



Week Commencing 29th April 2024

I extend a heartfelt thank you to all the parents who joined me for the Meet and Greet Coffee mornings on Tuesday morning and after school. It was a pleasure to connect with parents from various year groups, sharing insights, and discussing our shared vision of excellence for all. Your valuable input regarding the challenges faced and the opportunities ahead is invaluable. I look forward to continuing our collaborative efforts to enhance all aspects of our school community.

This week, Mr. Mercel and I had the privilege of meeting with the Year 11 Junior Leadership team to discuss the future structure of the student leadership group for September. The constructive feedback provided by our student leaders has been instrumental in shaping our approach to making the Student Leadership Group more impactful. I am grateful for their thoughtful contributions and commitment to driving positive change within our school.

On Thursday, we were honoured to welcome Trustees from Knowledge Schools Trust, including Ms. Susie Hobart, Chair of Trustees, Mr. William Rollaston, Director of Trust and Chair of Governors at West London Free School, Mr Ian Hunter, CEO of Knowledge Schools Trust. During their visit, they had the opportunity to tour our school, engage with our student leaders, and observe our vibrant learning environment firsthand. The feedback received from our student leadership group reflects their positive impression of our visitors' genuine interest in our school community and their commitment to collaborative improvement.



As always, I remain committed to fostering a supportive and enriching learning environment for all our students. I appreciate your ongoing partnership and involvement in your child's education journey.

Warm Regards,



Nathaniel Wilson

Headteacher

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Year 12 7 a side football tournament at Kenilworth Road



Wixams Year 12 students have been lucky enough to have been offered the opportunity to take part in a 7-a-side football tournament at the home of Premier League (for now) club, Luton Town FC in partnership with the University of Bedfordshire.

On the 21st May the lucky few will travel to Kenilworth Road, compete in the tournament then enjoy a tour of Luton Town's stadium, there may even be the chance to meet some of their star players. I'm sure you will join me in wishing our team the best of luck. Hopefully this will be the first of many exciting collaborations to come.

I will of course share photographs, feedback and (hopefully) details of Wixams impending success in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Mercel", is written over a light blue grid background.

Mr R Mercel

Assistant Headteacher – Head of Sixth Form

Sporting News Update

Our Year 11 boys have clinched a spot in the plate final, winning through seven intense games without a single defeat. Their outstanding performance on the football pitch over the past few months truly speaks volumes about their dedication and skill. They've showcased outstanding football prowess, demonstrating why they deserve this spot in the final. The boys are on a mission to etch their names in Wixams history as the first football team to claim a trophy for our school. Your support means the world to them, so if you can, please join us in cheering them on. Below, you'll find all the details for the eagerly anticipated final match.

Year 11 boy's plate

FINAL - Tuesday 7th May

6.00pm kick off

Wixams vs. Etonbury

Venue: Kempston Rovers FC, Hillgrounds Road, Kempston, Bedford, MK42 8SZ



Our Year 9 football team has also secured a spot in the final! Despite navigating through a challenging group where they finished 2nd, the boys displayed remarkable resilience and determination. Their hard work paid off as they triumphed over the group winners of group 2, Redborne, with an impressive 2-0 victory in the semifinal. The boys now find themselves in the final with the opportunity to bring back a well-deserved trophy to Wixams. Your presence and support would mean the world to them, so if you can, please join us in rallying behind our talented team. Below, you'll find all the details for the upcoming final match.

Year 9 boy's Plate

Final Thursday 9th May

4:30pm Kick off

Wixams vs TBC

Venue: Kempston Rovers FC, Hillgrounds Road, Kempston, Bedford, MK42 8SZ



Well done to Gurdeep!

We are very proud of Gurdeep and her team for the charity work they do and for winning this prestigious award.



Akaal Seva is a group set up to do selfless service by the Local Sikh youth of Bedford, the group has been doing seva (selfless service) for about 10 years , there is a regular vegetarian curry night which we started as once a month and has recently gone up to twice a month , we serve a hot meal and teas / coffees to anyone in need , the 1st Sunday and last of each month food is prepared at the local Gurdwara and then taken to Pigeon square in town where it is served, Seva is a very important principle of the Sikh faith as Sikhs it is a very important part of our lives.

PTA message

WIXAMS ACADEMY PTA



SPRING FAYRE

Saturday 11th May

12 - 3 PM

FREE ENTRY

**Craft Stalls, Netball Tournament,
Tombola, Raffle, Ice-creams, Tuck Shop & More.....**

Wixams Academy, Green Lane, Wixams MK42 6BA

Any students wishing to support at the event should make themselves known to Mrs Pearson.

Sign up for the Netball Tournament is via a QR code – please see Miss Goodwin if you need help.

