



The Westcliff Diary

T: 01702 475443 E: office@whsb.essex.sch.uk W: www.whsb.essex.sch.uk

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FROM THE DESK OF THE HEADMASTER

Summer Term Examinations

For our students in Year 11 and the Upper Sixth this is their final School Term, and in the coming weeks they will be taking their respective public examinations. For some pupils the prospect of GCSE or A Level Examinations can generate some stress, and even anxiety. Whilst lower levels of stress and apprehension can be positive and necessary for effective performance, it is important to ensure strategies are in place to keep any stress to a minimum, and to eliminate anxiety wherever possible.

Through our Assembly programme and the superb work of my colleagues, the pupils should be well prepared for their examinations, and equipped with the necessary strategies to manage their preparation well. It is important that no student suffers alone with anxiety, and that they have the confidence to seek support wherever that may be required. I would like to remind all pupils that the staff in our Pastoral Offices are on hand to offer additional support and guidance where needed, and pupils should not hesitate to ask for assistance should they feel it is necessary.

Internal End of Year Examinations are on the programme this term for other Year Groups, and these provide important opportunities for pupils and their teachers to assess progress to date. I would like to thank my colleague Mr Manning, Second Deputy Head, for sharing through these pages his thoughts on the value and importance of those examinations.

As we begin the Summer Term, I would like to wish all students taking GCSE and A Level Examinations the very best of luck with their preparations, and in their examinations when the time arrives. Equally, I wish all other Year Groups well as they prepare for the Internal Examinations. Please seek guidance from your subject teachers and pastoral staff should you feel in need of support.

Pupils' Wellbeing and the Importance of Participation

Readers of *The Westcliff Diary* each term will be in no doubt as to the strong emphasis the School places on the

need for pupils to participate in a wide range of activities, clubs, societies, and other opportunities available to them through the School. A pupil's personal development is considered by the School to be just as important as a pupil's intellectual development.

In this regard, we continue to provide pupils and their families with this termly publication in hardcopy format too, with the intention that *The Westcliff Diary* remains readily accessible to all in the home, and that it is revisited and discussed by families throughout the School Term as opportunities for pupils' personal development are considered. Pupils' studies at WHSB are fast paced and we have high expectations of pupils in relation to their engagement in lessons, and their intellectual curiosity beyond teaching through independent study. Therefore, it is important that a healthy balance exists between study, relaxation, and social interactions.

There is much evidence to link high levels of participation in clubs, events, and other opportunities for socialising, with mental fitness. As in previous editions, and as we begin the new School Term, I would urge parents to encourage their child to engage with a wide range of opportunities offered through the School. In my experience, high levels of participation support personal development, through social interactions, improving one's understanding of others' perspectives and opinions, exploring and

gaining new skills, increasing confidence, and in broadening one's general education and knowledge in wide-ranging fields.

Parents will no doubt be aware, either from viewing the recent psychological crime drama television series *Adolescence*, or from the surrounding media coverage, of those significant psychological and societal challenges highlighted and faced by young people today, not least the concerns regarding high levels of online activity. It is important that the School and parents work together to encourage in our pupils a strong commitment to participation in School and other valuable activities, and a readiness to take opportunities for face-to-face contact with peers.

Many of our evening events are also open to parents and friends of the School and, again, I would urge parents to show their support and attend at least one event per term, along with their child. Our efforts to expose pupils to a broad range of Music and Drama include our Cultural Awareness project for our younger pupils in the Lower School, details of which are made available to families each term.

Fundraising Efforts

On the matter of extra-curricular clubs, activities, and other opportunities, thanks to the commitment and hard work of the staff at WHSB, and others in our School community, our pupils are privileged to access a truly diverse and enriching programme throughout each academic year. As public funding for schools declines in real terms, it is becoming increasingly challenging for the School to supply teaching and extra-curricular materials and equipment to the high standard to which we are so accustomed at WHSB.

There are a number of ways in which parents, Old Westcliffians, and friends of the School can offer donations and other financial support to the School,



to benefit our current and future pupils. I am grateful to Mr Rothon, our Director of Finance and Accounting, for sharing further details within the School Development and Fundraising pages of this edition, and please do offer your support wherever you are able. Thank you in anticipation of that assistance.

Project to Replace the School Roof

I am pleased to share with the School community that, to date, the project to replace the Main School roof has progressed well, and the new pitched roof is now complete, and within budget.

Regrettably, we received news recently that the contractor, Breyer, who completed that work has fallen victim to the economic climate and has gone into administration. Fortunately for the School, there is only a very small section of the flat roof to complete, and arrangements are already underway with an alternative contractor appointed by the administrator to complete that work within the original plans and budget. More difficult, however, is this news for Breyer's contractors who have found themselves without work. I would like to record my sincere thanks to them for the superb standard of work completed, for their professionalism in ensuring the project continued almost to completion despite the challenges they were clearly facing, and for their cooperation and support during site meetings throughout the project. The School wishes them well in moving forward from this difficult situation.

Thank you

Remaining with matters of participation, and fundraising for materials and equipment, I would like to offer my thanks to the WHSB Parents' Association. Its members have given outstanding service once again this year, both in supporting our School events and organising

opportunities for raising funds to support our pupils, and through their generosity in donating funds towards much needed materials and equipment for use in a variety of educational contexts. Please do visit the Parents' Association page of this edition of *The Westcliff Diary*, through which Mrs Ghauri, our Parents' Association Chair, has shared details of some of the support they have provided recently, in a variety of important areas and subjects. The page also contains contact information should any parent wish to join the Parents' Association, and please do consider becoming involved, as that support would be greatly appreciated and valued.

As we enter the final term of this academic year, we shall be saying farewell to our Upper Sixth students, and wishing them well with their future plans for education and employment. Through this edition, I would like to take the opportunity to thank our School Captain, Rafael Gamma, and his Vice-Captains, Freddie Dawson, Edith Jefferson, Jamie Knights and Quinn Williams. Rafael has given superb service and commitment

to his role as School Captain, and he has been most ably supported by the Vice Captains. Each one of these young people is an impressive role model for our younger pupils, through their tireless engagement with their School community, and through our Learner Profile values which they promote and uphold. I am also grateful to the many Prefects, Mentors, and House Captains who give their time and support in the interests of further strengthening our School community.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr Jeffreys, Associate Assistant Head, for his work in support of the editing and production of *The Westcliff Diary*. Much of work involved in producing the Diary is carried out on a voluntary basis to minimise associated costs, and we are grateful for the support we receive. Of course, without the hard work and commitment of our wonderful staff who fill *The Westcliff Diary* with the opportunities listed, there would be no Diary, and on behalf of the entire School, I would like to thank them all.

Headmaster



SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT AND FUNDRAISING

As the content of each edition of *The Westcliff Diary* clearly demonstrates, WHSB pupils participate in a wide range of deeply enriching activities, both curricular and extra-curricular. The School considers these activities core to its mission of developing both intellect and character in each of our young people. This mission is represented by our Learner Profile, which underpins everything the School delivers. It is important that we all understand that financing such activities, in particular extra-curricular provision, presents an increasing challenge to State Schools, and WHSB is no exception; our budget is under significant pressure and, inevitably, it will be in the areas of extra-curricular activity that the pressure is most felt. The School is therefore seeking alternative sources of income to relieve the impact of already stretched budgets. The following are ways in which our parents, alumni, friends of the School, and local companies may be able to assist. Thank you for any support you are able to offer.



Donating to the Pupil Fund

The School should like to thank all those parents and others who have previously donated or continue to donate to the School's Pupil Fund. As well as funding equipment for classrooms and laboratories, and books for the Library, the Pupil Fund has supported activities and pursuits including Engineering, Computing, Sport, Music, Drama, and the School's Combined Cadet Force. Donating to the Pupil Fund is a straightforward way of making a one-off, or regular, general contribution towards these enriching activities.

Further information can be found at:

whsb.essex.sch.uk/useful-information-for-all-parents/pupil-fund

Donations should preferably be made by setting up a standing order via your online banking, using the account details below.

Lloyds Bank Sort code: 30-97-84

Account number: 34480360

Account name: Westcliff High School for Boys

Alternatively, you can download a standing order form which can then be completed and submitted to your bank:

www.whsb.essex.sch.uk/finance

Any questions regarding these arrangements may be sent to the School Bursar at darbyn@whsb.essex.sch.uk

The School is also able to accept donations by cash, cheque, ParentPay, or bank transfer directly, preferably accompanied by a Gift Aid form (if applicable). Gift Aid enables the School to benefit by a further 25% of voluntary donations given, so do please remember to complete the Gift Aid Declaration form if you are an eligible UK taxpayer www.whsb.essex.sch.uk/finance. It is important that parents understand that there is no obligation to make donations, and that all pupils can access our provision equally, regardless of whether or not their family chooses to contribute.

Targeted Appeals

In the Autumn edition of The Westcliff Diary we launched two targeted appeals, to enable parents, alumni, or other supporters of the School to donate towards the projects outlined below. Funding for schools has been in serious decline over the past 10 years, with many schools now in a budget deficit position. At WHSB we continue to manage our finances carefully, but without your help, delivery of these projects will be delayed at best, and may not prove to be possible at all. In the months since Autumn

2024, the pressing need to raise funds for these projects, in particular the Athletics facility, has grown.

Athletics Facilities and Equipment

In order to maintain the School's outstanding record of achievement in regional and national athletics competitions, significant investment in our athletics facilities will be required. The 'tartan' specialist running / long jump track requires full replacement and, together with associated equipment replacement, the sum we need to raise is £50,000. Clearly, this is a significant sum, and sizeable donations (from whichever source) can be discussed with the Headmaster by contacting his Personal Assistant, or with myself rothons@whsb.essex.sch.uk.

The tartan facility is not merely a 'nice to have' providing our competitive athletes with a specialist training surface for long-jump, high-jump, hurdles, and other athletics pursuits; it also effectively serves as an outdoor classroom for use by all our students, acting as a general-purpose facility for Physical Education lessons, thus contributing to students' general fitness and wellbeing.

We thank Old Westcliffian Max Cole, and his father Anthony, Co-Chair of Governors at WHSB, who took on the ambitious challenge of climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, Northeastern Tanzania in September 2024, to launch this appeal. Now we are asking our alumni community, parents, and friends of the School to please contribute in whatever way they can.

Playground Facilities

The School would like to install shelters (for use in rain and sunshine) and increase seating provision around playground areas, improving the break and lunchtime experience of our young people and promoting a positive, social ethos. To provide sufficient shelter and seating provision, as sum of £30,000 is required. The School has the facility to accept donations by parents via Parent Pay (parents should have received Parent Pay notifications) and, when selecting an appeal you wish to support, please also select the appropriate Gift Aid preference (with Gift Aid, or without).

Anybody without a Parent Pay account and wishing to donate should please contact myself rothons@whsb.essex.sch.uk directly or via Reception – arrangements for donations can be made easily. If you prefer, you may wish to contact the Headmaster, through Mrs Holley, PA to the Headmaster. All enquiries are treated in the strictest confidence, and any donations can be respectfully publicised or kept anonymous, as the donor may wish.

Corporate Sponsorship

The WHSB community now has almost 1,300 pupils and their families, around 140 staff members, and thousands of Old Westcliffians who read our publications, attend our events, and follow us on social media. We would like to offer your business or organisation the opportunity to advertise in this termly School Magazine, The Westcliff Diary (distributed in both hard copy and digitised versions), and in the programmes printed for the multitude of events taking place throughout the School year, including Annual Speech Day, Sports Day, and numerous dramatic and musical productions and concerts. Annual advertising costs, to feature in each of the three termly issued editions of The Westcliff Diary throughout the academic year, are noted here (right)

In addition, our corporate sponsors will be prominently name-checked in each of our event programmes. For further information, please contact Mr S Rotheron (Director of Finance and Accounting), Mrs D Holley (the Headmaster's Personal Assistant), or Mrs J Clarke (Community Development Assistant), on 01702 475443.

Thank you for your support.

Corporate Advertising Quarter Page Advert	£275
Corporate Advertising Half Page Advert	£500
Corporate Advertising Full Page Advert	£800 (three-year commitment £2,000)

Mr S Rotheron, Director of Finance & Accounting

CAPTAIN'S LOG



It is that time of year when, for some, those dreaded public examinations are looming ever closer. For us in the Upper Sixth, it is also a time when we look back with fondness and nostalgia at our time at school and reflect on how much WHSB has done for us.

I remember the first time I walked into Westcliff and feeling like I had just wandered into Hogwarts.

I remember the big, scary corridors feeling so different from my old school. After being a fairly mischievous child at primary school (would you believe!), I was keen to start afresh, and to get involved in everything that Westcliff had to offer. This first led me to Drama.

My first experience on stage was as the innocent Perceval Maddison in *Lord of the Flies*, and since then I have been part of 20 Drama productions, just recently closing off with the thoroughly enjoyable *Madness of George III*. Memories like the Centenary Dinner in 2020, the Edinburgh Fringe in 2023, and the outstanding *Les Misérables* will certainly stay with me for a very long time. I have also made amazing friendships that I would not have otherwise made had I not been part of the Drama group. I recommend all of you to step out of your comfort zone and do something at Westcliff that you might really enjoy.

I was also part of the student cohort which lived through the unprecedented time of remote learning during the Covid pandemic. I remember the excitement the School was feeling in its Centenary Year, and the vast array of commemorative events that had been planned. Although many of these sadly did not come to pass, I think the School showed itself at its very best at that time in rising to the challenges that we all faced. We adapted and grew from the experience; and it just goes to show that if we have made it over 100 years, we can definitely make the next 100 too.

As the School slowly made its way back to normality in 2021, it was time for me to swap my school shoes for combat boots and join the CCF. This was, without doubt, one of the best decisions I have made. It has taken me from being a follower to a leader, and I now have the pleasure of teaching younger cadets the skills and attributes that I learnt from my predecessors. Some of my peers who have been through the CCF are now taking steps to join the Army, and I wish them all the best on that front. For all of us, our experience through the CCF has undoubtedly provided us with the essential life skills of teamwork, self-reliance, and a sense of duty and responsibility that will be key to our future success.

I made my debut on Westcliff's music scene in Year 9, in a virtual Chamber Concert that was published on YouTube. While I quickly felt at home on stage, there was something about playing an instrument in front of a live audience that, at the time, made me feel very nervous. A slip of the tongue felt more recoverable than a slip of the keys! That said, I never looked back, and I continue to perform to this day in Assemblies and Chamber Concerts. I thoroughly recommend not only attending our School's outstanding musical events, but also taking part. It was not easy when I first started, but it is more so now.

It might seem that WHSB's extra-curricular program can be defined by the 'Big Four' of Sport, Drama, Music, and the CCF. But please remember there is so much more that you can get involved in. It is the lunchtime clubs and societies that are also immensely important to extra-curricular life here, and the chance to set up a new club or society is always open to you.

As I approach the end of my time at WHSB, I wish the next School Captain and Senior Prefects the very best of luck. Make sure you balance your time, stay organised, and give yourselves a break when you need to. Treat it like a service; a chance to give back to a school that has done so much for you, whilst never forgetting the importance of your schoolwork and your examinations.

In this, my final Captain's Log, I would like to thank all my teachers for the help, insights, and experiences you have given me. I owe an enormous debt to the School and will remain connected to it through the Old Westcliffian Association. I look forward to coming back to watch future Drama productions, catch up with the CCF, and to share my experiences of university and career with current students. But for now, it is goodbye from me and I hope you enjoy your years at the School too.

