



WETHERBY THE ROUNDUP

ISSUE 2
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HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME

As we come to the end of the first term of this academic year I have the pleasure of sharing with you in this newsletter, just some of the highlights the students have been involved in this half-term.

You will see below, that as well as the important experiences we give students to support them with their academic progress, our children actively engage with the range of enrichment activities on offer. From House competitions, to theatre and sports trips and careers events. It is always a joy to see how they immerse themselves in school life.

A special well done needs to go to our Year 7 students who have completed their first full term with us at Wetherby High School. They have settled so well into the school community, building relationships, establishing strong learning behaviours and engaging in the opportunities the school offers.

I am sure all our children are ready for a much needed and well-deserved rest. We wish you all seasons greetings and look forward to welcoming children back on 6th January 2025.



HALF-TERM 2 REVIEW

WINTER SHOWCASE

It was lovely to see many students from all year groups display their music and drama talents during the Winter Showcase. The audience was treated to a medley of musical hits from 'Frozen' and 'Anastasia' and a beautiful drama piece focusing on the story of 'The Hare and the Bear'. The unique take on the nativity play was a real highlight and reminded all who attended of those primary school schools at Christmas time.

Well done to every single performer.



DIWALI CELEBRATION

Students celebrated the Hindu and Sikh festival of Diwali. Students were treated to a special meal of biryani and came together over lunchtime to design their own rangolis and lanterns. The best design for a rangoli went to **TOMLINSON** House!



TALENT SHOW

The annual Talent Show took display in the last week of the term. The whole school is so proud of all of the performers who displayed courage, skill and real talent during their performances. The winner of the Talent Show was: **Jake Buller - TOMLINSON.**

YEAR 10 MOCK EXAMS

The Year 10 students sat their first series of mock exams in November. Mock exams are a really important part of students' GCSE studies as they help them prepare for their real exams and allow teachers to celebrate with students the areas where they are successful and support them to close any gaps. Year 10 should be really proud of how they conducted themselves during the exams.

Well done!





HALF-TERM 1 REVIEW - CONTINUED

HOUSE COMPETITIONS: WETHERBY BAKE-OFF

Students competed in the annual bake-off challenge which saw students baking scones, muffins and bread. There was some serious culinary talent on display and all students who took part should be proud of themselves.



HOUSE COMPETITIONS: ART

Students were invited to take part in a landscape and portrait art competition. There were many outstanding entries in both categories, with Lilah M and Abi C taking the top prize.



HOUSE COMPETITIONS: DODGEBALL

Students from all year groups competed to be crowned the Dodgeball House Champions 2025. The winners this year were Trueman House!



COACHING THIS HALF-TERM

Our focus in Coaching this half-term has been on thinking about the communities that we live in, both in school and outside of school and reflecting how we can help others.



REMEMBRANCE DAY

As a school community we came together in our four Houses in assemblies which focused on why we commemorate Remembrance Sunday and the importance of reflecting on the sacrifice others have made to protect the freedoms we have in this country. Students designed their own poppies for a mosaic that is on display in the Humanities department.

WISE CHRISTMAS CARDS

Students designed and wrote their own Christmas cards for the WISE charity who then delivered them to older members of our local community who might be lonely this Christmas.



DEVELOPING CHARACTER - KINDNESS & EMPATHY

Students and their coaches have been discussing the importance of kindness and how, as a community, we show kindness and take every opportunity to be kind to each other. Part of the reason for this work, is working with children to understand how their actions can be perceived by others, especially in the world of social media, where actions and words can be misconstrued and misunderstood. Coaching provides this safe, inclusive and supportive environment for children to learn from each other and to be honest about their opinions and thoughts.



ATTENDANCE & ILLNESS

During these cold winter months children may feel unwell and will want to contact you at home.

