



Newsletter

The White Hills Park Federation Trust

Issue 162– 2nd March 2018

This Week's School Closures

I hope you are surviving the cold and snow - my diary tells me that I am writing this on the second day of Spring, but 'The Beast from the East' seems to have had other ideas! I would like to let parents know how reluctant we were to close our schools – this is the first time we have done this in my time here, and I very much hope it will be the last. As you will know, we are always very keen to stress the importance of being in school, and the value of each school day, so to close at short notice is disruptive and inconvenient for us, and as a parent, I know how frustrating it can be for you to have to make alternative arrangements. Although bad weather had been forecast, the amount of snow we had overnight on Wednesday was greater than all the forecasts I had read, and had a huge impact.

I thought it would be helpful to give you some detail about the reasons for the decision:

- ◇ Firstly, it was very difficult to access both sites by car, due to the large amount of snow on the driveways and the difficulties of reaching the car parks safely. If all the staff had to park outside schools, it would potentially be very dangerous and inconvenient. The sites themselves were fairly treacherous – as fast as site staff cleared paths and drives, snow was falling and blowing around. As you know, it is necessary for students to move from building to building during the day so there were some potential hazards in having everyone on site;
- ◇ Secondly and most importantly, I realised very early on Thursday that we were likely to have significant numbers of staff who were unable to reach the school. We have staff who live in Hucknall, Leicestershire, Derbyshire, Ravenshead, North and West Nottinghamshire and so on, who would have really struggled to get in safely, and who were being advised locally not to travel. This was complicated by the knock-on effect of staff who have young children at other schools that were announcing closures before us, and so they were struggling to arrange childcare at short notice. I was conscious that the worst case scenario would have been to have brought students in and then had to send them home because we didn't have enough staff to look after them safely. Amongst the staff who were struggling were members of our site team and catering team, which could have complicated everything further.

Although it's enormously frustrating to have to close the schools, I trust that many of our students made the most of this unexpected opportunity to enjoy the snow, and I'm sure they will have fond memories of these two days. Thank you all for your support and understanding – all the parents I have spoken to have recognised the need for the decision. Fingers crossed for a thaw this weekend, and a more conventional week next week!

Paul Heery

Executive Principal

Dates for your Diary

March	FED	AWS	BC	BC6F
3rd - 6th	KS5 Psychology and Media Conference Paris			
8th	Parents' Forum 18:30 - 20:00 Alderman White School			
11th - 14th	Year 9 Hagg Farm Residential			
12th - 27th	Year 10 Mock Exams			
14th - 17th	Year 9 Hagg Farm Residential			
15th 16th 17th	Spring Production 19:00 Alderman White School Hall			
19th	KS4 Criminology Conference Manchester			
20th	Year 8 Reports Issued			

Please see our websites to view a full calendar of events and important dates.

£10 Notes

Please note that following the withdrawal of the 'old' paper £10 notes by the Bank Of England, as of Friday 2nd March these can no longer be accepted as a valid form of payment within the Federation.

WHP Finance Department



Alderman White German Exchange

One of the highlights of the school year took place over February half-term when our students gained a unique insight into the everyday-life of another European country. The German Exchange has been a feature of our annual trips calendar for over 30 years. In this time countless friendships have been forged between Alderman White students and their peers at our partner-school, Staedtisches Gymnasium in the town of Guetersloh which is officially twinned with the Borough of Broxtowe. I had hardly been there 10 minutes when I was surrounded by previous participants in the exchange all eagerly telling me how they had enjoyed their visit to the UK and in many cases had met up privately with their partners on the exchange. Over the years I have lost count of the number of students who said that the exchange had been a platform for studying or working abroad.

This year's students made the very most of the opportunities offered to them, from their involvement in school and family-life to the visit to one of

Germany's famous food-manufacturers, Dr Oetker, best known in the UK for their pizzas and sprinkles. Needless to say the tasting sessions went down particularly well. The company also produces a range of puddings which have yet to make their way to the UK but who knows after every student received a goody bag! Other highlights included a two-day trip to the romantic town of Rothenburg ob der Tauber and the impressive city of Nuernberg in the state of Bavaria. It was too late for Oktoberfest (luckily or unluckily!) and too cold to catch sight of the traditional Lederhosen! The week concluded with a brilliant joint concert with Emily March and Toby Graham making us very proud alongside their peers from George Spencer, Amelia Chardon, Megan Lamplough and Charlotte Eaton.

I would like to thank all the students who took part, I could not be more proud of all of you - and to Ms Dalton who once again was kind enough to accompany the group.