Raffael Gamma, School Captain

PRODUCTION OF *LES MISÉRABLES*, MARCH 2024



In rehearsal



Celebrating after the Show



Attending the National School Theatre Awards Ceremony, June 2024

THE HOUSE SYSTEM AT WHSB

House Events and the Phoenix Cup

This term has been incredibly busy for the House System and a wide range of activities has taken place. We are fortunate that we have a superb team of staff, the Heads of House supported by Upper Sixth Student House Captains and Vice Captains (see table below).

At the end of term in July, House Points will be totalled, and a special Assembly called the Phoenix Cup Assembly will take place. Prizes will be awarded in academic, sporting, and extra-curricular areas. The four new Lower Sixth House Captains for the academic year 2025-2026 will sit on the stage in front of the whole School. They will each read a speech reporting on successes from the past year and plans for their respective Houses for the future.

HOUSE	HARRIER	KESTREL	MERLIN	OSPREY
Head of House	Mr Marrant	Mr Madrid	Mr Sexton	Mr Rayment
House Captain	Theo Brooke-Durrant	Carter Bay	Kobe Yogarajah	Lucas Willett
Vice-Captain	Olaoluwani Ademuyiwa	David Oseni	Dylan Spink	Austin Jose
Vice-Captain	Lexi Bush	Jeffrey Fenoo	Samuel Nash	Arhaan Saber

In the Summer Term, several activities are already planned, including House Drama, which will be performed by Year 9 pupils on Thursday 10 July 2025 in the evening. Each House will perform a short 20-minute play in front of an audience, which will be judged by a panel. This event will help to develop confidence and public speaking skills.

Sports Day will take place on Tuesday 8 July with a reserve Sports Day, in case of inclement weather, on Thursday 10 July. Years 7, 8, 9, 10, and the Lower Sixth will participate in several Sporting events. Each House will sit together on the field, cheering on and supporting.

Further upcoming House events include:

House UN Chinese Language Day, House Earth Day, House St George's Day, House UN World Peace Day (UN Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace), World Penguin Day, House Board Games, House Crosswords, House Kings and Queens Quiz, House UN Reconciliation and Remembrance Day, House UN International Plant Day, House UN International Day of Light, House UN World Bee Day, House UN World Day for Cultural Diversity and Development, House World Environment Day, House D-Day Research, House World Oceans Day, House Sustainable Gastronomy Day, House Mario Kart, and House UN Public Services Day.

Pupils are welcome to approach a member of the House team if they would like to help organise a House event, or have any ideas for an activity. House events are promoted on the Daily Notices which are read out each day during registration, and on the House noticeboards. Pupils are asked to listen carefully, as dates and times of House events, and clubs and societies, can change at short notice. We would encourage pupils to attend at least one House event during each Half Term period.

Mr R Barber, House Coordinator and Senior Head of House



Pupils cheer on staff in a friendly House Basketball competition



JACK PETCHEY SPEAK OUT CHALLENGE

Tuesday 22 April 2025

The Jack Petchey Speak Out workshop was set up by Sir Jack Petchey CBE, who wanted to give back to the community and provide opportunities the like of which were not available when he was younger. The Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge involves a series of workshops and competitions which encourage young people in Essex and London to find their voice. During the workshops, pupils develop public speaking skills, including delivery, timing, and presentation, all of which are of utmost benefit in advance of the GCSE Speaking and Listening examinations, in which pupils will be expected to speak about a topic of their choice. Further, it is a good opportunity to develop vital listening skills, equally essential traits as pupils look towards their later lives, including further education and job prospects. The English Department has been pleased once again to participate in the competition, which has led to success in the regional finals in recent years.

On Tuesday 22 April 2025, WHSB is going to be hosting this year's Regional Finals of the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge. This sees pupils from local schools in the Rochford and



Southend Region taking part in a competition to determine who will represent the area at the Digital Final, to whittle down the best 15 pupils across the 37 regions to take part in the Grand Final on the 8 of July 2025 at the Cambridge Theatre in London. The School is most fortunate to have the opportunity to host this year's Regional Final, thanks to Sam Crabb's second place finish in last year's Regional Final, and we are looking forward to showcasing and enjoying the public speaking skills of our pupils in Year 10 who have been chosen to represent their School.

Mr S Lilley, Teacher of English

YEAR 7 AND 8 CAREERS EVENT

Wednesday 23 April 2025

On Wednesday 23 April, we have invited Southend Connexions Careers Service, and James Currell (Acting Divisional Director, Clinical and Support Division, Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust) to present to our Years 7 and 8 pupils.

Southend Connexions provides independent and impartial careers advice to pupils. Karen Tinnams will be explaining her role and how Southend Connexions can, in the pupils' later years at the School, assist each pupil in making an informed decision regarding their future.

James Currell will present on the many apprenticeship schemes that are available in the NHS, and which are not solely medically related. Apprenticeships are becoming more popular amongst



pupils, and this session will build their understanding of the benefits and the application process.

It is important for our younger pupils to begin thinking about careers as early as possible, and these presentations are an important aspect of our Careers provision within Personal Development Education here at the School.

Mr M Atkinson, Careers Adviser

LOWER SIXTH EDT VISIT TO LEONARDO, BASILDON

Wednesday 23 April 2025

On Wednesday 23 April, a team of seven engineers from the Lower Sixth will be visiting Leonardo in Basildon as part of the Industrial Cadet Gold Award. The team is approaching the culmination of a six-month project where the students have been briefed with designing and building an amphibious autonomous drone to provide military medical support to immobilised soldiers in the field. As part of the project, they have been working alongside mentors from Leonardo, who are multinational aerospace, defence, and security engineering specialists. To graduate as Gold Award Cadets, they must produce a working prototype with a supplementary report and then present their project to a panel of industry experts.

The visit to Leonardo is designed to give the student team an opportunity to meet with industry professionals, gain an understanding of careers linked to the industry, and see how their project connects to real world problems. They will also have an opportunity to practise the presentation for their project in

front of a panel of engineers and receive vital feedback on how they could progress. The team has been working extremely hard to ensure that the students' solution is successful and they are looking forward to testing their prototype in the forthcoming weeks before their visit.

Mr C Wright, Head of Design and Technology



Lower Sixth Design and Technology Team, Industrial Cadets Gold Award workshop at Canterbury Christ Church University, 2024

CCF TRIP TO MEREWORTH WOODS

Thursday 24 April 2025

In April, our Year 9 Army and RAF cadets will be invited to their first overnight field exercise. During this trip, cadets will learn how to cook with military rations, and how to put up a basha shelter, in preparation for sleeping out in the field. They will also practise the routines involved in creating a harbour area. They will build on lessons taught during our Thursday evening parade nights and will put into practice field craft knowledge such as night stalking and patrolling. This is a popular exercise, and the cadets gain a great deal of experience towards their APC syllabus.

Captain Allard, Officer Commanding, CCF Army Division



GCSE AND A LEVEL ART EXAMINATIONS

Monday 28 April 2025

This term, students studying Art in Year 11 and the Upper Sixth will sit their final examination. This 10-hour (GCSE) or 15-hour (A level) examination represents the final stage of an Externally Set Assignment started in January, worth 40% of the students' final grade.

Students must develop their ideas, research relevant artists, experiment with materials, and establish a clear and personal intent before creating their final piece, using a medium of their choice. This is the final part of a challenging course, and I know all our students are excited to hand in their completed projects. We appreciate the dedication it takes to complete this course and thank all the students for the time, effort, and heart put into their work.

Work will be available to view at our Summer Exhibition later this academic year.

Mrs K Allard, Head of Art





YEAR 10 PARENTS CONSULTATION EVENING

Monday 28 April 2025, 4.00pm to 6.00pm

On Monday 28 April 2025, the School will hold its Consultation Evening for parents of pupils in Year 10. The event is held online using the *SchoolBooking* system, which allows teachers to book appointments with parents, and parents to book meetings with teachers, subject to their availability. Parents are invited to make appointments with Subject Teachers after reflection on the Year 10 Phase 2 reports issued on 11 March 2025. This will be a good opportunity for parents to discuss how their son is progressing with his studies after making his options selections at the end of Year 9.

Full instructions, together with details of the total number of appointments parents will be able to book, will be distributed prior to this event.

Miss B Negus, Year 10 Progress Leader

GCE A LEVEL PHYSICAL EDUCATION MODERATION DAY

Wednesday 30 April 2025

A level students of Physical Education will complete the practical and NEA section of their course on 30 April, when the visiting moderator attends School to carry out the assessment.

Mr M Fletcher, Director of Sport



LANGUAGE ORAL EXAMINATIONS

April - May 2025

Language Oral Examinations for GCSE take place on Thursday 24 and Friday 25 April (German), Wednesday 30 April and Thursday 1 May (French), and Thursday 1 May and Friday 2 May (Spanish). For A Level, these take place on Wednesday 23 April (French), and Wednesday 7 and Thursday 8 May (Spanish). The dates for MFL (German) are yet to be confirmed by the Examination Board.

These examinations form 25% of the GCSE and 30% of the A Level qualifications. Those taking these examinations are expected to prepare for them thoroughly by following the guidance given to them by their teachers. Having taken similar examinations previously during their Trial Examinations, Year 11 and Upper Sixth linguists should be well aware of the structure, requirements, and timing of these examinations.

For those in lower Year Groups not taking such examinations this year, it is worth noting the benefits of studying Modern Foreign Languages to a high standard. WHSB has had success in sending students to Oxford and Cambridge to study language related degrees in recent years. Amongst the current Upper Sixth, students have received offers from Oxford and Cambridge for Economics, Physics, and Mathematics degrees, having previously studied two or more languages at GCSE and achieving grade 8 or better in both.

Studying two languages in the Lower School and continuing with both at GCSE, and then studying one or more at A Level, is not easy. It requires resilience when the going gets tough, and is an intellectual challenge. Those who rise to this challenge typically display the Learner Profile characteristics of being Intellectually Curious, Globally Aware, and Open to Opportunity, all of which helps to make them better all-round learners.

Finally, we wish all those sitting their Oral Examination in the three Languages our very best wishes – Bon courage! Viel Glück! Mucha suerte!

*Mr M Manning, Second Deputy Head and Director of Studies for Languages,
Ms J McKeown, Head of Modern Foreign Languages Department*

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

This term, we continue to offer an extensive range of Clubs and Societies which are run by staff and students on a voluntary basis. Most take place at lunchtimes and are free of charge. One of our new clubs, called Parliament Club or 'Mock Parliament', was visited by our local Member of Parliament, Mr David Burton-Sampson MP, on 14 February 2025. He talked to the pupils and congratulated them on setting up this enjoyable and educational initiative.

If you join a club, it is likely that you will make new friends and develop your social and teamwork skills. Please look through the list and try one this term. There are over 68 to choose from!

Mr R Barber, House Coordinator and Senior Head of House



Art Club

Countdown Club



Pokémon Club

Technology Club



The Choir

Society/Club	Day	Time	Location	Year Group	Leader
Arkwright Scholarship	Thursday	Lunch	T1	Year 11	Mr Moore
Astronomy Society	Wednesday	Lunch	SF12	All	Mr Dalby
Beyblade	Wednesday	Lunch	E8	All	Mr Barber
Big Band	Tuesday	3:45pm-5:00pm	Music Department M18	Grade 5 students	Mr Derrick
Brass Ensemble	Thursday	1:00pm	M18	All	Mr Wood
Board Games	Friday	Lunch	E8 + various	All	Mr Barber
CAD Computer Aided Design	Every lunchtime	Lunch	T3	Year 8	Mr Wright
CCF Army	Thursday	3:45pm	South Drive	Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13	Ms Allard
CCF Navy	Thursday	3:45pm	South Drive	Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13	Mr Sell
CCF RAF	Thursday	3:45pm	South Drive	Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13	Mr North
Chemistry Support	Wednesday	Lunch	S1	Years 12 and 13	Mr Wightman
Chess Club 8-13	Friday	Lunch	S14	Years 8 to 13	Mr Mansfield
Chess Club Year 7 (and Sixth Form only)	Thursday	Lunch	S14	Years 7 + 12 and 13	Mr Mansfield
Crochet Club	Tuesday (start TBC)	1:05pm-1:35pm	Library	All	Mrs Schofield and Mrs Oats
Concert Band/Show Orchestra	Tuesday	1:00pm	M18	Grade 4 students	Mr Wood
Countdown Club	Monday	Lunch	M1	All	Mr Lo and Maths Prefects
Campaigns Dungeons and Dragons	Wednesday	Lunch	E8 and various	All	Mr Barber and Students Leaders
Debating	Various days	Lunch	Sixth Form Block SF14	Sixth Form	Mr Stevens
Dungeons & Dragons for Beginners	Tuesday	Lunch	SF12	KS3 and 4 (appointment only)	Mr Dalby
Economics Society	Friday (+ some Thursdays)	1:00pm	SF15	Years 12 and 13	Mr North
Engineering Society	Thursday	Lunch	S17	Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13	Mr Hudson
English MOXBRIDGE 'Mock Oxbridge'	Tuesday	Lunch	E20	Sixth Form	Miss Bailey
Ethical Food Society (EFOOD)	Monday	Lunch	T4	Years 8 and 9	Miss Onimisi
Football Cards Society	Wednesday	Lunch	E8	All	Mr Barber
Geography Society	Tuesday A and Wednesday B	1:00pm	E4	All	Mr Norman
Horn Group	Wednesday	1:00pm	M12	All	Mrs Patterson
History Society	Thursday	1:00pm	W24	All	Dr Platts
Jazz Band	Monday	13:10	M18	All	Mr Derrick and Mr Barrett
Japanese Language Club	Thursday	12:50pm-1:20pm	W22	All	Mrs Schofield
Jurassic Society	Monday	Lunch	W23	All	Mrs Cook, Dr Platts and student leaders
Latin for Beginners	Monday	Lunch	W21	Years 7 and 8	Ms McKeown and Dr Platts
Law Society	Wednesday	Lunch	SF14	Years 12 and 13	Student led (Quinn Williams) and Mr Stevens
Library Clubs (various)	Various (date of start TBC)	Lunch	Library	All	Mrs Oats
Mathematics Society	Tuesday	Lunch	M1	All	Mr Lo and Miss James
Maths Help Club Key Stage 3 and 4	Monday and Thursday	Lunch	M2	Years 7-11	Mathematics Department
Maths Help Club Key Stage 5	Tuesday and Friday	Lunch	M3	Years 12 and 13	Mathematics Department
Morning Tech Club	Various mornings	Morning break	T3	By appointment only	Mr Moore/Mr Wright
Medical, Dentistry and Vet Society (MDV)	Thursday	1:00pm-1:40pm	W31	Years 12 and 13	Mrs Lo-Whitford
MDV Society Junior (Medics, Vets, Dentists)	Starts Summer Term	Lunch	S3	Years 8 to 11	Mrs Lo-Whitford

