

29<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**Wixams Academy**



# Newsletter

## Greetings from the Principal

Dear Families,

I would like to start this week by highlighting our pastoral team here at the Academy. You will know that each year group has their own dedicated non-teaching Head of Year to keep students happy, safe and thriving. In year 7, we also have the amazing Ms Goodwin, who will remain as co-head of year when we appoint the new non-teaching Head of Year 7. This model of having a teaching and non-teaching head per year group will roll out over the next two years as the Academy expands. We also have Mrs Sanghera our attendance officer and our counsellors, Don and Tara. This committed team are here to help your children in any way they can and I would like to thank them for their hard work – please do not hesitate to contact your child's head of year in the first instance.

You should now have received a letter from Mrs Pearson asking if your child would like to volunteer for our Open Evening on the 17 October. Do please reply as soon as you can. Student volunteers bring the evening to life!

I wrote to you two weeks ago about the queuing at lunchtime. I am pleased to say that serving speed is increasing, giving students more time to eat and play. Thank you for your patience as we have implemented these changes.

Finally, I would like to wish Vicky Baden (English) and Amy Das (Learning Support) a good rest on their maternity leave and we look forward to meeting their new babies soon.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Spyropoulos'.

Paul Spyropoulos  
**Principal**

## Upcoming Dates

2 October	Disneyland Paris Parent Info Evening (6-7pm)
3 October	Sixth Form Criminology & Sociology Trip to UoB Sixth Form Design Trip to PressFab Engineering
10 October	Progress Review and Year 11 subject consultation day – <b>students at home</b>
17 October	Year 6 into 7 Open Evening ( <b>students home at 2.20pm, some back to volunteer</b> )
18 & 19 October	GCSE Dance Performances
20 October	Last Day of Half Term

## Your PTFA

### PTFA News

The Wixams Academy Parent Teacher Family Association (PTFA) is once again planning for the upcoming school year. The PTFA focuses on what students need to be successful in their learning while at the same time enjoying special activities throughout the school year. Last academic year the PTFA raised £267 to support the school. This year we are looking to be bigger and better!

If you or a family member think you could help with events / planning either on a one off or ongoing basis please get in touch via the email address below.

### [£££ Want to be our new treasurer? £££](#)

We are looking for a new committee member in the form of a treasurer. If you have excellent organisation skills and a head for numbers and would like to support the PTFA then please email [Claire.henry@Wixamsacademypta.co.uk](mailto:Claire.henry@Wixamsacademypta.co.uk).

The PTFA Team.



## History/Oxbridge Speaker Visit



Last week we had Shay Stone who is a second year History student at the University of Oxford visit to deliver a talk about studying history and studying at Oxbridge.

We had 15 students from KS4 and KS5 attended and Shay really articulated the importance of reading widely, revising early and getting stuck in to any opportunity given!

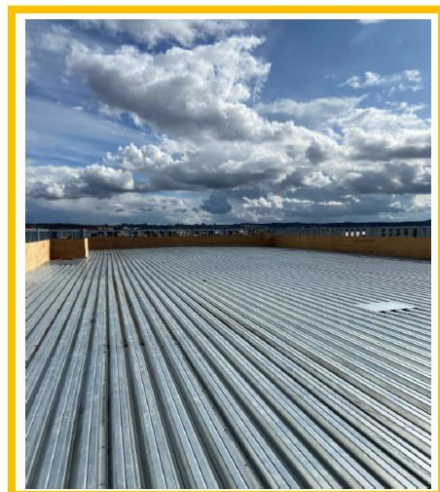
With special thanks to Mrs Crisp (RS) who facilitated Shay's visit.

Mr Craze ([rcraze@wixamsacademy.co.uk](mailto:rcraze@wixamsacademy.co.uk))  
Head of History



## Weekly Progress Pictures

WILLMOTT DIXON  
SINCE 1852



Roof parapet progress.



Z Bar installation in progress.



2<sup>nd</sup> floor slab fully poured and complete.

## Exam Stress Support

Hi there,

Our names are Laura and Christine and we are from the CAMHS Mental Health Support Team in Bedford. We are based weekly in Wixam's Academy offering mental health and emotional wellbeing support to pupils.

This new term we know that the year 11's will be preparing for exam season and this can be a stressful and anxious time for young people, parents/carers and staff. Therefore, we will be offering a lunch time exam stress drop in for year 11 pupils every Thursday. This will be a space for pupils to discuss any worries they have pertaining to exams. We will also provide useful resources and tips such as mindfulness exercises, self-care toolkits, study tips and more.

If your child or pupil is interested in attending these sessions, please feel free to encourage them to pop in for support or a chat.

Thank you, Laura and Christine

*& Holly Davies*

Mrs Holly Davies

Head of Year 11

# **Year 11 Exam Stress Drop In**

**Every Thursday  
Lunch Time  
In the Sanctuary**



**Worried about exams? Feeling  
stressed? Overwhelmed?**

**The Mental Health Support Team  
(MHST) will be offering a safe space to  
talk, listen and provide advice to  
support your wellbeing around exams.**