

Fortnightly Headteacher Update January 2024

Hello to all of our families,

It has been another great week here at West Exe. In the last few days, we have seen everything from mysterious detectives taking over the library to year 6 taking over the courts for the latest round of the netball league. Not only that, but our year 7 football team delivered a convincing 3-0 win against Isca in their very first fixture!

Year 11 have also been their very best Exe this week, with early course work results released from the exam boards allowing them to celebrate their hard work from last year and the success it delivered. What a week!



This year, we are encouraging students to make 2024 a year of opportunities. Whether it is marching across the moors for Ten Tors, visiting our local primaries as part of our student leadership teams or picking up a good book and getting lost in an amazing story, there is so much to choose from. We are always keen to provide the widest range of opportunities possible for the students, so if you have any ideas for The Electives or school clubs, do let us know. We'd love to hear from you.

Finally, and above all, have a wonderful weekend and we look forward to seeing everyone back here next week.

Best wishes.

Julie

Celebrations

Our students have had a strong start back to school this term, with impressive attendance and real pride in Focus week this term.

Yr11 Mock language exam was successful following postponement due to cold weather.

We have our biggest elective offer ever with new partnerships getting involved: Self Defence, Climbing - @The Hangar, Kindness in the community - delivery of the Antibullying programme, Well-Being and Mindfulness - bespoke programme to target vulnerable students, to name just a few.



Whole School Info

Students have started their new cycle of electives.

To help support students to remember to bring back their loaned item of uniform we look after their phone until the end of the school day. We hope this will keep our loan uniform stock high so we can continue to provide this to students when they need it.

West Exe Baccalaureate will be holding a holocaust remembrance for Yr8-11 on Monday, 22 January 2024.

We have been notified by DCC Highways that the subway footpath in Alphington Road between the junctions of Church Road and Cowick Lane that were flooded over the New Year holiday and have been closed since on safety grounds, will need to remain closed due to the damage caused by the flooding. They have sent the following advice: 'We know that the subway is the chosen route for many of your students and that the closure is impacting on their travel to school. It has been observed that some pedestrians are choosing to cross Alphington Road near the subway where there isn't a designated crossing point. We would recommend that pupils use the crossing points by the Alphington Rd/Cowick Lane/Marsh Green Rd West junction. This crossing is big and not quick to cross using the crossing facilities, but it is clearly the safer option.'

Upcoming Events

Jazz Concert alongside musicians from Exeter College at WES 2, February 2024
Our School Production of 'Be our Guest' in March, more info follow.



Year 7 – There is still time to sign up to exciting opportunities that are available to our Year 7 students as part of our enrichment week activities during the week of 15-19 July 2024 as per letter sent 11 December 2023, sign up remains open via MCAS if you haven't done so already.

Our students have shown great spelling action in our Literacy Spelling Bee competition this week.

Year 8 – Our students continue to experience life at school as a receptionist. Murder Mystery in the library has been a great success this Literacy Week.



There is still time to sign up to exciting opportunities that are available to our Year 8 students as part of our enrichment week activities during the week of 15-19 July 2024 as per letter sent 11 December 2023, sign up remains open via MCAS if you haven't done so already.

Year 9 – Students have started cycle 2 of their options and are well under way in exploring their chosen subjects.

Duke of Edinburgh practice walks will be taking place in preparation for students working towards their bronze award.

There is still time to sign up to exciting opportunities that are available to our Year 9 students as part of our enrichment week activities during the week of 15–19 July 2024 as per letter sent 11 December 2023, sign up remains open via MCAS if you haven't done so already.

Year 10 – Work Experience – It is really important that all students who have secured a work experience placement fill in the 'Confirmed Placement' form which can be found on the Yr10 Work Experience Google Dashboard. Students should see their tutor if they are unsure. For more info [click here](#).

The deadline for students to have received confirmation of a work experience placement by Friday, 16 February 2024.

Ten Tors – there are practice walks coming up this term which will help students to prepare for the walk in May.

Year 11 – Final college applications are being completed in tutor time. Revision guide info can be found [here](#).

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday, 25 January 2024 for Subject Evening.