Society/Club	Day	Time	Location	Year Group	Leader
Music Technology Club	Thursday	3:40pm-5:00pm	Music Department	Key Stage 4	Mr Derrick
Oxbridge	Monday	Lunch	Westcliff Theatre	Years 12 and 13	Mr Stevens
Personal Finance and Investment Society	Tuesday	Lunch	E4 (+E8)	All	Theo Simon, Siddharth Jayaprakash Mr Barber
Physics Society (Nurturing Enthusiasm by Researching Developments)	Thursday	1:00pm	SF12	Years 7-11	Mr Dalby
Pokémon Club	Thursday and Friday	Lunch	E8	All	Mr Barber
Practical Science Club	Wednesday Week B	Lunch	S5	Years 7 and 8	Dr Archer
Psychology Society	Tuesday Week A	Lunch	SF13	Years 10, 11, 12, 13	Mrs Jenkins
Parliament Club	Monday	Lunch	E21	All	Miss S Wood
Reading and Private Study Club	Monday	Lunch	E8	All	Mr Barber
Puzzler Club	Tuesday (start TBC)	1:05-1:35pm	Library	All	Mrs Oats and Mrs Schofield
RS Dept Multifaith Discussion Society (all welcome) CU	Thursday	Lunch	W23	Open to all	Mrs Cook and Mr Hiller
Robotics Challenge	Thursday	Lunch	T1	Year 10	Mr Moore
Rubik's Cube	Wednesday	Lunch	E8	All	Mr Barber
Russian Club	Tuesday	Lunch	W8	All	Mrs Genthe
Salvage Crew	Tuesday and Friday	Lunch	T1	Years 7, 8 and 9	Mr Moore
Science Key Stage 3 Help Club	Wednesday	Lunch	S8	Key Stage 3	Mr Mansfield
Scratch Computing Club	Friday	Lunch	W10/W11 Computing Rooms	All	Mr Steel and Dr Johnson
Shorthand Club	Friday	Lunch	E24	All	Mr Wheeler
STEP/TMUA/MAT Club	Tuesday and Friday	3:35pm	M6 and M3	Sixth Form	Mr Lo and Mr Alexander
String Ensemble	Wednesday	1:00pm	M18	All	Mr Derrick
Tamil Club	Monday	Lunch	E29	All	Miss Y Arunkumar
Technology Club Key Stage 3	By Appointment	Various Lunchtimes	Technology Block	Key Stage 3	Mr Moore and Technology Staff
Treble Choir	Thursday	1:00pm	M12	Years 7 and 8	Mr Humphrey
Wargaming Club	Friday	3:35pm	M1-M6	All	Mrs Lo-Whitford
Westcliff Choir	Friday	1:00pm	M18	All	Mr Derrick
Westcliff Economist	Various Lunchtimes	Lunch	Economics Department	By invitation only	Economics Department
Westcliff Sinfonia (finish 15/11)	Wednesday	3:45pm-5:00pm	M18	Grade 5 students	Mr Derrick and Mr Wood
Word Puzzles Club	Wednesday	1:00pm	E29	Key Stage 3	Miss Y Arunkumar
Yu-Gi-Oh	Friday	Lunch	E8	All	Mr Barber

Please carefully listen to daily register notices during Form time, e-mails and Microsoft Teams for further details. These activities may be cancelled or amended at short notice and are run by staff and students in their own time on a voluntary basis. Most are unfunded but are free of charge. Sport information is displayed on a separate document which has been circulated. House events are promoted on the House noticeboards.



JUNIOR MATHS CHALLENGE

Thursday 1 May 2025

The Mathematics Department invites all pupils in Year 8, together with selected pupils in Year 7, to participate in the problem-solving and mind-bending puzzles of the Junior Maths Challenge. This is a national competition that tests pupils' logic and mathematical skills. We have enjoyed great success in recent years and hope to replicate the success of last year when 55 Gold Certificates were awarded.

Why not try one of last year's tongue twisting problems (below)?

Forty furry ferrets weigh the same as fifty fit ferrets. Forty-five fit ferrets weigh the same as fifty-four friendly ferrets. How many friendly ferrets weigh the same as fifty furry ferrets?

A 40 B 55 C 60 D 75 E 80

Miss A James, Director of Mathematics



SUMMER CHAMBER RECITAL

Thursday 1 May 2025, 7.30pm to 9.00pm

The Summer Chamber Recital will feature Westcliff's most talented solo and ensemble musicians across the School. The concert will showcase debutants in the Lower School all the way to those performing their swansong in the Upper Sixth. The concert promises to include performances of music from a range of different styles: Rock, Pop, Classical, Musical Theatre, Film Scores, and many more. Expect to see several of our most gifted pianists and vocalists performing various well-known works. This concert will be jam-packed with Upper Sixth students as this will be their final opportunity to perform in a Chamber Concert. Expect them to showcase their talents with a multitude of different instruments. Quinn Williams will return on cello and there will be vocal performances from Taran Raju and Kaylan Teague. Multiple ensembles including the String Ensemble and the Horn Group will also be making their regular appearance with some exciting repertoires.

Tickets are available from *TicketSource*, priced at £5.00 for adults and free for pupils.

Mr Wood, Teacher of Music



LOWER SIXTH INTERNAL EXAMINATIONS

Tuesday 6 - Friday 16 May 2025

The Internal Examinations enable staff to assess students in a formal examination setting, with students sitting papers in the School Hall, and with independent invigilators. Students' results from these assessments will form part of the information used to create UCAS-predicted grades.

Teaching staff will give students advice about the structure of the examinations and the content, along with revision tips. Students should speak to their teachers about any academic issues, and remember that the Sixth Form Pastoral Team is also available for advice, providing a supportive environment during this crucial period. Lower Sixth Examination guidance and the examination timetable were issued to students and their parents in the latter half of the Spring Term, ensuring everyone is well-prepared and supported.

Mr A Dean, Senior Master of Sixth Form

STUDY LEAVE FOR GCSE AND A LEVEL EXAMINATIONS

Year 11 Study Leave

Commences on Friday 9 May 2025

On Thursday 8 May, GCSE written examinations begin and, as such, pupils in Year 11 will begin their study leave on Friday 9 May. This is an opportunity for pupils to complete their revision from home, then coming into School to sit their GCSE Examinations. This comes after the opportunity to engage with several subject specific revision sessions that week, and an important Assembly delivered by Mrs Economou, our Examinations Officer, regarding expectations and correct practice.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all Year 11 pupils the very best of luck with their preparation for their

examinations, and to remind them that they are capable of great things. We would also emphasise that, if the pupils have applied themselves sufficiently, they will reach their full potential in the GCSE Examinations.

Mr A Barnett, Director of Middle School

Upper Sixth Study Leave begins

Commences on Thursday 15 May 2025, 3.35pm

As the A Level examinations gather pace, students in the Upper Sixth will commence study leave on Thursday 15 May. While students are welcome to use the Sixth Form facilities, they are not required to be in School other than for their examinations. Students must arrive at the Roundel at the front of School by 8.40am for morning examinations, and by 1.30pm for those taking place in the afternoon.

Mrs K Revell, Director of Sixth Form

UPPER SIXTH BARBECUE

Friday 16 May 2025

To mark the end of lessons for students in the Upper Sixth, there will be a Leavers' Assembly, and Barbecue on the field on Friday 16 May. Students will be invited to share experiences and showcase their talents in a show in the Westcliff Theatre before singing Jerusalem, the School song, and heading out to the field. Mrs Brown and Mrs Marr will escape from the Sixth Form Café to serve burgers and ice creams whilst staff and students reminisce!

We look forward to an enjoyable day.



Leavers' Barbecue, Summer 2024



LOWER SIXTH WORK EXPERIENCE WEEK

Monday 19 – Friday 23 May 2025

During this week, our Lower Sixth students will undertake a week's work experience; this is an essential aspect of our Careers programme and the Government's Careers Strategy. Students have been encouraged to secure their own placements through direct applications to employers, and to make use of existing contacts. Where students are experiencing difficulties in gaining a placement, the School will assist their search or enable them to remain at School for the week, where they will undertake virtual work experience and supportive work within departments.

Last year, the School embarked on an exciting Careers Across the Curriculum Project with HSBC, and our School's Enterprise Advisor, Mr Adam Berry. This remains a golden thread in our

Careers provision and continues this year. Clearly establishing the link between the School's Learner Profile and critical soft skills enables students to recognise those aspects which are of importance to employers (time management, networking, teamwork, creative thinking, and conflict resolution). This project will underpin the structure of the work experience placement and enable students in the Lower Sixth to develop their understanding of the importance of these key skills.

Mr M Atkinson, Careers Adviser

WORK EXPERIENCE



YEAR 10 DUKE OF EDINBURGH SILVER AWARD PRACTICE AND ASSESSMENT

Thursday 8 – Saturday 10 May 2025

The Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award is an exciting and rewarding challenge that encourages personal development through a wide range of activities. This year, the School is thrilled to offer pupils in Year 9 and Year 10 an opportunity to take part in the prestigious Bronze and Silver Awards. If students in the Sixth Form would like to participate in the Gold Award, they should speak to Mr Tresidder, who can put them in contact with local Gold Award providers.

Twenty-eight Year 10 pupils will be working towards their Silver Award, with the Practice Expedition taking place in the scenic South Downs from Thursday 8 to Saturday 10 May. This will be followed by the Assessment Expedition in the beautiful Peak District from Wednesday 11 to Saturday 14 June. The Silver Award provides a higher level of challenge, in outdoor adventure, developing leadership, and problem-solving skills.

While the expeditions are a key part of the DofE Award, it is important to remember that the Award is about much more than just the outdoor challenges. The DofE programme is



designed to help pupils grow in a variety of ways, including personal development, volunteering, physical fitness, and skills development.

Each participant must also complete three additional sections: Volunteering, where pupils give their time to support others; Skills, where pupils develop new abilities or improve existing ones; and Physical, where pupils focus on improving their fitness. These sections not only help pupils build character and a sense of achievement, but also encourage them to make a positive impact on their community.

Mr H Tresidder, DofE Coordinator

SILVER

Volunteering 6 months

Physical one section for 6 months, the other for 3 months

Skills one section for 6 months, the other for 3 months

Expedition 3 days 2 nights

Plus an extra 6 months in the Volunteering, or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections if you haven't got Bronze.

(Note: The infographic also features two tent icons at the bottom.)



REMEMBERING AND COMMEMORATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF VE AND VJ DAY IN 2025



The country comes together this summer on the 80th anniversary of VE Day and VJ Day, to remember and commemorate the end of World War II, those who served their country, and the many sacrifices made. The two key dates are Thursday 8 May, Victory in Europe Day (VE Day), when the German forces surrendered to the Allied Powers, and Friday 15 August, Victory over Japan Day (VJ Day), the day on which Imperial Japan surrendered, in effect bringing World War II to an end.

WHSB will join other organisations throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, and UK Overseas Territories at 9.00am on 8 May, raising a commemorative flag in celebration of the 80th Anniversary of VE Day, which marked the end of the war in Europe, and the end of World War II.

Mrs J Clarke, Community Development Officer

EVACUATION OF WESTCLIFF HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS TO BELPER DURING WORLD WAR II

As we commemorate the 80th Anniversary of VE and VJ Day in 2025, we look back at WHSB during World War Two. Alan White, in his book *Westcliff High School for Boys A Centenary History*, wrote in detail about the political and social history, both at home and abroad, in the run-up to, during, and after the war, and the impact it had upon the School's community at the time.

At the outbreak of war in September 1939, when a catastrophic bombing war with Germany was anticipated, the Government had drawn up extensive plans to minimise casualties, including the evacuation of 'non-essential persons' from areas deemed at high risk of attack. According to Dr White, "the evacuation of school children and others in the Second World War has been described as the biggest mass movement of people in Britain's history". The entire country was classified into three different categories: evacuating areas (which the 'non-essential' would leave), reception areas (to which those evacuated would be sent), and neutral areas (which would be neither evacuated nor receive evacuees). In 1939, Southend - being neither a port nor an industrial area and therefore not a priority Luftwaffe target - was classified as neutral.

The 'phony war' period from the outbreak of war in September 1939 to April 1940, is described by Dr White as being "eight months of uneasy calm". Life at WHSB continued, with the School providing an education for its pupils, although both staff and pupil numbers were dwindling as teachers left to sign



*Evacuation day, 2 June 1940:
WHSB pupils leaving Southend Central Station for Belper*

up, and apprehensive families left Southend for areas deemed to be safer. In April 1940, with the war in Europe gaining pace and the coastline of south-eastern England seen as a 'defence area' under threat of an invasion, the coastal towns evacuation order was scheduled for implementation on 2 June 1940. This meant compulsory evacuation for the eight thousand children remaining in the Southend area. WHSB was the first school to be evacuated, its pupils leaving on a 7.00am train from Southend Central station, headed for Belper in Derbyshire, a small mill town in the Derwent Valley, seven miles north of Derby, 170 miles away.

The evacuated Westcliff High School for Boys, now numbering 484 pupils and 40% down on its pre-war roll, was to share the same premises as Belper's Herbert Strutt School (named after its early twentieth century mill-owning benefactor). Strutt's pupils were taught in the mornings on weekdays, and WHSB's during the afternoons and on Saturday mornings, with pupils from WHSB billeted with families in and around the Belper area. WHSB staff worked tirelessly to fill pupils' free time whilst away from home, with activities which included establishing an Air Training Corps, the continuation of the Debating Society, and the new formation of the remarkably successful 10th Belper (Westcliff High School for Boys) Scout Troop, which had recruited 126 members by 1941. By mid-1941, with the German air offensive receding at the end of the Blitz, the threat of invasion had subsided.



Belper's Herbert Strutt School, Derbyshire

Southend's secondary schools re-opened in autumn 1942, with WHSB pupils and staff returning from Belper in October.

It was not until 1948 that the School was able to formally record its thanks to the staff and pupils of the Herbert Strutt School for accommodating them during the early years of the war. As reported in the School magazine "The Quest" in 1947, a collection fund was established and a donation made to the



WHSB pupils assembled in the Hall at Herbert Strutt School

Herbert Strutt School, enabling the school to purchase an oak lectern. At a formal presentation service in Belper, attended by WHSB's then Headmaster, E Ayres, and Second Master, H S Smith, seven years following the evacuation, the School formally recorded their thanks. The lectern, with the inscription "I was a stranger and ye took me in" was a tangible reflection of their gratitude.

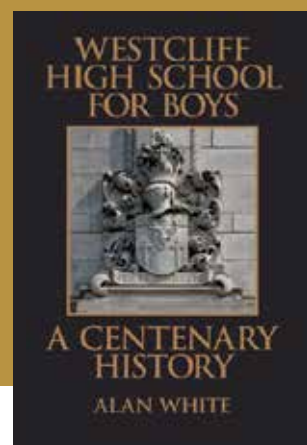
The Herbert Strutt School in Belper, no longer an educational establishment, is now a community centre run by volunteers for the benefit of local people. WHSB's donated lectern remains in situ and we thank Strutt's Trustee, Ms Cynthia Maddock, for kindly sending us photographs of both the lectern and the 10th Belper (Westcliff High School for Boys) Scout Group, formed during the evacuation in 1940. We also thank the Strutt's Centre for donating to our School Archive a copy of the DVD "Reflections 1909 to 2009", containing commentaries and footage of some of the pupils from WHSB who were evacuated to Belper between 1940 and 1942.

"Westcliff High School for Boys A Centenary History" can be purchased from the School's online shop <https://whsforboys.shoptill-e.com/>

Mrs J Clarke,
Community Development Assistant



In 1948, WHSB formally record its thanks to the staff and pupils of the Herbert Strutt School



10th Belper (Westcliff High School for Boys) Scout Troop, 1941

LIBRARY NEWS

The Summer Term is always an enjoyable time in the School Library. As usual, reading and independent study is promoted through Sixth Form Supervised Study periods, and Library lessons for pupils in Years 7, 8, and 9. These Library lessons are where the pupils read for a set time, followed by spelling tests and general literacy quizzes, all aimed at helping pupils to learn the basics. Seeing pupils succeed in correctly spelling difficult words is a real joy!

