



November 2024

## **Autumn Updates**

Dear Families

We are now into our second half term, following a very long Autumn Term 1. Eight weeks is always the longest half term of the year, this one was action-packed and full of activity for our students. We have seen fantastic achievements from our students, from Duke of Edinburgh walks, Macmillan Cake Sales, sporting success, trips out and endless successes in the classroom.

### **Update on Leadership Roles**

You may have heard that I have recently taken up the post of Executive Principal across West Bromwich Collegiate Academy and Shireland Collegiate Academy. This is an extension of the work I have been doing across the Trust for the last three years, and I am supporting that Academy in addition to my work here.

To make this work, Mrs Henderson, who has been with us since day 1 and who has been serving as my deputy has been appointed to be Associate Principal. She is responsible for the running of the Academy on a day-to-day basis. I have not gone anywhere, in a way this is like having two Headteachers supporting the Academy; a place that we have poured our hearts and souls into over the last 6 years.

I am still responsible for the Academy as the statutory Principal but on the days where I am supporting elsewhere, Mrs Henderson has my absolute confidence to make the very best decisions for the students and will mean there is always somewhere you can turn to for support.

### **Year 11 Mock Exams**

Year 11 have demonstrated real dedication and resilience towards their mock exams so far and these continue this week and the first half of next week (not Monday). We are very much looking forward to seeing what results they have achieved. These results will be shared with students in a Mock Results Day that will take place before the end of this term.

### **Year 6 Fair Banding Tests**

If you have a child in Year 6 and they have applied for a place with us in September 2025, they will be invited to school to take a Fair Banding Test. These are taking place on Tuesday 19 and Wednesday 20 November from 3:45pm onwards. There will be a further date announced before the end of term for anyone who cannot make their appointment.

### **Year 7-10 Examinations**

Students in years 7-10 will also be taking some assessments in the next few weeks. Students have had sessions and assemblies on study skills and different ways to revise.



Students will be told when their assessments are, so please support them with preparing for these so they perform at their best.

### **GCSE Presentation Evening**

For the attention of families who had a 2024 Year 11 Leaver:

A reminder that our first GCSE Presentation Evening is taking place on Thursday, 28 November. It is being held next door to WBCA, at the Bethel Centre in their large auditorium.

All 2024 leavers should have received an invitation via email. We ask that students who are attending dress smartly and arrive from 5:30pm. The event will begin at 6pm sharp.

As the auditorium is so large, we do still have some seats available so please contact Miss Tolladay if you would like any additional seats, or if you and your child will be attending but you have not yet confirmed.

Please email [atolladay@wbca.shirelandcat.net](mailto:atolladay@wbca.shirelandcat.net) to confirm attendance.

### **Y10 Work Experience: Monday 30th June – Friday 4th July 2025**

A reminder that Year 10 students should be looking for a work experience placement. **The deadline for finding a placement and handing in the form to Mrs Evans (was Miss Adams) is Friday 11 April 2025.** New forms can be collected from main reception or can be downloaded from the WBCA website.

### **Gift and Present Collections – Donations Wanted**

Mr Nirwal from our Maths Department works closely with the Waheguru Foundation who are collecting presents for under privileged children. They are working with The Children's Society and Action for Children to provide gifts for under privileged children in care and in refugee services.

We are supporting him and this charity by collecting any toys/gifts that are suitable for children aged 6 months to 18 years old. The charities do require the gifts to be new as they will be provided as presents, and also ask that gifts do not include toy guns etc, as these cannot be accepted. If you would like to help this worthy cause, please bring any donations into main reception or send them into school with your child for the attention of Mr Nirwal. Any donations will be greatly appreciated!

### **WBCA Annual Christmas Fayre**

On Thursday 5 December we are holding our annual Christmas Fayre, from 4:30pm – 6:30pm. Come and meet Santa and Mrs Claus in our Immersive Grotto, and eat, drink, and be merry with all of the wonderful stalls on offer.

Our popular Tombola will be up and running again, this time, there are two versions. The Safeguarding Team will be raising money to provide gifts for children and families in need and the WBCA Prefect Team will be raising money towards their 2025 Prom. If you can support with small donations of prizes for either stall that would be really wonderful.

Also, if you, or a friend, family member or someone you know would like to have a stall at the fayre, please contact Ms Dey for more information. Stalls cost £10 and the stall holder will keep all of the proceeds.

Email [rdey@wbca.shirelandcat.net](mailto:rdey@wbca.shirelandcat.net)

All money raised from stalls that are run by WBCA students and staff will go directly into our school funds to support activities and projects in the new year.

Please share, and we look forward to seeing as many people as possible at the event.



### **Christmas Jumper Day**

To go alongside our Christmas Fayre, this year we are holding Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December.

Students are invited to wear a festive jumper and either pay £1 that will be donated to Save the Children or bring a bottle or gift for the tombola stall. Gifts should be new and must not contain alcohol or nuts.

### **Finally**

There are lots of exciting events coming up during the remainder of the term, and in the new year. There is a calendar on the next page for your reference, and we look forward to continuing to provide as many opportunities as possible for our young people.

Kind regards

Mr Faux  
**Principal**  
**Director of Secondary Education**

Mrs M Henderson  
**Associate Principal**

## 2024/25 Autumn Half Term 2 – Calendar

Activity	Date
Y6 Fair Banding Tests	19/20 November
Focus Day – All Years (to include Y7 CSI Science Day, Y8 India Experience and Y11 Geography Field Trip)	25 November
Y11 Mock Art Exam	27/28 November
Y11 SEN Careers Trip	27 November
Y10/11 College and Vocational Courses Taster Day	28 November
GCSE Presentation Evening	28 November
Exams and Assessments for Y7-10 Begin	2 December
Human Rights Day	3 December
Christmas Fayre 4:30pm – 6:30pm	5 December
Hippodrome Trust Showcase Event	5 December
<i>Computer Science Week</i>	9 December
Christmas Show	18 December
Last Day of Term – 12:30pm finish	20 December

*Events may be subject to change and more may be added as the term goes on.*



**Back to School: Monday 6 January 2025 at 8:40am for all students**