Prom Fundraising at Alderman White

There is a lot of activity happening at the moment focussed on Year 11 Prom at Alderman White, so here is a summary of the activities going on:

Film Club:

We are running a film club for all years during lunchtimes in Room 19. The films will be playing on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The £1 entry fee covers the whole three days for the film, and we will also be selling refreshments, including popcorn.

Mon 5th March – Wed 7th March – Beauty and the Beast 2017 edition.

Mon 12th March – Wed 14th March – Avengers: Assemble.

Photo Scavenger Hunt Competition:

This is one of the activities I am most excited about, as I have been given free reign and it is going to be a lot of fun. You can sign up on your own or in a team of up to 4, and on the 12th March a list of 25 photos will be released for the groups. There is a prize for the fastest team to hand in all 25 pictures, and a prize for the most creative and entertaining set of photos. It will be 50p for individuals, or £1.50 if you are entering as a team. You can sign up by getting in touch with me, Mr Foster or any Senior Student, and it is open to anyone, student or teacher. The sign up deadline is the 19th March, but of course later entries will be at a disadvantage.

We also hold regular cake sales and are starting plans for many more exciting activities, so watch this space.

It is also massively important that people return their letters to reception, with the deposit, in order to attend prom. We need 100 people to be able to go ahead in the way we would like, so please can you sign those letters. The deposit can be paid over ParentPay, if it is more convenient.

If you have any questions or want to get involved, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

Lydia Stott - A13LStott@students.whpfederation.org.uk

Lunchtime Films

5/03/18–7/03/02
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
(2017 EDITION)



12/03/18–14/03/18
AVENGERS : ASSEMBLE
(2012 FILM)



£1 PER TICKET (THIS LASTS THE 3 DAYS FOR THE WHOLE FILM)

ALL YEARS WELCOME

BOTH FILMS WILL BE SHOWN IN ROOM 24 EACH DAY

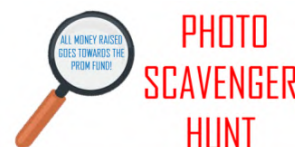


PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT

Team sizes: 1-4 people
50p for an individual, £1.50 for a team (2+)

A prize for the fastest team and the most creative team

Photo list revealed: 12/03/18

Sign up before 19/03/18 by getting in touch:
A13LStott@students.whpfederation.org
(Or see Mr Foster in the base)

ALL YEARS ARE WELCOME...
INCLUDING TEACHERS!



My Ed - Download Our New FREE School App

My Ed is a free app for your smartphone that allows you to view key information and keep up to date with what's going on at Bramcote College, it has lots of powerful tools within it to make communicating with us easier.

- ◇ My Ed allows us to send you FREE messages direct to your mobile. You'll receive a notification on your phone, and you can reply completely FREE of charge.
- ◇ Keep up to date with your child's attendance details. Message our attendance officer directly if your child is going to be off school.
- ◇ View your child's timetable
- ◇ View the school calendar, and add reminders to your own calendar
- ◇ Keep up to date with the latest news
- ◇ Fill in forms securely and easily on your app and return them directly to us (for schools trips etc.)
- ◇ Quick access on your mobile to top up lunch money, pay for school trips etc.



We're intending to go paperless in as many areas as possible; to reduce our environmental impact, to save money on postage costs, and to simplify the process of collecting and collating reply slips for trips and events.

Following a successful trial, almost 450 parents are now using the app to get in touch with us, and feedback so far has very positive.

The My Ed app is available for both iOS and Android: click the buttons to the right, or open your App Store and search for My Ed. Once installed, search for Alderman



124th Scout Group Family Ceilidh

Featuring the **Beeston Ceilidh Collective**

Saturday 3rd March

St. Leonards Community Centre, Wollaton

Doors open 7.00pm, dancing from 7.30pm until 10.30pm. No experience needed - we'll guide you through easy, fun dances

Tickets: £10 Adults £5 Children

Available from wegottickets.com/124thnottm, from the 124th Nottingham Scouts HQ, Bramcote Lane most weekday evenings or email aliscotsmith@gmail.com

BYO Drinks. Tea, coffee and squash will be available



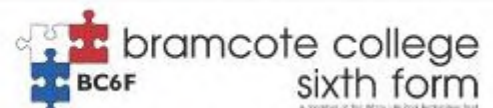
A poster for an Easter Egg Tombola. At the top, it says 'The Bramcote School & College PTA present an'. Below that is a yellow ticket graphic with 'EASTER EGG TOMBOLA' in the center, and '12121200' on the left and right sides. The text '@Lunchtime Tuesday 27th March' is in the middle. A white rabbit is holding several colorful Easter eggs. A yellow starburst says 'Tickets Three for a Pound On the Day'. At the bottom right, it says '#winchocolate'. The Bramcote College logo is at the bottom.



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