We have a number of Library Ambassadors, including some of our founding Ambassadors who play a particularly important role in the Library, helping to train our new intake, helping to promote the Library to all pupils at the School, and being a reliable source of help and support.

I am always on the lookout for new books and welcome any suggestions, from both pupils and staff alike.

We will also be running a Summer Reading Challenge again for this Summer Term where challengers are asked to read a set number of books within a set time, with prizes awarded for participation.

Please visit the Library for yourself and encourage others to come along with you as it really is a lovely quiet space, perfect for reading and studying.

Mrs J Oats, School Librarian



YEARS 7 - 10 INTERNAL END OF YEAR EXAMINATIONS

Monday 2 June - Friday 6 June 2025

At Westcliff High School for Boys, all pupils in Years 7 to 10 sit End of Year Examinations in the subjects that they study, except for Tutorial, Enrichment (both Year 7 only), PSHEE, Core Physical Education, and Games.

The aim of End of Year Examinations is multi-faceted. First, they are to assess the progress of pupils in the respective subject areas. Secondly, they help to prepare pupils for GCSE Examinations in Year 11, and their A Level Examinations in the Upper Sixth, by providing an experience of sitting examinations in a range of subjects in a limited time frame. As pupils progress through the Year Groups, examinations will typically increase in length, with pupils sitting multiple papers in an increasing number of subjects. Furthermore, Trial Examinations in Year 11, End of Year Examinations in the Lower Sixth, and the Upper Sixth Trial Examinations are held in the School Hall to mirror the surroundings of the Public Examinations.

Pupils will be provided with guidance on how to prepare for these End of Year Examinations, from both their Pastoral Office and the individual subject departments.

Once the Examinations are marked, the results will make a significant contribution to the grade each pupil receives in their Phase 3 Report. However, these are not the only contributing factor. Where needed, these results will also be used to inform which sets pupils are put into for the next academic year – again, however, these are not the only contributing factor.

For Year 9, these results are especially important, as they will be used to check to see whether pupils have made realistic and sensible option choices for their GCSE studies. The Core GCSE subjects – English, Mathematics, and the Sciences – will all be setted for GCSE, as will the three language options in their respective option blocks.

For Year 10, having completed over half of their GCSE studies at this point, the results will provide a clear measure of the progress they have made so far, as well as indicating any areas of development ahead of Year 11. Year 10 pupils should also note that any revision materials made in preparation for these examinations can be used again for their Trial Examinations in Year 11, as well as their final GCSE Examinations in Summer 2026.

Unfortunately, each year a small number of pupils are caught cheating in these examinations, either by bringing notes into their examinations or copying the answers of others. Appropriate measures are taken to ensure that this does not

happen, and any pupil caught cheating is sanctioned accordingly. Sadly, a small number of pupils have been disqualified from public examinations due to rule infringements.

A record of those pupils not sitting examinations on the specified day is kept. Whilst a pupil may be tempted to take a day off during this period to find out about the questions from a friend who sat the examination at the correct time, it is the School's experience that examinations taken late usually result in poor outcomes. It should be noted that arrangements to catch up will be made for any pupil who misses a number of examinations through genuine illness or injury.

Finally, we wish all pupils sitting these end of year examinations every success and we hope to see them attain the results that match all their hard work and dedication to their studies this academic year.

Mr M Manning, Second Deputy Head



LOWER SIXTH EXAMINATION DATA REPORT

Friday 6 June 2025

Pupils will be issued with their examination data following the internal examinations. This will provide information regarding each child's progress, and will indicate suitable universities to visit with a view to future applications. This report will not include UCAS predictions, which will form part of a more detailed written report issued on Friday 27 June. Additional support for the application process will be given during the tutor time programme.

Mrs K Revell, Director of Sixth Form

9E FORM TRIP TO MEGAZONE

Saturday 7 June 2025

Pupils in 9E are invited to attend a form trip to Megazone in Rayleigh to compete in Laser Tag. This will take place on Saturday 7 June. A letter with more information on this event has been sent to parents of these pupils. Payment for the trip should be made via ParentPay.

Miss A James, Form Tutor of 9E



JUNIOR KANGAROO MATHS CHALLENGE

Tuesday 10 June 2025

Following the Junior Mathematical Challenge at the beginning of May, any pupils who are highly successful will be invited to compete in the follow-on rounds of either the Junior Kangaroo or the Junior Olympiad. The Junior Kangaroo is in a similar style to the Maths Challenges with multiple choice questions and problem-solving challenges. The Olympiad is a much more challenging two-hour paper that credits pupils for their understanding and mathematical knowledge shown, as well as the correct answer.

Why not try an example question?

The positive integers from 1 to n ($n \geq 2$) inclusive are to be spaced equally around the circumference of a circle so that:

- (a) no two even numbers are adjacent;
- (b) no two odd numbers are adjacent;
- (c) no two numbers differing by 1 are adjacent.

What is the smallest value of n for which the above is possible?

Miss A James, Director of Mathematics

LOWER SIXTH GEOGRAPHY TRIPS TO CHALKWELL, SPITALFIELDS AND BELFAIRS

Thursday 12, Friday 13 and Thursday 19 June 2025

As part of their A Level course, Sixth Form Geography students are required to conduct four days of fieldwork and data collection. These trips develop essential geographical fieldwork and analytical skills to support students in planning their own Independent Investigation in the summer holidays. The results that are collected on physical and human geography topics can also be used in this coursework, which counts for 20% of the total A Level marks.



This summer, Geographers will undertake fieldwork in Chalkwell and Brick Lane (East London) and at Belfairs Park, enabling students to examine rivers and flooding, urban change and the public perception of it, and the management of physical and human environments., whilst broadening students' knowledge of the Diverse Places and Physical Systems and Sustainability topics.

Dr M Shepherd, Head of Geography

WESTCLIFF CENTRE FOR GIFTED CHILDREN GO FOR GRAMMAR!

Saturday 14 June 2025

The Westcliff Centre for Gifted Children *Go for Grammar!* Programme for local Year 5 pupils continued last term, with over 90 children attending sessions on the theme "Lively Laboratories". These exciting *Go for Grammar!* days all include English and Mathematics lessons designed to stretch pupils and aid their familiarity with 11+ style work, together with lessons in Physics, Biology, and Earth Sciences.

In the afternoon, parents are welcomed into the School for a seminar with the Director of Lower School, to discuss how parents can best support their child through the 11+ examinations. During our last event, WHSB pupil Miles (Year 7) spoke to parents, with passion and frankness, about his preparations for the 11+ examinations.

The Year 5 pupils attending also have the opportunity to engage with our Sixth Form Students who act as chaperones, as well as joining the Year 5 pupils for some of their lessons.

This term, the School will welcome another cohort of Year 5 students to WHSB for the Sports, Adventure, and Leadership Day on Saturday 14 June, which will see pupils engaging with activities provided by the Physical Education Department, and the School's Combined Cadet Force. This promises to be an exciting end to this year's programme.

Mr A Baggs, Director of Lower School



YEAR 8 HPV IMMUNISATIONS

Monday 16 June 2025

The School has recently been informed of a change in provider for School Aged Immunisations. We expect the Team to visit the School on Monday 16 June, but anticipate this date may change once the handover to the new provider takes place. The focus will be the delivery of the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine. The HPV vaccine protects against the types of HPV that cause most cases of genital warts and cervical cancer, as well as some other cancers. It does not protect against all types of HPV.

The School acts as a venue only for the vaccinations, and is not involved in the arrangements, provision of information, or requesting of consent regarding the vaccinations. This is managed entirely by the Immunisations Team, and the School is unable to answer any questions on this matter. Instead, any queries or concerns can be addressed directly to the Immunisations Team, whose details will be publicised once they are confirmed to the School.

Mr A C Baggs, Director of Lower School



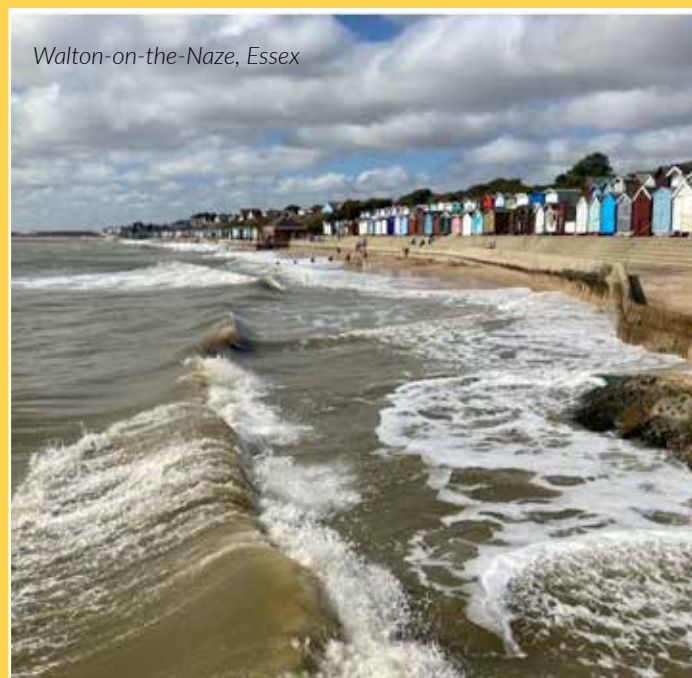
GCSE GEOGRAPHY TRIPS TO WALTON-ON-THE-NAZE AND WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA

*Tuesday 17 June, Friday 11, Monday 14
and Thursday 17 July 2025*

In their GCSE study of Geography, pupils are required to conduct two days of fieldwork and data collection as part of their course. The results collected on physical and human geography topics are then examined in Paper 3.

Year 10 Geographers annually conduct a one-day field visit to Walton-on-the-Naze, which is located on the North Sea coast in Essex. At this location, pupils use data collection techniques to test the impact of coastal management methods on processes and landforms. They also benefit from seeing one of their classroom case studies in the field. Year 10 pupils also conduct a half-day's fieldwork in Westcliff, looking at the impacts of social inequality on the quality of housing and the environment in contrasting locations. These trips develop essential geographical fieldwork and analytical skills, whilst broadening pupils' knowledge of physical and human geography course topics.

Dr M Shepherd, Head of Geography



Walton-on-the-Naze, Essex

OPEN EVENING

Tuesday 24 June 2025

On Tuesday 24 June, the School will close at 12.50pm in order that staff and pupils can prepare for our Open Evening which will be held between 5.00pm and 9.00pm.

The Headmaster's Talks will be at 6.30pm and 7.30pm.

We very much look forward to welcoming prospective pupils and parents into our School, and we would like to thank in advance all members of the School community who will be involved in this very special event.

Miss Gail Fairfax, Third Deputy Headteacher



LOWER SIXTH VISIT TO SOUTHEND HOSPITAL

Wednesday 25 June 2025

On Wednesday 25 June, Lower Sixth students with aspirations to study medicine at university will be invited to attend a "Careers in Medicine" morning at Southend Hospital. This event is heavily supported by WHSB with Medical, Dentistry, and Veterinary Society members in the Lower Sixth being given the opportunity to listen to talks given by doctors at various stages of their careers, ranging from Foundation Year 1 (FY1) doctors to Consultants and General Practitioners (GPs). During these talks, the students will gain insights into the training required for different medical specialties, the process of getting into and succeeding at medical school, and the essential skills needed to be a doctor.

Pupils will have an opportunity to engage directly with the speakers, asking questions and seeking advice. Topics covered will include advice on medical school interviews and the UCAT examination.

Mr M Atkinson, Careers Adviser



WHSB's Medical, Dentistry, and Veterinary Society



YEAR 10 MATHEMATICS ENRICHMENT DAY

Wednesday 25 June 2025

In July, the Mathematics Department will be attending a one-day conference for a select group of Year 10 Mathematics pupils. This event is designed to enrich pupils' understanding of mathematics beyond the standard curriculum. Organized by the AMSP (Advanced Mathematics Support Programme), the conference aims to provide pupils with an opportunity to engage with advanced mathematical concepts in a collaborative and interactive environment.

The conference will feature a variety of workshops, each focusing on different areas of mathematics, where pupils can explore complex topics that may not be covered in their regular school lessons. These workshops are designed to challenge pupils, pushing them to apply their problem-solving skills and think critically about mathematical concepts. The topics could range from algebra, geometry, and number theory to more advanced areas such as mathematical modelling or calculus, depending on the interests and abilities of the pupils.

In addition to the workshops, the conference will offer problem-solving opportunities. These activities will encourage pupils to tackle a range of mathematical problems, some of which may involve real-world applications or abstract mathematical puzzles.



Advanced Mathematics Support Programme®

By working through these problems, pupils will not only develop their problem-solving techniques, but will also gain a deeper appreciation for the elegance and utility of mathematics.

The AMSP is known for supporting the development of advanced mathematical skills and promoting the enjoyment of mathematics at all levels. This event is part of their broader mission to inspire pupils, and to equip them with the knowledge and confidence to pursue further study in mathematics. It provides a platform for Year 10 pupils to engage with like-minded peers, learn from experts, and deepen their passion for the subject.

Overall, this conference presents an exciting opportunity for pupils to expand their mathematical horizons, sharpen their analytical skills, and gain exposure to the wider mathematical community.

Mrs L Hammond, Teacher of Mathematics

LOWER SIXTH EDT VISIT TO WATFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Thursday 26 June 2025

When presentations for the Industrial Cadet Gold Award have been completed, the team will be invited to attend a Celebration, Graduation, and Awards ceremony. The day brings together Industrial Cadet Bronze, Silver, and Gold Teams from the East of England and will consist of interactive stands, topical STEM talks, opportunities to find out what peers have done during their projects, and the chance to find out even more about the future career opportunities that are available in the world of engineering.

This year's event will take place on Thursday 26 June and will be held at Watford Grammar School. Students from Westcliff High School for Boys have enjoyed considerable success in recent years, picking up awards for Innovation, Teamwork, and the prestigious Project of the Year. Our team has certainly produced an exciting and very different project this year. We will be keeping our fingers crossed for another rewarding event.

Mr C Wright, Head of Design and Technology



SIXTH FORM INDUCTION DAYS

Thursday 26 and Friday 27 June 2025

All pupils who received an offer to study in the WHSB Sixth Form are expected to attend various sessions during the Induction Day, organised by way of guidance and support, including introductions to A Level subjects, advice on independent Sixth Form study, and a visit to the Sixth Form Café.

These Induction Days are not just a formality, but a crucial step in preparing students for their Sixth Form journey. Students will also receive appropriate summer work from subject departments in order to help them prepare for the new courses. Sixth Form preparatory work will be made available on the School's website, ensuring everyone is fully prepared for the next academic year.

Mr A Dean, Senior Master of Sixth Form



SUMMER SINFONIA CONCERT

Thursday 26 June 2025, 7.30pm to 9.00pm

Join the Westcliff Sinfonia for an orchestral celebration of all things Musical Theatre. Audience members will be treated to an evening of dramatic music, showcasing the variety of styles and emotions composers of Musical Theatre have to offer. The performance will include excerpts from Broadway classics such as Bernstein's *West Side Story*, retelling the story of Romeo and Juliet in twentieth century New York. Jerry Herman's *Hello Dolly*, an example from the 'golden age' of Hollywood musicals, recently revived with stage and screen icon Imelda Staunton for the West End, will also feature. Those who enjoyed last year's production of *Les Misérables* will enjoy the music from the other musical Schoenberg is most known for: *Miss Saigon*'s emotive story set in the Vietnam war is a staple of the Musical Theatre canon.

