



# The Westgate School

## Newsletter

Autumn Term 2 2020 Issue #2

### Governor's Welcome

A warm welcome from the Governing Body to our Westgate Community. It has been a very different year for all of us, where we have faced different challenges, but through everything, we have supported each other with care, kindness and compassion. We couldn't be prouder of our community, their resilience and determination, where we have all adapted and experienced a 'new normal' way of working and learning. It is a pleasure to have been appointed as the Chair of the Governing Body and I am pleased to have this opportunity to share with you our priorities:

*To strive to ensure all our students have the best possible education by removing barriers to learning.*

*To ensure the safety and wellbeing of everyone within our organisation is at the forefront.*

Behind the scenes as a governing team we are excited to have new members with diverse skillsets, to ensure #betterneverstops. Although the team have not yet been able to meet in person, we have adapted and found a new virtual way of working, ensuring the quality of education remains a priority. We look forward, in the near future, to being able to meet staff, students, parents and carers. On behalf of the Governing Board, we would like to say thank you to everyone for all of their hard work and wish everyone a Happy, Healthy Christmas and prosperous year ahead with loved ones. We look forward to welcoming the #WestgateCommunity in the new year and providing our students with every opportunity to be successful so that they achieve their very best.

Susan Watts Chair of the Governing Body

### Our Community Champions

We are proud to announce that our Westgate Community Champions are:

Hatim A Year 7  
Leisha P Year 8  
Anzar Z Year 8  
Nisola O Year 9  
Eman S Year 10

Krystal M Year 7  
Aarush B Year 8  
Martyna K Year 8  
Gurleen D Year 9  
Maya W Year 11

### Christmas Drama Showcase

The Drama department are spreading some Christmas joy with their first ever virtual Christmas Drama Production! Organised by our new teachers: Miss Annesley (Drama) with editing and lighting support from Miss Edwards (Media), Key Stage 3 students have been performing sketches which are now on our school website!



Miss Annesley has said "It has been so exciting to see the talent we have here at The Westgate School!".

<https://www.westgate.slough.sch.uk/news/?pid=49&nid=4&storyid=1446>

### Introducing...

## Westgate's new Head Boy & Head Girl



Adrian Ciesielski Liberty Carpenter



### Help & Advice

Local and National  
support available:

[www.publichealthslough.co.uk/  
campaigns/one-slough](http://www.publichealthslough.co.uk/campaigns/one-slough)

[www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

[www.samaritans.org](http://www.samaritans.org)

[www.slough.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.slough.foodbank.org.uk)



Hands



Face



Space

"Miss Root for always making class engaging and I've been learning a lot." *Abigail L Year 10*



"Mr Shepherd because he is very good at teaching P.E. and his lessons are very fun." *Jakub S Year 9*

"Mrs Ndlovu is my A-Level Finance Accounting teacher. I was finding the subject quite difficult at the start of the year and was feeling nervous for the mocks however Mrs Ndlovu was really supportive and helped with all my worries which allowed me to get a good mock grade and predicted grade for UCAS and has made the subject much easier." *Amrit G Year 13*

"Mrs Choudhry has kept a high level of standard in my lessons which has given us structure." *Benson R Year 12*

"Mr Hart always listens when you speak to him and he makes lessons enjoyable and fun." *Kian H Year 8*



"Miss Williams is a great teacher and I really enjoy all of her lessons." *Jess U Year 8*

"Mr Jury is a great form tutor and always makes registrations fun. I really like his optimism and outgoing energy" *Cassady B Year 11*

"Miss Annesley because she always manages to make drama lessons fun and I find them really enjoyable." *Olivia P Year 9*

"Mr Piemontesi has really helped me increase my grade in English since having him from year 10. I love his style of teaching and he cares about his students." *Zanib Y Year 11*

"Miss Swift and Miss Mistry have really steered me in the right direction and helped me a lot during the term." *Alex O Year 13*



"Mr Barber because he is so passionate in his lessons and always go the extra mile." *Aicha B Year 12*

"Mrs Mansbridge for helping in the library and holding down the fort." *Aarush B Year 8*

"Miss Bennett for her organisation in ensuring all students could sit their mocks during this difficult time." *Mrs Akram*

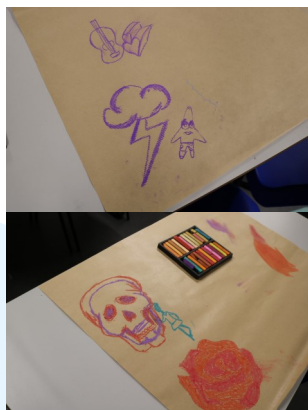


	7	8	9	10	11
McGowan	Kevin 44 pts	Martyna 59 pts	Lauren 52 pts	Connor 35 pts	Vaseeharan 24 pts
Peters	Zuzanna 39 pts	Natalia 75 pts	Aqsa 48 pts	Jayden 29 pts	Cameron 18 pts
Hackett	Zain 41 pts	Manjot 61 pts	Sana 48 pts	Ubaid 44 pts	Jake 20 pts
Thomas	Jayan 63 pts	James 61 pts	Ayaan 45 pts	Dinel 41 pts	Reece 21 pts

Have your say

## Year 11 Taster Week

During this half term, Year 11 have started their post-16 choices process. This has consisted of our first virtual open evening, a marketplace activity that allowed students to speak with current sixth formers in specific subjects and concluded with 'Taster Week'.



