme, which will celebrate and provide students an opportunity to develop their performances for their respective sports, building on their

continued success.

We are looking for students from every sport e.g. horse riding, ballet, skiing, rugby, football, BMX, mountain biking, netball and water polo to name a few.

If your son/daughter are currently:

- Regional level representative
- Currently signed contract player for a professional football club
- Currently signed contract player for Rugby league or on a DP squad for Rugby union
- National or regional level competitor

To apply for the programme could you send the below information to cburbidge@boteler.org.uk by email **no later than Monday 7th November 2022**. If selected onto the programme parents and carers will be contacted and we will have a meeting regards the protocols for the programme.

Name and Form:

Sport:

Level / representative:

Sporting success: a brief summary

Sports Fixtures week commencing 7th November

Tuesday 8th November

Year 9 Football in the Warrington Schools League at Bridgwater High School

Wednesday 9th November

Year 10 Football in the Warrington Schools League at Culcheth High School

U16 Girls Football Tournament at Beamont Collegiate Academy

Thursday 10th November

Year 9 Touch Rugby Tournament in the Ball Hall 3.30 - 5pm.

PE Reward Trip to Manchester City FC

Our partners Hays Education have kindly invited 3 TCAT Schools to watch the Men's first team train at the Etihad Campus. Congratulations to George Mardare and Isabel Wills who will represent Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England High School for an unforgettable experience on Thursday 10th November. Both students have shown an excellent attitude to PE and have excelled due to their effort and passion for the subject.

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

With very best wishes



Beverley Scott –Herron

Headteacher