The concert will begin with a premiere of a piece by Upper Sixth composer Jamie Knight, written especially for the Westcliff Sinfonia; *La Gare Saint-Lazare* is a programmatic work following in the tradition of the French Impressionist musical style. Indeed, it is more directly inspired by Impressionism - following the tradition of adapting artwork to music, Jamie has chosen to translate Monet's paintings of a French train station into an orchestral fantasy, depicting the smoke-filled surroundings of the station before exploring the station itself. This exciting composition is sure to stretch our most talented performers and is not to be missed.

Tickets are available via *TicketSource*, priced at £5.00 for adults and free for pupils.

Mr T Derrick, Director of Music



CHARITY EVENTS

Friday 27 June 2025

This year, the Charity Committee has reflected on the views of Lower School and has decided to support three local charities: Little Havens, St Vincent's Centre, and Age Concern Southend. This reflects the growing links that WHSB has developed within the local community through visits and Assemblies. The Charity Committee is keen to explore the worthwhile work each of these charities does in more detail.

Our main Summer Event will take place on the field during lunchtime on Friday 27 June. This will be a once-in-an-academic-year opportunity for pupils to see their teachers demonstrate why 'The Shrimpers' have not called as they fight it out on the football pitch. As ever there will be a tuck shop with a summer ice lolly addition. Please come along and top up your tan while raising money for our inspirational charities.



Upper Sixth Physical Education class ran the 'Half for Havens' half marathon in July 2024 to raise funds for Havens Hospices

We are delighted to announce that in 2024 WHSB raised an amazing £5,072 for Little Havens and HARP. Thank you to all those involved, especially the Charity Committee of Nevin Nice, Laoise Bullock, Quinn Williams, Ifeoma Nwabueze, Amina Mammadzada, and Theo Brooke-Durrant.

Mrs K Revell, Director of Sixth Form

LOWER SIXTH PHASE 3 REPORT

Friday 27 June 2025

All students in the Lower Sixth will receive a written report from their subject teachers as part of the Phase 3 Reports. These Reports are an expansion of the Lower Sixth Examination Data Report issued earlier in the month. The Report includes comments regarding attainment progress, a UCAS predicted grade, and attitudinal scores in each A Level subject. Additionally, the Director of Sixth Form will write a pastoral comment based on subject grades and wider School matters. UCAS Predicted Grades are final and are not subject to change. This ensures that students and their families can begin planning university applications for 2026 entry.

Mrs K Revell, Director of Sixth Form

LOWER SIXTH CHEMISTRY FIELD TRIP TO THE UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA

Monday 30 June - Tuesday 1 July 2025

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Chemistry Department at WHSB was delighted to take Lower Sixth students to Bristol University, where students could undertake practical activity. This provision was ended by the pandemic but, in recent years, we have been keen to re-establish such provision, working together with the University of East Anglia (UEA), and taking 15-25 students from our Lower Sixth to work in their undergraduate-level laboratories for the day.

We are pleased to announce that UEA has again offered 25 spaces for our Lower Sixth Chemistry students to attend their Chemistry programme, but this time for two days. This is an exciting opportunity to experience life at university and to participate in engaging practical activity, working in their new state-of-the-art teaching labs.

Students will also have the rare opportunity to stay on campus.

This trip will run from Monday 30 June to Tuesday 1 July 2025. For the trip to run, a minimum of 20 students will need to participate in what will be an invaluable experience. However, those interested should make contact with the Head of Chemistry at their earliest possible opportunity as there is likely to be considerable demand for places.

Mr D Wightman, Head of Chemistry



PHASE THREE REPORTS ISSUED

Year 7: Friday 18 July 2025

Year 8: Friday 18 July 2025

Year 9: Friday 11 July 2025

Year 7 Report

This important Report provides parents with an update on their son's progress following the full written report issued in March 2025.

It is expected that pupils will achieve a grade 5b in each subject; attainment grades which vary from this will indicate whether pupils are performing above or below the expected level. The Report also contains pupils' Lower School target grade. The average target grade is 7b, to be attained in the Phase 3 Report towards the end Year 9. If a pupil has a target grade of, for example, 7a, the School would anticipate that a pupil's current attainment would therefore be 5a. If their target grade is 7c, then a current attainment score of 5c means that they are on course to achieve their Lower School target grade. This helps parents, pupils, and teachers to understand a pupil's current level of understanding, and to identify areas of strength and areas for development.

Year 8 Report

This full written Report, contains detailed feedback from all the pupil's subject teachers, providing parents with a detailed insight into their son's progress. Again, parents will receive an attainment grade in the form of a letter and number from each of their son's teachers, using the School's internal grading system.

At this stage of the pupil's studies, it is expected that pupils will achieve a grade 6b in each subject; attainment grades which vary from this will indicate whether the pupil is performing above or below the expected level. This Report too contains pupils' Lower School target grade, the average target grade being 7b, to be attained in the Phase 3 Report at the end of Year 9. As noted above for the Year 7 Reports, if a pupil has a target grade of, for example, 7a, the School would anticipate that a pupil's current attainment would therefore be 6a. If their target grade is 7c, then a current attainment score of 6c means that they are on course to achieve their Lower School target grade. This important data indicates areas of relative strength, and provides an understanding of any additional efforts and support required.

This Report also contains attitudinal indicators; these are awarded on a scale of 1 (Exceptional) to 4 (Unacceptable). The expected indicator grade is a 2 (Good). Grades of 3 or 4 require a change in attitude by the pupil, and a Grade of 1 is awarded when a pupil has exceeded the already high expectations of this School. Parents should consider the indicators received against the explanatory table on the back of the Report.

Year 9 Report

As pupils prepare for their GCSEs, this important Report helps pupils and parents to assess progress this academic year, and assists in providing an understanding of what is require of the pupil throughout their preparation.

In terms of the current attainment indicator included, again, in the form of a grade from each of the pupil's teachers using the School's internal grading system, it is expected that pupils will achieve a grade 7b in each subject; attainment grades which vary

from 7b will indicate whether pupils are performing above or below the expected level.

The inclusion of the pupils' Lower School target grade in this Report enables parents to see whether pupils have met the potential identified by teachers back in Year 7. This provides important feedback on the pupil's level of understanding, and action that may be required to further develop and progress as the pupil approaches GCSE studies.

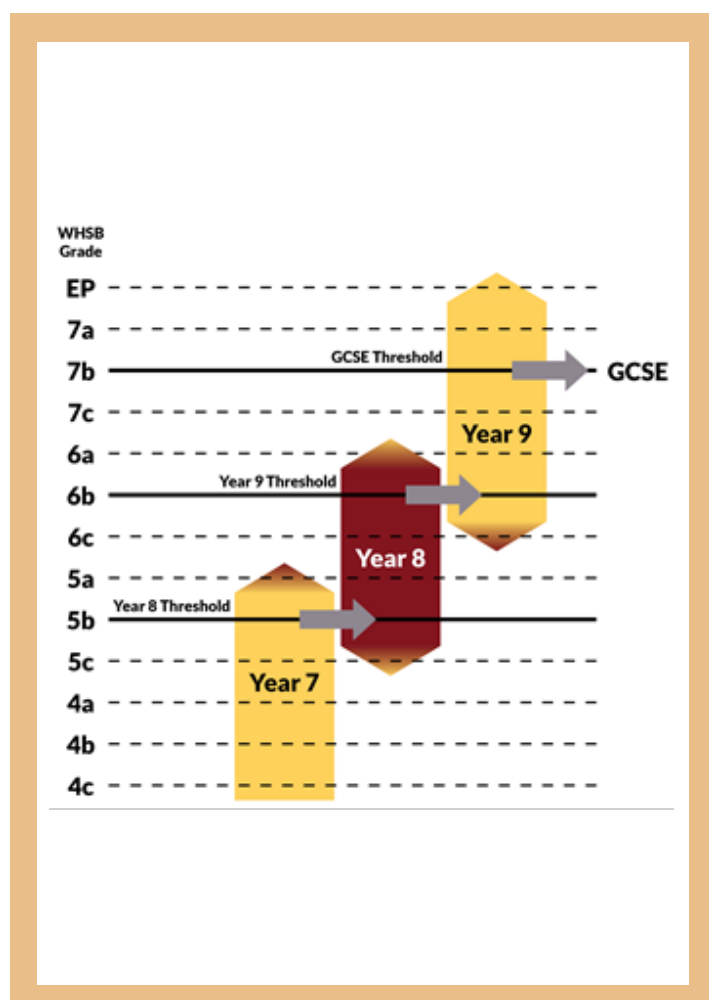
The Year 9 Report also contains attitudinal indicators, awarded on a scale of 1 (Exceptional) to 4 (Unacceptable). The expected indicator grade is a 2 (Good), with grades of 3 or 4 requiring a change in attitude by the pupil. A Grade of 1 is awarded when a pupil has exceeded the already high expectations of this School.

The Next Steps

Once the Reports have been issued, Form Tutors will dedicate time for pupils to reflect on their grades, and to develop goals for the rest of the academic year. The Form Tutors will also discuss various strategies to help pupils to improve their grades where a foundation performance has been recorded.

Parents should discuss the Report with their sons, and discuss the goals set by the pupils, which will be recorded in their planner. Should there be any further concerns, parents should contact their son's Form Tutor via the School Office, or the Lower School Pastoral Team who will be happy to provide support and guidance. There are many mechanisms in place to support pupils throughout their studies, including Pastoral Support, Subject Support, and Mentoring.

Mr A Baggs, Director of Lower School



WHSB'S UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times during the Summer Holiday Break

During the summer holiday break, the School's Uniform Shop will be open between Wednesday 27 and Friday 29 August, from 10.00am to 3.30pm. This will allow for pupils' uniform fittings and purchase of School uniform for pupils in Years 8 to the Upper Sixth.

Details of uniform fitting days for incoming Year 7 pupils can be found on the Year 7 Entrants section of the School's website: <https://www.whsb.essex.sch.uk/newyear7/the-uniform-shop>

Purchasing School Uniform and Merchandise

Westcliff High School for Boys' uniform is sold exclusively through the School Shop. Parental feedback indicates that parents find this convenient, and we believe that by selling uniform in-house, we are able to offer a more personal service, and competitive prices.

The School's Shop, located in the East Basement, will normally open during term time on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10.30am to 1.30pm, as well as on specified dates/times at the end of the School's summer break, and prior to the start of the new Academic Year. During the Shop opening times, items of uniform can be tried on for size, and purchases can be made. Cash, cheque, and debit/credit card payments are accepted. Full details of dates and opening times are available on the School website. For items of uniform required in a size that is not normally stocked by the shop, please email

uniform@whsb.essex.sch.uk

Items of School uniform and merchandise can also be purchased online using the link provided in the Uniform section of the School's website. Parents will be advised by email when their online order is ready for collection from the Shop.

Details of the WHSB School Uniform Policy can be accessed via the School website: <https://www.whsb.essex.sch.uk/uniform>

Second-hand Uniform

We are pleased to advise parents that the School Shop has increased its provision of second-hand uniform. Please contact uniform@whsb.essex.sch.uk for further details if this should be of interest.

If you have any clean, unwanted uniform which you wish to donate to the School in order to assist other pupils, please bring it to the School's Reception. Thank you for your support.

Physical Education Kit Requirement

Following consultation with pupils and parents in July 2022, and further discussion in meetings of the School Council, the School's Physical Education kit requirement has been amended from September 2024. The changes have been carefully managed to limit cost increases, for parents and for the School, without sacrificing quality.

The new kit is available to purchase from the School Shop.

Ms I Gimbutiene, School Shop Manager



WARHAMMER TOURNAMENTS

Wednesday 2 July 2025 and Friday 9 July 2025, 6.00am to 9.00pm

Warhammer continues to be a popular Wargame played by pupils at Wargaming Club.

Warhammer Alliance runs annual National School Tournaments at Warhammer World, Nottingham. WHSB has previously been very successful at these tournaments, with many of our pupils placing in the top ten out of 20-40 competitors. This also includes James (10S) achieving third place in the 2023 Warhammer Age of Sigmar Tournament, and second place in the 2024 Warhammer Age of Sigmar Tournament.

This year, pupils are preparing to compete in the Warhammer Age of Sigmar and Warhammer 40,000 School Tournaments. WHSB will be represented at both tournaments by a squad of ten pupils, their ages ranging from Year 8 to the Upper Sixth. Each pupil will compete in a series of three games against pupils from other schools, in the hope that their strategy and good luck will achieve victory.

Pupils will also be preparing the aesthetics of their chosen army, ensuring they are painted and based to a high standard, to be in the mix to be voted 'Best Painted Army'. A combination of game victories, well-painted armies, and good sportsmanship will ultimately decide the winner of the tournament.

The WHSB teams have been preparing their armies and practising their strategies, all eager for success, particularly James, who will be aiming for his third consecutive podium position.

Mrs Lo-Whitford, Head of Wargaming Club



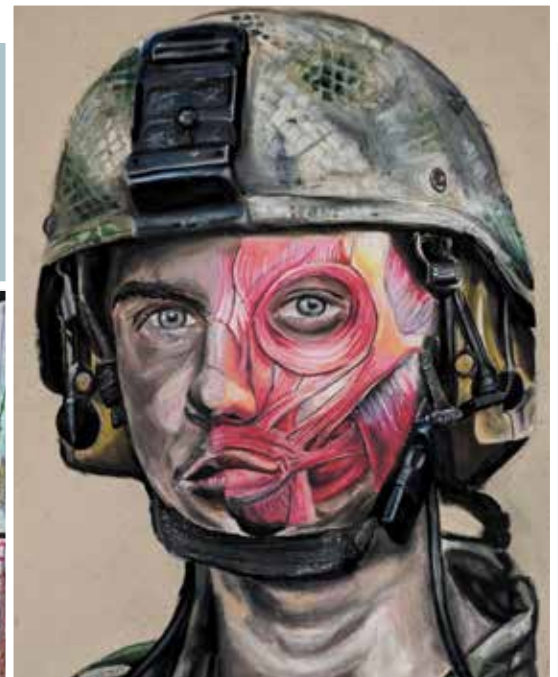
ART AND DESIGN EXHIBITION

Wednesday 2 July 2025, 4.00pm to 7.00pm

This Summer Term, we welcome back the Summer Exhibition - a collaboration between the Technology and Art Departments showcasing the amazing accomplishments of our pupils from Years 7 to 13. The Art Department, together with Room E31, is transformed into a space that rivals the RA or National Gallery, and pupils, staff, family, and friends attend to celebrate the beautiful creative works submitted to the collection. This event is a great source of pride every year, with a highlight being the ambitious installations in Room E27 created by our Upper Sixth students.

We hope to see many of you there this year to support your peers and enjoy the amazing range of talent within the Westcliff High School for Boys community.

Mrs K Allard, Head of Art





NEW YEAR 7 PUPIL INDUCTION DAY

Friday 4 July 2025

As we move towards the end of the School Year, we turn our attention to those pupils who will be joining the Westcliff High School for Boys community in September. On this day, we look forward to welcoming the incoming Year 7 to the School to meet staff, pupils, and each other before arriving in September 2025. The aim of the day is to familiarise the new pupils with the School and its community, and to help them prepare to join us.