We work with the children to know them well, so please can you advise them that if they feel unwell whilst in school they should speak with a member of staff first and that we will make arrangements with parents/carers if necessary to collect them. This ensures that we are aware of who, if necessary, to expect at the school gates, which in turn helps us to keep our site safe and safeguard our students.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN HALF-TERM 3 AT WETHERBY HIGH SCHOOL

HT3 Week 1 w/c 6th January	All students return to school at 9am on Monday 6th January.
	Online Learning set Monday 6th January
	House Competition: French cheese bush-tucker trials for Years 7/8/9 during Friday lunchtime.
HT3 Week 2 w/c 13th January	Year 7 Parents/Carers Evening on Wednesday 15th January, 4.00pm-7.00pm. You will be sent a letter about this with a link to book appointments.
	House Competition: French cheese bush-tucker trials for Years 7/8/9 during Friday lunchtime.
HT2 Week 3 w/c 20th January	Year 9 mid-term exams taking place in lessons throughout the week.
	House Competition: Tug of War for all year groups taking place during lunchtimes in the Sports Hall.
HT3 Week 4 w/c 27th January	Year 8 mid-term exams taking place in lessons throughout the week.
	School INSET day on Friday 31st January.
HT3 Week 5 w/c 3rd February	Year 7 mid-terms exams taking place in lessons throughout the week.
	Year 11 Food practical exams on Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday.
	Year 11 Music solo performance exam on Friday.
	Cultural Celebration Day for all year groups during lunchtime and coaching on Friday 7th February.
HT3 Week 6 w/c 10th February	Online Learning deadline Friday 7th February.
	House Competition: Binary Computing competition for Years 7/8/9 with Mr Bradford during computing lessons.
	Merit assemblies for all students taking place during lessons on Friday 14th February.
	School finishes for half-term at 2.20pm on Friday 14th February.

If your child would like any support in taking part in these events then please do speak to their coach.

HT3 - YEAR 11

When students return on Monday 6th January there will only be 67 school days left until the first written GCSE in May.

Half-term 3 is a crucial time for Year 11 students who will be:

- Completing and finishing their NEAs (coursework).
- Completing the GCSE Food practical exams.
- Completing the GCSE Music solo performance exams.

(More information will be shared about these exams and key dates with Year 11 parents/carers in due course).

YEAR 11 REVISION SESSIONS

Students are invited to attend the following revision sessions which will take place every week starting **w/c 6th January**.

These sessions will be led by the students' usual classroom teacher in their classrooms. These sessions are really helpful for students in consolidating their knowledge and revising alongside their teachers.

	Lunchtime (1.20 - 1.50pm)	After-school (3.20-4.00pm)
Mon		
Tues		Food
Wed	French	Art / Music
Thur		English / Drama
Fri	Science	

HT3 – KS3 MID-TERM EXAMS



Students in Key Stage 3 will be sitting their mid-term examinations in half-term 3 on the following dates.

YEAR 7: w/c 3rd February

YEAR 8: w/c 27th January

YEAR 9: w/c 20th January

For students in Year 7, this will be their first experience of a mid-term examination in each of their subjects, and it may feel a little daunting. However, their teachers and coaches will be there every step of the way to offer support and guidance. Sitting mid-term exams supports students in the following ways:

- It helps them understand exam procedures, such as managing a timetable and working under timed-conditions in a formal setting.
- It provides an opportunity for students to demonstrate what they've learned so far.
- It encourages time management, balancing study at school and Online Learning at home.
- Feedback from these exams highlights strengths and areas for improvement, guiding future learning and helping to close any knowledge gaps.

To help students feel supported and in control of their learning, we encourage them to:

- Continue to attend school every day and engage fully in their lessons.
- Complete any Online Learning and revision tasks to consolidate their knowledge.
- Ensure they have all the necessary equipment, including spare black pens, a full pencil case, and any subject-specific items like calculators for Maths and Science exams.



The exams will take place during students' normal lessons. The results of the exams will be shared with parents and carers at the next Meet Your Coach Day on **Wednesday 12th March**.

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

The majority of Year 10 students have now found and arranged their work experience placements.

The next steps are to:

- Contact your work experience placement to check what clothing you are expected to wear.
- Find out what time you will be starting work and what time you will finish each day.
- Ask your employer if you need to bring your own lunch or ask if you can buy food there.
- Think about how you will get to work – do you need to catch a new bus and if so what time will you need to be at the bus stop?