All proceed from the summer fayre will be going to the PE department to help them to raise funds for 4 trampolines.

WIXAMS
SPRING FAIR

ALL FUNDS GO
TOWARDS PE DEPT
TRAMPOLINES!



MIXED
NETBALL

TOURNAMENT
SATURDAY 11TH MAY

12-3PM

KS3 TOURNAMENT

KS4 TOURNAMENT

£2 PER PERSON (QR CODE ON SIGN UP FORM)

QR CODE TEAM SUBMISSION!

MAXIMUM 10 PLAYERS MINIMUM 7 PER TEAM

YOU MUST HAVE A MINIMUM OF 2 PEOPLE PER
GENDER. E.G. 8 GIRLS, 2 BOYS OR 6 BOYS , 2 GIRLS



Exams News

Exams update for KS3 and KS4:

Year 11

We are proud of how hard our Year 11 students are working in preparation for their GCSEs. Last week saw the PE, Drama and Art practicals. Art students completed 10 hours of work and the standard was amazing: "better than last year" was the comment from the Art department. This is praise indeed considering that last year's work was commended by the moderator.

This week the language speaking tests will be underway, with the first written exams in the Hall, starting with the Number and Measure and Algebra awards next week. The Maths department are pleased to support an amazing 70 students who have volunteered to take an additional qualification in Level 2 or Level 3 Algebra. Students have been working all year on a Friday after school towards this qualification and are now successfully completing past papers.

More information will go home early this week about the arrangements for revision sessions after half term.

Year 10

Year 10 had their exams assembly last week to help them understand the processes for the Maths, English and Science tests this week. Students will take these tests in the sports hall or dance studio under proper exam regulations. This will help prepare them for next year and allow our invigilators to get to know the students. We have found in the past that this practice helps reduce anxiety during the real summer GCSE exams in Year 11.

	Morning	Afternoon
Wednesday 1 st May	Science	Maths – non calculator
Thursday 2 nd May	Science	Maths - calculator
Friday 3 rd May	English	

Students will start lining up for these tests during tutor period at 8:40am in the morning. Please can we ask for your support to ensure that they arrive on time.

Year 10 were excellent this week while undertaking their first mock examinations. The practice has proved valuable to all in figuring out access arrangements and ensuring we are ready for the summer of 2025. I have been incredibly impressed with the maturity the Year 10s have shown this week and the level of effort they have put into these core exams. Please do congratulate them at home and look out for their reports at the end of the school year.

End of Year tests

Other year groups will be completing tests in classes. Subject areas are revising in class and setting revision tasks on Edulink, in time for these tests. There is no formal timetable, but your class teacher should make you aware of the date of the test via Edulink.

The test windows are:

Year Group	Scheduled tests
7/8	1 st – 24 th May
9	3 rd - 19 th June
10	Maths, English and Science 1 st – 3 rd May All other subjects 3 rd - 26 th June

Although we want our students to work hard and aspire, we do not want them to worry unnecessarily. These are end of year tests and are similar in format to all the other tests that they have completed in class throughout the year.

We wish all our students the very best during this test and exam period and as always will do everything we can to help them reach their full potential. If you have any concerns or queries, please contact your child's tutor. If you are in Year 11 and need exams information, then please contact the exams officer Mrs Morrin or Mrs Hepburn.

Assemblies this week

Week beginning Tuesday 7th May we will be continuing with our focus on the ½ term value of Respect. The assembly this week will look at how we can show respect to each other in our daily interactions as well as focusing on how to stand up for those who need our support.

We have been very proud at the Academy this week as one of our Year 13 students has delivered assemblies to most of the school about her journey with Tourette's Syndrome. Graces presentation was informative; challenging stereotypes and sharing her daily difficulties. The whole school was moved by her honesty in describing how her Tourette's has resulted in her experiencing prejudice and discrimination.

Thank you, Grace- Wixams Academy is proud to have you in our community and we think you will make an excellent ambassador for Tourette's awareness in the future.



Mrs L Pearson

Assistant Headteacher

Dates for your diary:

6 th May	Bank holiday – school closed
7 th May	GCSE/A level Exams start
8 th May	UNI trip for year 8 (3 tutor groups) Geography Trip – year 10 students
9 th May	UNI Trip for year 8 (3 tutor groups)
14 th May	Year 8 Vaccinations assembly
15 th May	Year 12 UCAS Evening 6-7.00pm
16-17 th May	Year 9 Bronze DofE Expedition
21 st May	Year 8 HPV vaccinations
22 nd -24 th May	Silver DofE Practise Expedition
27 th May – 31 st May	Half term
3 rd June	Students return to school