Mr A Baggs, Director of Lower School



Joining the WHSB Community in Year 7, September 2024

HIGHER EDUCATION EVENING

Wednesday 2 July 2025, 7.30pm to 9.00pm

Students and their parents are expected to attend the Higher Education Evening, the beginning of the formal preparation for the students' next steps. This evening is designed to provide a series of talks explaining the process and critical elements to consider when making choices post-18 years of age.

The evening will provide opportunities for parents to access the wealth of staff experience, and also to ask any associated questions that they may have. In addition, a Higher Education Guide will be issued to all those who attend the event, ensuring parents have all the information they need to support their child's Higher Education journey.

Mr A Dean, Senior Master Sixth Form



YEAR 9 DUKE OF EDINBURGH BRONZE AWARD

Friday 4 July 2025

Forty-eight Year 9 pupils began their Bronze Award in February, following the School's application process. After the training programme, which ran primarily after school, there will be a local training day on Thursday 4 July. This will prepare them for the Assessment Expedition from Friday 19 to Saturday 20 September. The training and expedition provide a valuable opportunity for pupils to develop vital skills, including navigation, teamwork, and resilience, while also experiencing the great outdoors.

Mr H Tresidder, Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

NEW YEAR 7 PARENTS MEETING

Thursday 3 July 2025, 7.30pm to 9.00pm

Parents of the incoming Year 7 pupils will be welcomed into the School on Thursday 3 July, where they will have the opportunity to meet with each other and the Parents' Association, before being welcomed and introduced to the School by the Headmaster and Lower School Pastoral Office staff. This important evening will provide parents with the final information they will need to help support their sons through the transitional phase between primary and secondary school.

Mr A Baggs, Director of Lower School

BRONZE	
Volunteering 3 months	PLUS a further 3 months in the Volunteering, Physical or Skills section.
Physical 3 months	
Skills 3 months	
Expedition 2 days 1 night	

ENRICHMENT DAY

Friday 4 July 2025

Our Summer Enrichment Day is always an opportunity for pupils to step back from day-to-day subject-based studies and to approach their education and personal development through a different prism. This year will be no exception. We will be delighted to welcome in our incoming Year 7 cohort, who will enjoy a taste of the high-quality education and tremendous range of opportunities they will experience at Westcliff. Their immediate predecessors, the current Year 7 cohort, will travel to the City of Southend for geographical study, with ice-creams and sun lotion a necessary extra. Year 8 pupils can look forward to a day of Language Plays, an opportunity that has proven extremely popular and enjoyable in recent years, as well as very educational. Year 9 pupils will continue to prepare for House Drama, while those in Year 10 will benefit from a day learning further about potential careers and apprenticeships. Students in the Lower Sixth will start to prepare for their UCAS applications and careers beyond the Sixth Form.

We would like to thank all colleagues who are supporting Enrichment Day by showing flexibility, agility, and their extensive range of wider talents. In particular, we are very grateful indeed to colleagues taking a lead with each activity. We hope that all pupils will enjoy a stimulating and enriching day of fruitful activity, and would exhort them to be collaborative, supportive, and open to whatever new opportunities and challenges the day brings.

*Mr B Jeffreys, Associate Assistant Head,
Participation, Personal Development, and the Co-Curricular*



YEAR 7 GEOGRAPHY TRIP TO SOUTHEND

Enrichment Day will see the latest instalment of the WHSB Geography Department's annual trip to Southend. In a long-held tradition, the School's youngest pupils will travel en masse to the city and undertake a range of fieldwork tasks along the seafront and in the High Street. There will be a rotation of four activities on the seafront (looking at coastal management), the conservation area (looking at urban change), the city centre (studying land use) and onto Southend's world-famous pleasure pier (to collect data on tourism). If the weather is good, pupils should come prepared with sunscreen lotion and maybe some money to buy a lunchtime ice cream.

Mr M Shepherd, Head of Geography



YEAR 8 LANGUAGES PLAYS

The MFL Department is pleased to announce the return of the MFL drama day for Year 8 pupils. It is a day when pupils will work in a group of 4 or 5 and perform dialogues in German, Spanish, or French. It is great fun and the MFL teachers have been very impressed with many of the performances we have watched over the past three years.

There are two scenarios that pupils will prepare – at the reception of a hotel, and in a restaurant. It is a wonderful opportunity to work with other pupils to put together a short piece of drama, and to enjoy practising the sounds of the language. Pupils may bring in props, and they are also usually able to borrow costumes from the costume cupboard in the Westcliff Theatre. After a morning of rehearsals, one group is selected from the four groups who have worked on their plays in each classroom. This winning group then goes on to perform in the Westcliff Theatre in the afternoon and compete against two other groups in the same language. The whole Year Group watches the performances, and there are three for each language for the afternoon show. An overall winner and runner-up is chosen and prizes awarded.

Dialogues and groups will be shared in June, roughly two weeks before Enrichment Day. We very much look forward to working with the current Year 8 pupils and to watching their performances in July.

Ms J McKeown, Head of Modern Foreign Languages



YEAR 9 HOUSE DRAMA

This Summer Term, pupils in Year 9 will be given a day to help prepare for the House Drama competition that takes place later in the month. For those who are taking the opportunity to grace the stage, this will offer an opportunity to rehearse their performances, mastering character, practising the elegant delivery of lines, and trying on costumes. For those whose talents and interests are more



suitable to offstage participation, the day will also offer the opportunity to create artistic theatrical properties, to pick out appropriate costume, to interview performers and directors, and to use computers to prepare programmes. Once again, there will also be the opportunity to learn signing with the British Sign Language course, and we hope that one or more of this year's participants will feel inspired to sign at least part of a final performance. Above all, we hope that pupils will enjoy this very creative day, and would wish to thank all colleagues who support the Day and continue to make it so successful.

Mr B Jeffreys, Director of Drama



YEAR 10 CAREERS CAROUSEL

An aspect of our Careers Across the Curriculum Project is our Year 10 Careers Carousel Day.

Over the course of this event, our Year 10 pupils will work with Paul Robinson Solicitors, BAE, and also the Department for Work and Pensions and other employers, in order to undertake practical tasks to give them a meaningful experience of what it is like to work in these sectors.

Throughout the day, the pupils will be able to appreciate how the School's Learner Profile gives them necessary transferable Soft Skills and prepares them for the next stage of their journey.

Mr M Atkinson, Careers Adviser

LOWER SIXTH ENRICHMENT DAY

All Lower Sixth students will attend talks and seminars advising them on various options post-Sixth Form, including university study, apprenticeships, and employment. Representatives from the University of Essex and the University of Exeter will run workshops on student finance, writing personal statements, and planning applications. Additionally, students will be given time to explore the UCAS Hub and the Unifrog platform to start the university shortlisting process and explore potential careers and apprenticeship opportunities. By the end of the day, all Lower Sixth students should have planned the first draft of their personal statement used to support all university applications.

Mr A Dean, Senior Master Sixth Form



LOWER SIXTH GEOLOGY TRIP TO THE ISLE OF ARRAN

Saturday 5 - Friday 11 July 2025

Five A Level Geologists will visit the Isle of Arran between Saturday 5 and Friday 11 July 2025 in order to undertake their compulsory fieldwork studies. The field group will be based at the Lochranza Field Studies Centre on the north of the Island and, from this location, Geologists are able to study the nature of the rock, and to record how they were formed including their fossil content, folding and faulting, and their plate tectonic settings.

Part of the week will be spent undertaking investigative and problem-solving field exercises related to the origin of the North Atlantic Ocean approximately 65 million years ago, before which Scotland and Greenland were conjoined. Part of such work will include building their own geological maps.

The Isle of Arran is considered to be a world-class location for geological studies and the students will develop knowledge and understanding of field geology and be able to relate such work to their class studies. Transferable skills such as numeracy, problem-solving, and teamwork are all developed within an area of outstanding natural beauty, characterised by mountainous glaciated terrain.

Mr P Marlow, Head of Geology





CCF COMBINED SUMMER CAMP

Sunday 6 - Friday 11 July 2025

This year, CCF Summer Camps take on a different format to usual; all three sections – the Royal Navy, Army, and Royal Air Force – will be attending camp together, engaging in some shared activities, whilst pursuing the specialist training of their own Service.

The Camp will take place at the Cadet Training Centre in Bassingbourn, Cambridgeshire, and will be open to cadets in Years 10 to the Upper Sixth. The Camp will comprise a wide range of activities, including visits, field exercises, adventurous training, water-based courses, archery, assault course, climbing, and much more. This promises to be an exciting and enjoyable Camp!

Lt Col A C Baggs, CCF Contingent Commander

LOWER SIXTH MATHS PROBLEM SOLVING CONFERENCE

Wednesday 9 July 2025

Students in the Lower Sixth will be invited to attend a variety of workshops at the University of Essex that will allow students to discuss mathematical problems in groups and try out problem solving strategies. They will be encouraged to think about different ways of looking at example problems, and to consider how to approach their writing and presenting of mathematical solutions. The aim will be to increase their depth of mathematical understanding and so gain confidence in attempting more challenging questions and problems.

Miss A James, Director of Mathematics



YEAR 9 HOUSE DRAMA EVENING

Thursday 10 July 2025, 7.30pm to 9.00pm

This Summer Term, each House will present a mythology tale as part of our wonderful evening of performed folklore that is the Annual House Drama Competition. This competition creates an opportunity for Lower Sixth students to lead as directors and producers of plays, and many very talented Old Westcliffians have trodden this path as a starting point for further directing at University and beyond. The event also offers Year 9 pupils an opportunity to have a go at acting in a less pressured environment than might be experienced in a whole School production.

The four short plays will again be taken from a repertoire of mythology plays that tell the story, perhaps, of Thor and his Hammer, Greek and Egyptian Gods and Goddesses, or the North American explanation of Why Bears No Longer Talk. And if not these, then some other

absorbing ancient folkish tale. Year 9 pupils will have some special time to prepare for this on Enrichment Day, and I look forward to seeing the creative energy of these pupils unleashed in rehearsal, costume design, property manufacture, set building and programme creation on that day.

Tickets for the evening itself will be available on [TicketSource](#) and we would love to see as many Year 9s and their parents as possible in attendance to make this a Year 9 special event!

Mr B Jeffreys, Director of Drama



YEAR 10 PHASE THREE REPORTS

Friday 11 July 2025

On Friday 11 July, pupils in Year 10 will receive their Phase 3 report, which includes their teachers' full written comment. This is an important milestone as they will have now covered at least fifty percent of their GCSE courses, and this Report should leave them with a very clear sense of where they are and how they can continue to improve.

Pupils will need to reflect on the comments within and engage with their teachers in the remaining weeks on how best to use their summer break to consolidate their position further. This is an excellent opportunity for parents to engage with their sons about their approach towards their academic studies so far, and how effective the revision techniques they have used have been. If pupils feel they require further support, they should speak to their tutor in the first instance. The Middle School Pastoral Team is, of course, on hand to offer support as may be necessary.

Mr A Barnett, Director of Middle School

SUMMER BIG BAND AND BBQ

Friday 11 July 2025, 7.00pm to 10.00pm

Our popular Summer Big Band event features pop, rock, jazz, and funk music from across the decades, performed in the open air (subject to weather conditions) by musicians from across the School. Expect to see smaller pupil-led groups supporting bigger ensembles like the Westcliff Choir, the Jazz Band, and, of course, the Big Band.

The mix of styles at this event is always eclectic, and this year will be no exception. Expect to hear music from artists and composers as diverse as The Who, Prince, Gershwin, and Dua Lipa, all while burgers and sausages are flipped on the grill. This concert is the last music event of the year, and it is sure to usher in the summer break with a bang!

Mr T Derrick, Director of Music



SPORTS DAY

Tuesday 15 July 2025

This year, Sports Day will, as usual, be organised along the lines of a House Competition, in a format that we hope will continue to offer excitement for spectators and further increase the significance of the event for competitors. Points awarded in these events are added to the overall House points total for the year, in addition to those already awarded to each House for their success in competitions across a range of sports and other activities. Thus, the points awarded on Sports Day contribute to the overall 'Inter-House Championship'.

The Athletics Programme will commence at 11.10am on the School's Lower Field. We are sure that the standard of competition will continue to be high and hope that everyone derives a great deal of enjoyment from participating in events, assisting in organising the proceedings, and watching friends and family compete.

All competitors who take part in the events will gain points for their House team as long as they finish their race or record a valid throw or jump in. It is important, therefore, that all House teams are complete so that each may score as many points as possible.

ORDER OF EVENTS: (Track)

11.10am -12.45pm	Track - See running order below
1.50pm - 2.45pm	Track - See running order below
2.45pm	Relays
3.20pm	Results and Presentation of Trophies by the Headmaster
3.35pm	Pupils may leave after being dismissed



FIELD EVENTS: (N.B. 3 attempts in throws and jumps)

11.20am	All Year 7 Field Event competitors report to event judges
11.50am	All Year 8 Field Event competitors report to event judges
12.20pm	All Year 10 Field Event competitors report to event judges
1.55pm	All Year 9 Field Event competitors report to event judges
2.20pm	All Lower Sixth Field Event competitors report to event judges



Mr M Fletcher, Director of Sport

MEDUCATORS WORKSHOP

Wednesday 16 July 2025, 9.00am to 12.50pm

Medicine, Dentistry, and Veterinary Studies (MDV) continue to be popular course choices for many of our Sixth Form students. The MDV Society has been going from strength to strength each year, with this academic year bringing in record attendance for the Society.

As part of WHSB's programme for any pupil who aspires to study Medicine, Dentistry, or Veterinary Studies, we liaise with Meducators UK to provide a series of healthcare workshops. Meducators UK is an Education company that provides affordable interactive workshops for pupils interested in studying any healthcare course at University.

The workshops involve a series of activities delivered by healthcare professionals and/or senior medical students. During the workshops, students will rotate around multiple stations, each of which will teach a different skill and provide them with a taster of what life is like in the healthcare profession. This also provides evidence towards students' UCAS personal statements. Please note there is a cost per pupil for the workshop.

Priority will be given to Lower Sixth students in the allocation of places. If the minimum number is not met, then places will be made available to Middle School pupils.

If you are a Lower Sixth student aspiring to work in healthcare and have not yet signed up for this workshop, please see Mrs Lo-Whitford.

Mrs E Lo-Whitford, Higher Education Adviser for Medicine



PHYSICAL EDUCATION COLOURS ASSEMBLY

Tuesday 22 July 2025

The Physical Education Colours Assembly is an opportunity for the Physical Education Department to celebrate the sporting achievements of the academic year and to honour pupils with colours awards. These awards recognise pupils' commitment, dedication, and athletic excellence across the various sports in which WHSB competes throughout the year. It is also an opportunity to review the Year in Sport at WHSB.

Mr M Futcher, Director of Sport



CCF PASS OFF PARADE AND MESS DINNER

Friday 18 July 2025, 5.00pm to 10.30pm

The Annual CCF Pass Off Parade and Mess Dinner is the culmination of the year for the Combined Cadet Force. It offers an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of cadets in the CCF, and it also showcases the CCF to the whole School community.

The event starts with a formal parade and inspection, before awards, certificates, and promotions are awarded to the Cadets. Later, the Mess Dinner takes place in a traditional military format, and gives cadets, parents, Old Westcliffian former cadets, staff, and guests an opportunity to enjoy an experience which is unique to the Armed Forces.