Taster Week was an opportunity for Year 11 students to attend short sessions led by subject leads, which provided key information before they embark on their application submission. As a school we are committed to providing the students with the knowledge to make informed decisions about their futures, which these strategies compliment.

## A message from *Our Site Team*

With Christmas and New year approaching, our Health and Safety Officer Mr Newport shares some Covid safety tips:

From 23 December to 27 December, you may choose to form a Christmas bubble. This 'bubble' will be able to spend time together in private homes, including second homes and caravans, to attend places of worship, or meet in a public outdoor place. Please see link as rules may change daily <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/making-a-christmas-bubble-with-friends-and-family/making-a-christmas-bubble-with-friends-and-family>

Fresh air is safer air-open doors and windows to get a flow of air through the house.

Staying 'firework safe' is always important when celebrating New Years Eve and this year it's vital to stay Covid-safe.

Wishing all our Staff, Students  
and Parents a Safe and Joyous

**HAVE A COVID SAFE  
CHRISTMAS**

# 2020

by anonymous

We welcomed 2020  
With our usual joy and cheer  
But little did we know  
It wouldn't be a normal year

Along came a pandemic,  
That nobody expected  
It was frightening and unheard of  
Completely "unprecedented"

Although we felt alone,  
We were all in it together  
We would make it through as one,  
It couldn't last forever

We were told to stay at home  
Where we could all be safe  
And if we did have to go out  
Remember "hands, face, space"

We thanked our frontline workers  
And clapped our NHS  
For their hard work and their courage  
In times of fear and stress

We realised what's important,  
The things we take for granted  
Our health, our friends and family  
And those sadly departed

Now we're nearing Christmas  
With a vaccine on its way  
We hope that it will do it's job  
And keep the virus away

Christmas won't quite be the same  
But we remain filled with hope  
We remember 2020  
As the year we stayed at home.

**Talent within #TeamWestgate**

## Photography Competition Winners

2nd



Mr Piemontesi

1st



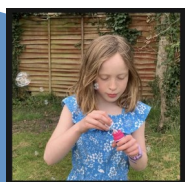
Manveer K P  
Year 7

3rd



Miss Meston

## Runner ups



Miss Jellis



Fozan A  
Year 8



Miss Moore



Mrs Miller

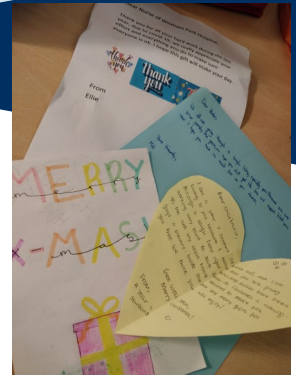
Thank you to everyone  
who entered the  
'Celebration Through  
The Lens' competition.  
Keep an eye out for  
more competitions  
coming soon!



# Half Term Highlights

## Letters to the Elderly

Year 8 students have been working on the Big Idea of 'communication' which encompasses skills to enable them to become an effective communicator, resilient learner and analytical thinker. In doing so, they have hand written letters as an act of kindness to residents in care homes. These letters were delivered to Nicholas House in Burnham and the elderly were so touched and happy. This small act of kindness goes such a long way in equipping our students with acts of compassion and care through their communication.



Mrs P Dhillon Head of Westgate6

## Westgate's Christmas Charity Fundraiser 2020 *Helping those who are helping others.*

At a time where we focus on spending time with family and friends, there are many people who will be working tirelessly in the NHS and unable to do this; instead, they'll be spending Christmas looking after other people's loved ones.



That's why, this year, Westgate asked students to come together and donate gifts to fill shoe boxes to help nurses, doctors and patients in our local area (Wexham Park Hospital) enjoy rest whilst either working or recovering in hospital. In true Westgate spirit, the students did not let us down; as a school we are overwhelmed by the generosity shown by our students and are so proud that because of them, we can support those in our community who deserve it the most.

Thank you to all students who donated this year and thank you to those who have worked tirelessly this year to ensure those in our community have received the care and support that they needed in what has been unprecedented times. Have a wonderful rest and most importantly, a very Merry Christmas.

Miss C Williams Year 7 Director of Learning



The school community would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge how amazing Paul Newport (H&S Manager) and his site team have been. They have worked tirelessly to ensure the health and safety of all staff, students and visitors is a priority.

Also, a special thank you to all our office staff and support staff who deserve equal recognition for their professionalism and commitment, particularly during this difficult time.

**"Thank you to every one of you."**

## Key Events

**December 18<sup>th</sup>** Hanukkah is the Jewish festival that celebrates the early victory in the Maccabean revolt against the Seleucid Empire. It is observed for eight nights and days, starting on 10th December this year.

**December 25<sup>th</sup>** Christmas day celebrates the nativity and birth of Jesus Christ. It is preceded by the season of Advent, which starts four Sundays before the 25th and acts as period of preparation for Christmas Day.

**January 1<sup>st</sup>** New Years Day

**February 12<sup>th</sup>** Chinese New Year— Year of the Ox

**February 14<sup>th</sup>** Valentine's Day



*We wish all our Westgate community seasons greetings and a Happy New Year.*