It is a particularly important evening, as it gives the CCF an opportunity to bid farewell to the Senior Cadets who will be leaving the CCF at the end of the Upper Sixth, and to recognise the outstanding contribution they have made both to the CCF and to the School.

Lt Col A C Baggs, CCF Contingent Commander





FOOD TECHNOLOGY AT WHSB

Ef00d Society

I am glad to say that the Ef00d Society (E stands for Ethical) has been running since Spring 2024 and is a society that teaches pupils in Years 8 and 9 a wide range of simple recipes that calls for ingredients that are usually wasted. After carrying out some research, I found that bread, bananas, milk, potatoes, and salads are the most wasted food items in the UK (source: UKHarevest.org.uk). Recipes usually include one or two of these top 5 wasted foods as the main ingredient, helping to save items that would normally go to waste at home. Examples of meals pupils have made include cinnamon breadsticks, banana pudding, nachos, bread enchiladas, and potato pancakes. The Ef00d society continues to be a fantastic outlet for those that have a flare for cooking, helping to reinforce the skills learned in lessons besides giving them the opportunity to learn new skills.

During the summer term we plan to continue running sessions that will be open to Year 7 pupils, during which they can learn simple recipes. There will be an ice-cream making session open to all pupils. Finally, competitions for pupils in Years 8 and 9 will take place in a MasterChef-style setting to see who is our best cook!



GASTRO 8

The Gastronomy society is open to a small number of pupils selected for their passion, knowledge, and emerging skill with cooking. Gastronomy is the Art and Science of creating and eating food. As pupils attend on a fortnightly basis, they are exposed to new and challenging recipes that require skill, speed, and creativity to execute. This term, pupils will be using the recipes and techniques they have learned previously to create a dish that encapsulates creativity, skilful techniques, and a unique combination of flavours.

During last term, the pupils were introduced to new skills and recipes, such as making glow in the dark jelly with a sugar cage, fruit caviar with pannacotta, and berry compote.

Food pairing is based on the idea that food ingredients go together if they share the same aromatic compounds. Food pairing is a method that can be used skilfully to create new taste experiences for people who have a restricted diet, e.g. vegans and vegetarians. Pupils will be experimenting with flavours combinations that seem unusual in order to create a unique tasting dish that is striking yet very palatable.



Gastro 8

Making fruit caviar



Gastro 8

Making fruit caviar with panna cotta & berry compote



Gastro 8 Food Pairing Reviews



Zach Waters: Chocolate and Coriander Cupcakes



"After tasting various food combinations in Gastro 8, my favourite choice was to go for chocolate and coriander. The two flavours came together really well, with the coriander reducing the overall sweetness of the chocolate, creating a delicious combination. The main reason why I did not give my cupcakes a 5 star rating was because there was still too much of a chocolate flavour, which I can fix next time by adding more coriander!"



Thomas Lin: Review of Cheese & Honey muffins



"I made cheese and honey muffins. The combination of sweet honey and savoury cheese worked well, and it had delicious flavour. However, the texture was a bit too sticky, which made them harder to handle. Despite that, they still tasted great, and I would love to try making them again with a few adjustments. Also, I would like to try different unusual food combinations next time."



Dani Ahmed: Mango & Chocolate muffins



"The muffins had a dark colour from the cocoa powder and yet were sweet and juicy. The mangoes gave the muffins a jelly-like taste and it made them quite sweet; the chocolate chips added an extra touch of milk chocolate. The aroma was chocolatey and fruity. Overall, I think that mango goes really well with chocolate cake, and it is a dish that should be normalised."

Miss D Ominisi, Teacher of Food Technology



PERFORMING THE MADNESS OF GEORGE III























Westcliff High School for Boys: The Madness of King George - a magnificent mash-up of history's greatest hits

As an NSTA Representative, I had the absolute pleasure of attending Westcliff High School for Boys' production of *The Madness of King George* on Wednesday 19th March 2025. Alan Bennett's *The Madness of George III* is one of his greatest plays - subsequently turned into the powerful 1994 film *The Madness of King George* - but I could never have expected its transformation under the visionary direction of Mr Jeffreys. The library at Westcliff High School for Boys had been converted with black drapes and staging blocks into an intimate temporary studio theatre. An amazing opening - choreographed magnificently by Ms Milner and featuring the whole ensemble in gold top hats - brought it bang up to date with a surprise. Star sixth former Rafael fronted the first of one of the show's many delightfully unexpected musical interpolations, a dazzling performance of King George's big number 'I'll Be Back' from Lin-Manuel Miranda's epoch-defining Broadway smash *Hamilton*.

Then, back we were again in not one, but two brilliantly realised historical timeframes! The original action of the play takes place in 1788, during the Regency Crisis when Tory Prime Minister William Pitt the Younger faced off against the reform-minded Leader of the Opposition Charles James Fox, who was in favour of replacing the increasingly erratic King George with his son, playboy Prince of Wales. But at Westcliff, all the key parliamentary action was transplanted into the midst of the 1980s. So, channelling Mrs Thatcher with a blonde permed wig, blue rosette and handbag, Edith was a formidable and fantastically fun to watch Pitt the Younger. A wonderful range of Opposition politicians was modelled on brilliant left-wing and centre left stereotypes of the time; Old Labour was represented by somewhat shady trade unionist types in thirties throwback black trilbies, while Noah as Fox brilliantly revived the spirit of Tony Blair, Peter Mandelson and New Labour.

Ms Cleave's costuming was genuinely a thing of absolute genius, as she bridged subtly back into the show's other timeframe: Fox's dapper red suit was paired with a red embroidered silk waistcoat and a thick velvet tie which was half classic 80s Moss Bros, and half 18th century cravat. Also forming a bridge between the timeframes was the hilarious Conor as Baron Thurlow, Lord Chancellor. Lounging casually across his chair in an early scene, he evoked the recent political upper-class nonchalance of Jacob Rees-Mogg, while his coiffed black wig complemented his complex characterisation, with Michael 'Tarzan' Heseltine's 1980s swagger, 18th century period decadence, and Conor's own unique nuances. The most delightful piece of 80s retro hilarity was a gym scene where Conor and other politicians danced (in garishly multi-coloured shell suits, shorts and leg warmers) to one of the show's many 80s pop classics, Olivia Newton-John's workout classic 'Let's Get Physical'.

In the fully 18th century world of the monarchy, I was particularly delighted by two superb groups of roles. Showing how the best school theatre can bring an entire community together, a quintet of younger pupils were a delightful set of servants to King George: "Sharp, sharp! The King! The King!" they cried in perfect unison each time he appeared. But, as his mental health deteriorated, they became gradually ruder and more discourteous. Without their small-but-vital parts and excellent acting, the play's core theme around the collapse of the established order could not have been realised.



King George's old-fashioned doctors were beautifully backward. Ronnie (in a long red curly wig as Sir George Baker) and Gabriel (channeling both Regency fashion and Brian May in with his black locks as Dr Richard Warren) were side-splittingly secure in their ability to get medicine confidently and completely wrong, but also in their despairing inability to get King George to do what they thought was best by the accepted knowledge of their time. After King George took it upon himself to ignore a careful dose of laxatives (with predictable consequences), the night-and-day care of the servants and doctors was underlined by another of Mr Jeffrey's spot-on musical choices, Wham!'s 'Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go'. Which paved the way for William (in full 18th century get-up, aside from blue latex plastic gloves) to delight in handling, sniffing and waving around sticky blobs of brown from the King's chamber pot.

We're already clear that this was a totally brilliant unique interpretation of Alan Bennett's masterpiece, but this was absolutely embedded by our fourth and final doctor, the Puritan mental health specialist Dr Willis. Played with such fanatically religious determination by Ian Holm in the film, this could have been over the top. But, instead, Oliver was quiet, calm and (almost) utterly certain that his new methods (and God) would heal the monarch. "I am the King of England!" exclaimed Rafael at the end of Act 1. "No, sir, you are the patient", Oliver's Dr Willis replied, calmly and surely, as he carefully but firmly bandaged the King's head where his crown had been earlier.

Do I seem to have missed something? Ah, yes! "Sharp, sharp! The King! The King!" Leaving Rafael's performance out really would be a case of "*Hamlet* without the Prince". In short, it was all there, especially when he'd lost it all. In a wonderful scene late in Act 2, as the King starts to recover, Rafael reads brilliantly from literature's crowning portrait of a mad monarch, Shakespeare's *King Lear*. In it, he blended back together all the quirky eccentricity of his portrayal of the sane king, and all the sadly predictable pandemonium and pain of his temporary insanity. This was exceptional.

This is real greatness in school theatre. There was fun, there was joy, there was brilliant wit. There was tragedy, there was pathos, there was subtlety, there was nuance. There were surprises (some already written by Bennett, some conjured up by Mr Jeffreys and the company), but such unity and amazing realisation of a complex vision that it all seemed perfectly inevitable. The community of Westcliff High School for Boys must know how lucky they are to have such an exceptional performing arts programme. Mr Jeffreys, Ms Cleave and Ms Milner's concept and execution - to which each student in the ensemble had also clearly contributed so much inventiveness, creativity and historical insight - was ready for the West End stage. Today you might cast Benedict Cumberbatch or Andrew Scott as ideal leads, but in twenty years' time, it could be any of these phenomenally talented young actors, from the talented lead Rafael to any of the Year 7s. Westcliff High School for Boys showed us the importance of every individual person's role in our world. They used all our yesterdays, but they did it utterly brilliantly today.

National School Theatre Awards

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SPRING TERM 2025 IN PICTURES



*Cambridge Schools' Debating Competition
2025 Regional Finalists*



Careers in STEM Evening



Chemistry Lecture, Old Westcliffian Dr Alex Baker



Aerospace Careers Programme



Apprenticeship Week First Intuition



Apprenticeship Week visit from Mogan Stanley



David Burton-Sampson MP meets with pupils in WHSB's Centenary Room



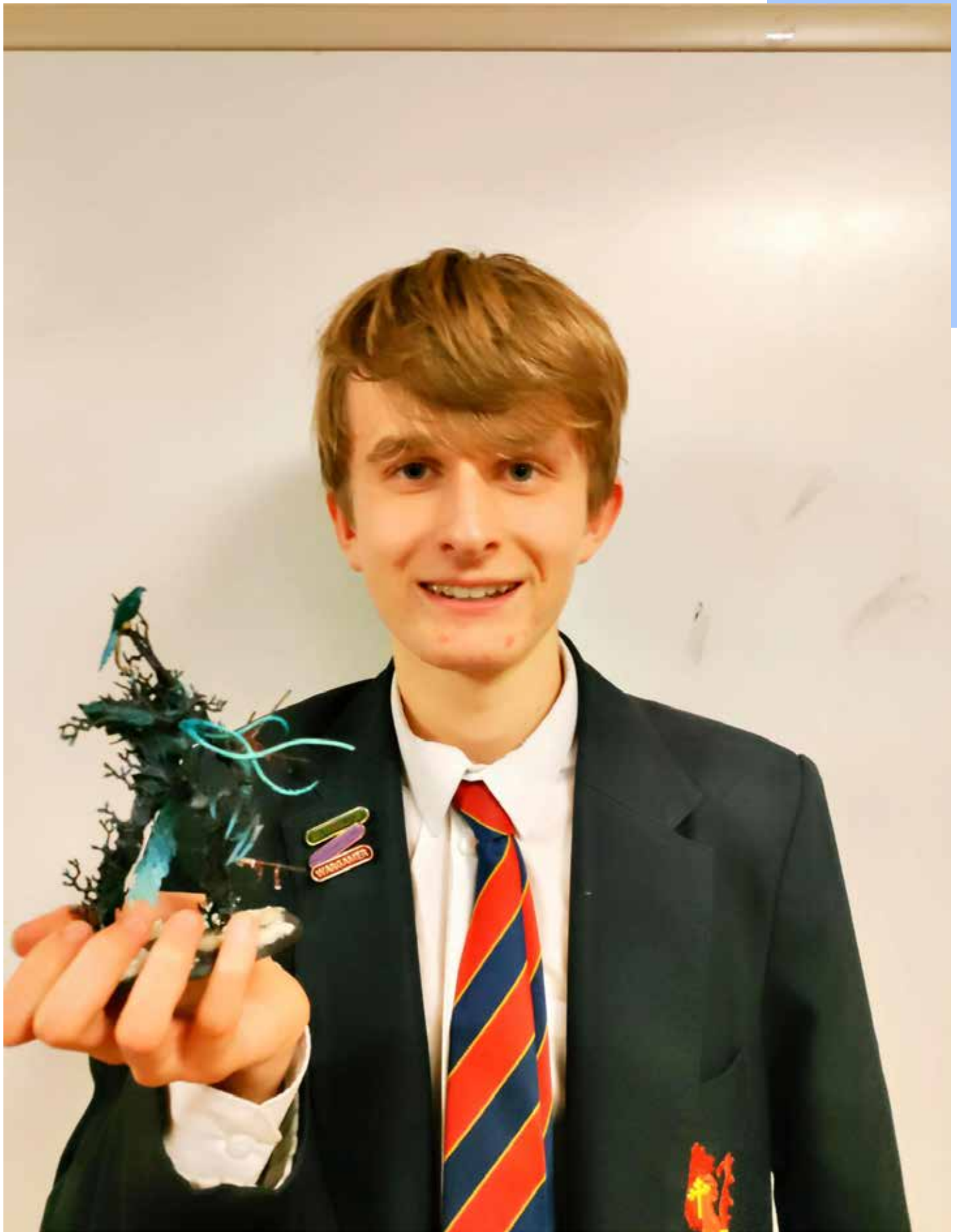
Geology Trip to the Jurassic Coast, Dorset



Have Your Say Modern Foreign Language Competition Success



Hosting the Regional Final for the Team Maths Challenge, and second place success for Jason, Logan, Kevin and Aqeeb



James, Year 10, wins the Autumn House Wargaming Painting Competition



King's Coronation Medals for CCF Staff Volunteers



Lower Sixth Personal Development Event



Collaborative and Supportive



Watson Farley and Williams during Apprenticeship Week



Year 7 Teambuilding at Kingpins Bowl



Medicine Dentistry and Veterinary Society deliver gifts to Rochford Hospital (Autumn Term donations)



National Junior Chemistry Challenge Success



Pegasus Lecture, Old Westcliffian Lexi Stump



Pi Day Celebration Biscuits

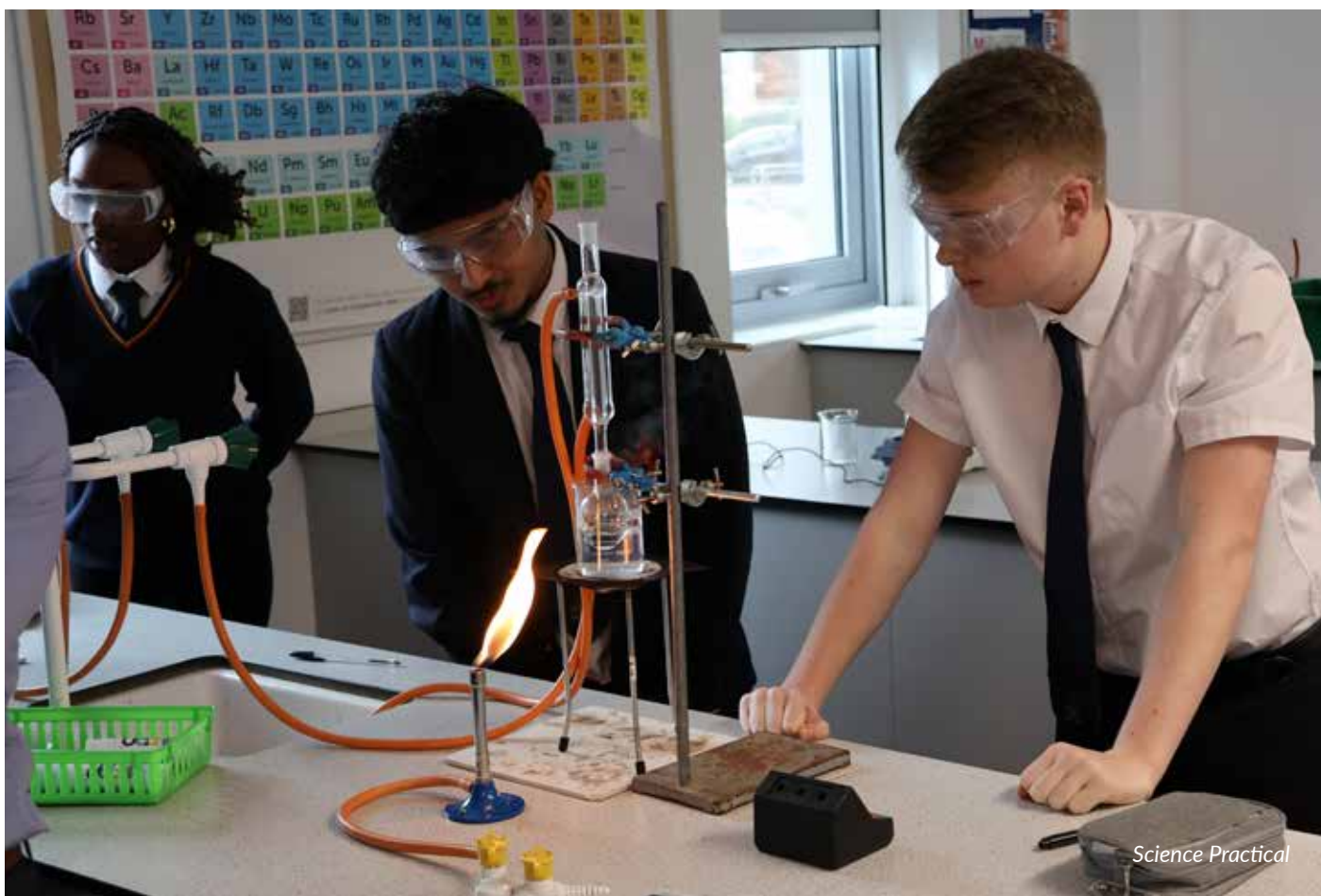
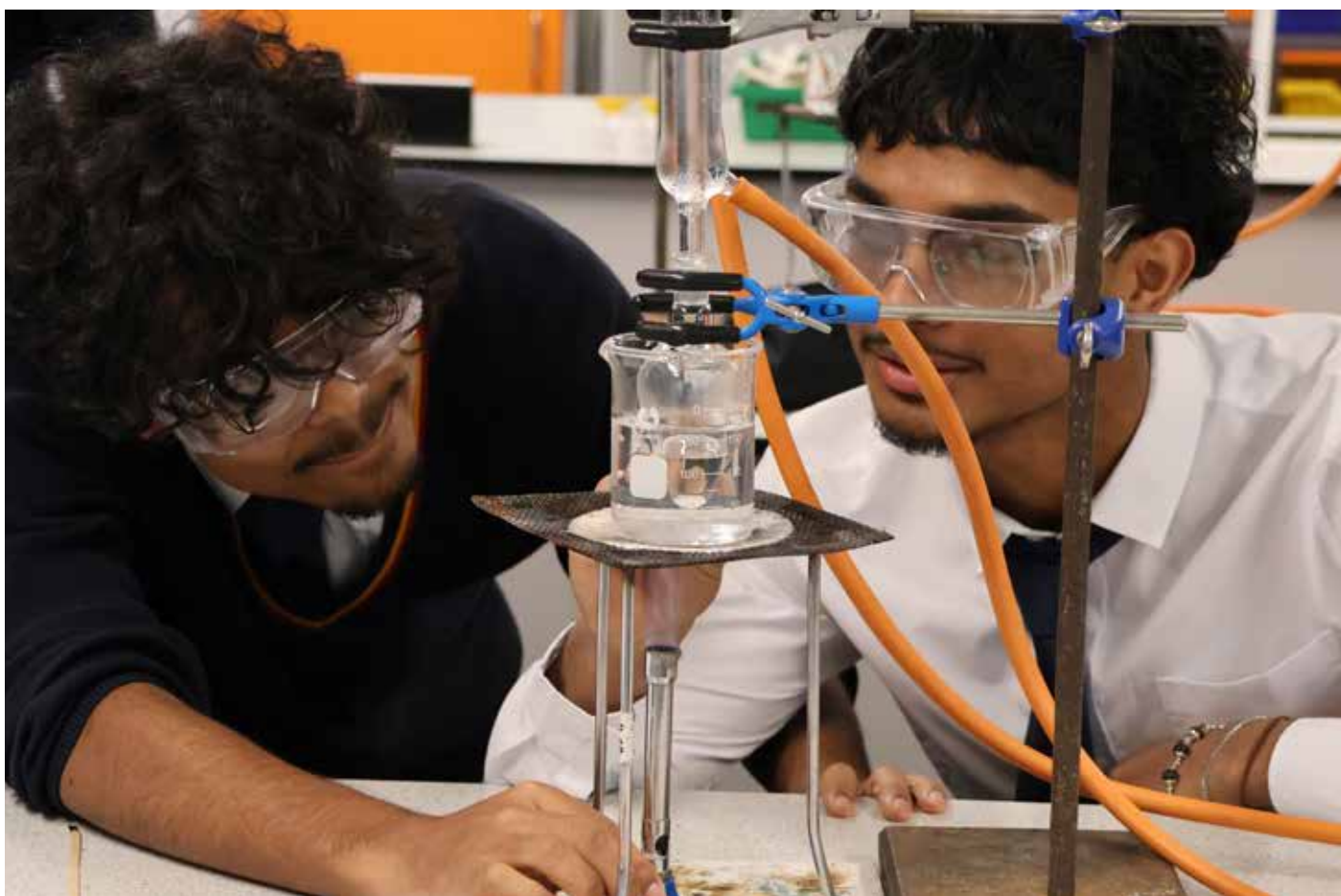


Putting the fun into fundraising, Year 7 Loud Tie Day





Royal Navy Cadets at Kelvedon Hatch





Skiing in Bardonecchia, Italy





Skiing in Bardonecchia, Italy



Intermediate Mathematical Challenge 2025
GOLD CERTIFICATE WINNERS





Spring Chamber Concert



Spring Chamber Concert



Spring Sinfonia





Spring Sinfonia



Spring Sinfonia



Trip to Andalusia, Spain





Trip to Andalusia, Spain





Trip to Andalusia, Spain



: Visiting CERN, Geneva



Visiting CERN, Geneva

THE WHSB PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Looking back at the last academic year, thanks to the support of our School Community the Parents' Association has funded a variety of resources and equipment across different departments for the benefit of pupils throughout the School.



The Art Department has been able to refurbish the School's kiln and, together with clay and tools funded by the Parents' Association, pupils are now able to broaden their range of creative skills using this medium. The Biology Department has benefitted from new stethoscopes, a hands-on teaching resource of particular relevance to those keen on a career in medicine. With our support, the Music Department has added clash symbols to the range of instruments available to

pupils, and teaching and learning within the History Department will benefit from the addition of visualisers in the classroom setting. Also, the Design and Technology Department has been able to purchase new sanding and power tools, enabling pupils to enhance the quality of their finished products. Finally, the Parents' Association was delighted to be able to assist the School's Robotics Club, dedicated to robotic engineering, AI/VR, and computer coding, with the purchase of new kit enabling pupils throughout the School to build on their knowledge of and enthusiasm for this advanced technology.

The Parents' Association looks forward to contributing to the School again this year, and thanks you in advance for your continued support. We always welcome new volunteers - we meet online termly and stay connected via email. Look out for us this term at the School's Summer Band and BBQ in July when we will be running the bar and holding a luxury raffle. Please contact us if you would like to help or to be added to our mailing list pa@whsb.essex.sch.uk.



Easyfundraising is a shopping directory listing some of the UK's favourite online stores including Amazon, John Lewis, Marks & Spencer and over 2,000 others. Just use the links on the Easyfundraising site whenever you shop online and, at no extra cost to you, the PA will receive a free donation of up to 15% from every purchase you make. It really is that simple, and it is completely FREE to register. You will not pay a penny more for your shopping when you use the Easyfundraising site. In fact, you can even SAVE MONEY as many retailers offer discounts, special offers and even 'e-vouchers' exclusive to Easyfundraising.

If you shop online anyway, then why not raise valuable extra funds for us by using this fantastic scheme. All you need to do is visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk and, when you register, select Westcliff High School for Boys as the organisation you wish to support <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/westcliffhighschoolforboys/>. The easiest way to raise money is by downloading the app. The more members of our School Community who choose to support us in this way, the more money we can raise for the School. Our thanks in anticipation.

Mrs Ghauri, Parents' Association Chair

CALENDAR FOR SUMMER TERM 2025

Tuesday 22 April	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY
Tuesday 22 April	Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge Regional Finals
Wednesday 23 April	SUMMER TERM BEGINS, 8.40am
Wednesday 23 April	Visiting GCE French Examiner
	Careers Event (Year 7 pd 5, Year 8 pd 6)
	Lower Sixth EDT to Leonardo, Basildon
Thursday 24 April	CCF Army/RAF Y9 and Lower Sixth to Mereworth Woods
24 -25 April	GCSE German Speaking Examinations
Monday 28 April	GCSE Art Examination
	Year 10 Parents' Consultation Evening, 4.00pm to 6.00pm
Wednesday 30 April	GCE Physical Education Moderator In School
30 April - 1 May	GCSE French Speaking Examinations
Thursday 1 May	Junior Mathematical Challenge
	Summer Chamber Recital, 7.30pm to 9.00pm
1 - 2 May	GCSE Spanish Speaking Examinations
Friday 2 May	GCE Art Examination begins (3 days)
6 - 16 May	Lower Sixth Internal Examinations
7 - 8 May	GCE Spanish Speaking Examinations
8 - 10 May	Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Silver Practice Expedition, South Downs
Thursday 8 May	Astronomy Society Meet-up, 7.00pm to 9.00pm
Friday 9 May	CCF RN Trip to HMS Queen Elizabeth
	Study Leave for Year 11 Begins 3.35pm
Tuesday 13 May	Parents' Association Meeting, 7.30pm to 9.00pm
Thursday 15 May	Study Leave for Upper Sixth Begins 3.35pm
Friday 16 May	Upper Sixth Leavers' Assembly and Barbecue
19 - 23 May	Lower Sixth Work Experience Placement Week
Friday 23 May	Lost Property Reclaim, Main Hall, 3.35pm
26 - 30 May	SUMMER HALF TERM
Monday 2 June	School restarts after Half Term Break
2 - 6 June	Years 7 - 10 Internal Examinations
Friday 6 June	Lower Sixth Internal Examination Report Issued (Data Only)
Saturday 7 June	9E Form Trip to Megazone
Tuesday 10 June	Junior Kangaroo/Olympiad Mathematical Challenge
Wednesday 11 June	Royal Philharmonic Orchestra Trip, Cadogan Hall, departs 4.00pm
11 - 14 June	Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Silver Assessment
12 - 13 June	Lower Sixth Geography Fieldwork, Southend & East London
Saturday 14 June	WCGC Go For Grammar! Sport, Adventure and Leadership
Monday 16 June	Year 8 HPV Immunisations, Gym
Tuesday 17 June	GCSE Geography Fieldwork, Westcliff
Thursday 19 June	Lower Sixth Geography Fieldwork, Southend & East London
	Astronomy Society Meet-up, 7.00pm to 9.00pm
21 - 22 June	HARP 24 Charity Run 2025
Tuesday 24 June	OPEN EVENING - SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 12.50pm
Wednesday 25 June	Lower Sixth Medics to Southend Hospital
	Year 10 Mathematics Enrichment Day, Southend
Thursday 26 June	Lower Sixth EDT to Watford Grammar School
	Summer Sinfonia Concert, 7.30pm to 9.00pm
	Sixth Form Induction Day (11N, 11S and 11L)
Friday 27 June	7W Form Trip to Oxygen Activeplay
	Charity Events
	Lower Sixth Phase 3 Report Issued (Full Written)
	Sixth Form Induction Day (11E, 11W and 11C)

30 June - 1 July	Lower Sixth Chemistry Field Trip to UEA
Wednesday 2 July	Warhammer Tournament, Warhammer World, Nottingham, 6.00am to 9.00pm
	Art & Design Exhibition, 4.00pm to 7.00pm
	Higher Education Evening, 7.30pm to 9.00pm
Thursday 3 July	New Year 7 Parents Information Evening, 7.30pm to 9.00pm
Friday 4 July	Enrichment Day
	Year 7 Geography Fieldwork, Southend
	New Year 7 Transition and Induction Day
	Year 8 Languages Plays
	Year 9 House Drama
	Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Practice
	Year 10 Careers Carousel
	Lower Sixth Enrichment Seminars
5 - 11 July	Lower Sixth Geology to Isle of Arran
6 - 11 July	CCF Army/RN/RAF Summer Camp
Wednesday 9 July	Lower Sixth Mathematics Problem Solving Conference, University of Essex
	Warhammer Tournament, Warhammer World, Nottingham
Thursday 10 July	Astronomy Society Meet-up, 7.00pm to 9.00pm
	Year 9 House Drama Evening, 7.30pm to 9.00pm
Friday 11 July	Year 9 Phase 3 Report Issued (Data Only)
	Year 10 Phase 3 Report Issued (Full Written)
	Warhammer Age of Sigmar Tournament, Warhammer World, 6.00am to 9.00pm
	GCSE Geography Fieldwork, Walton-on-the-Naze
	Summer Big Band and BBQ, 7.00pm to 10.00pm
14 - 18 July	Y10 English NEA Speaking and Listening Examinations
Monday 14 July	GCSE Geography Fieldwork
	Upper Sixth Leavers' Dinner
Tuesday 15 July	Sports Day
	Years 8 and 9 Catch-up Immunisations
Wednesday 16 July	Meducators Workshop, 9.00am to 12.50pm
Thursday 17 July	Reserve Sports Day
	GCSE Geography Fieldwork
Friday 18 July	Year 7 Phase 3 Report Issued (Data Only)
	Year 8 Phase 3 Report Issued (Full Written)
	Lower Sixth Biology Brain Bank, King's College London
	CCF Pass-off Parade and Dinner, 5.00pm to 10.30pm
Tuesday 22 July	Physical Education Colours Assembly
	Lost Property Reclaim, Main Hall, 3.35pm
Wednesday 23 July	SUMMER TERM ENDS, 2.45pm
27 - 31 July	Edinburgh Fringe Rehearsals
1 - 10 August	Edinburgh Fringe Trip
Thursday 14 August	A Level Examination Results Day
Thursday 21 August	GCSE Examination Results Day
Monday 1 September	STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY
Tuesday 2 September	AUTUMN TERM BEGINS, 8.40am

Tickets for all Westcliff Diary events can be purchased via TicketSource at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/westcliff-on-sea/westcliff-high-school-for-boys/>



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