

THE WIGHTWICK WAY

WELCOME

As we come to the end of another year and the Autumn Term at Wightwick, we can reflect on a successful start to the new academic year.

As part of celebrating our successes, I will be creating a Headteachers Award, as recognition for all the hard work put in by our students. This will be a termly award based on the Wightwick Hall School values of:

“Be Curious and Thrive, Together”

The First trip will be in January 2025 and the winners will show qualities based on the theme of “Thrive” We will be looking for a combination of students, those who always work hard and those who endeavour to improve through hard work!

I will choose 10 students, (to be announced in the new year) who will be invited to accompany me on the day out.

Good luck to all our students, keep up the good work, you could be next!

Mrs Ceri Rowley

A busy fundraising term, students have been involved in lots of activities, raising money and awareness of national charities as well as our own Enrichment Fund

A constant reminder to parents/carers that you can now pay for your child's meals, trips etc through the Arbor portal.

This is helping with our move to go cashless and helps you to access the portal to arrange meetings, payments etc. card payments can also be taken over the phone by calling the main office.

School closes for the Christmas Holidays 20th December 2024 and students return Tuesday 7th January 2025



15th November - Children in Need - Jumper day.

The students wore their own clothes and paid £1 towards Children in Need.

All together on the day Wightwick raised **£129.05**

28th November Class of 24 - Presentation Evening

It was lovely to meet up again with some familiar faces and to present them with their folders of achievement and hear how well they are doing after Wightwick. (see gallery)

13th December Christmas Jumper day - supporting Save the Children.

13th December - Annual Christmas Fair and Carol Concert

The Choir sang and the Makaton Choir performed two songs.. Students sold Christmas crafts and held Christmas themed games. Raising **£619.55** in total

17th December - Christmas Fun Run.

This event was to raise money for our Enrichment Fund that will go towards enriching out students learning experiences. Students were encouraged to join in with running, trotting or walking for a good cause, (see gallery) raising **£385**

DECEMBER EVENTS



Coffee Mornings on selected Fridays 10:00 - 11:30am

9th - 13th December - Work Experience Week

13th December - Save the Children - Jumper day

13th December - Christmas Fair - 1:30pm

16th December - Makaton Choir - ASDA

17th December - Fun Run

18th December - Christmas Lunch



READY



RESPECTFUL



SAFE



THE WIGHTWICK WAY

SCHOOL NEWS

Snow Days

A chilly end to November with the school closed due to snow. The unexpected days off provided ideal training days for all our staff, but hopefully brought some snow day fun for the students. Our Caretaker Phil took some wintery photo's (see gallery)

New Staff:

We've welcomed several new members of staff to Wightwick this term, we wish them a long and enjoyable time with us and hope they will embrace the Wightwick Way!

- Lucy Goodison - Teaching Assistant
- Millie Steventon - Teaching Assistant
- Sian Platt - Teaching Assistant
- Ieuan Owen - Cleaner
- Joanne Moreton - Cleaner
- Tom Ashley - Temporary Assistant Head

We also say goodbye and good luck to two members of staff:

- Amelia Clarke - Teaching Assistant - leaves us to go to University to study Occupational Health
- Jasmin Harris - Cleaner



WORK EXPERIENCE

Work Experience weeks:

- Spring Term 17th - 21st March 2025
- Summer Term 9th - 13th June 2025

Work experience will take place on the following dates:

- Autumn Term 9th - 13th December 2024
- Spring Term 17th - 21st March 2025
- Summer Term 9th - 13th June 2025

Work Experience is a valuable opportunity in helping our students to prepare for the world of work and develop their employability skills. It also provides a sample of a potential career pathway, and most importantly, allows the student to gain the independent skills of searching for a job, communicating with employers and fulfilling a role within an organisation. It will provide a fantastic opportunity for students to experience the world of work.

Bannantyne Sixth Formers experienced the world of work at the beginning of December. Over the course of the week students worked alongside teaching staff in the role of assistants in numerous departments in lower school within all three pathways. I was really impressed with the professionalism shown by all participants and the positive feedback and praise they received from the staff.

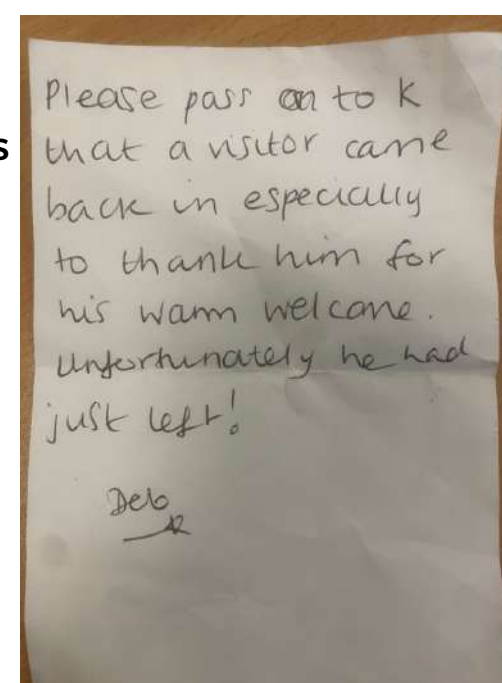
The students own reflection on the exercise again echoed the sentiments as well as the enjoyment they had from helping the other students.

We were lucky to have Wightwick Manor place two students in the Gardening and Reception departments. Thanks to Amy Scott whom resuracted our schools links with the National Trust. Kian F received particular praise from a frequent visitor to the Manor, she was so impressed on her departure that she left a note for him.

We have pencilled in some further dates in the Spring and Summer for more opportunities for work experience.

Please could you let me know if you, your organisation or if you know of a business that would consider having either our Year 11's or Sixth formers on placement.

r.james@wightwickhall.staffs.sch.uk



JANUARY EVENTS

Coffee Mornings on selected Fridays 10:00 - 11:30am

7th January 2025 - School opens (Students)
Date TBC - Headteachers Award

Saturday 11th January 2025, 10am-2pm. Dudley College Open Day- welcome Wightwick students to see and experience some of the amazing facilities on offer at Dudley College.

THE WIGHTWICK WAY

STAFF PROFILE

Name: Nick Brown
Teacher

Here are some of my favourite things!

Favourite Colour:
Orange

Favourite Band: (Singer)
The Killers

Favourite Sporting Team:
Wolves

Favourite Book:
The Extra Mile by Kevin Sinfield

What animal would you be and why?
Giraffe. I'm the tall so pick the tallest animal.

Best Film you can watch over and over:
Gladiator

Invite three guests for lunch, who would they be?
Kevin Sinfield, Ruben Neves, Bob Marley

Apart from working at Wightwick, what would your dream job be?
Firefighter

What do you value the most and why?
My family. Everything I do is for them!

COMMUNITY



5th December - MAT Cross Country Run. Wightwick.

Wightwick hosted a Cross Country event, including two other schools in the Trust.

This event took place around the school grounds starting on the top field working their way down to the bottom field and back up to the top for the finish line. Attending the event was Two Rivers and Cherry Trees.

All students received a certificate of achievement.



Panto Trip 2024 - Wolverhampton Grand Theatre

Hickman 1 and 2 had a wonderful time at our yearly pantomime visit to see Beauty and the Beast. Everyone sat extremely well watching the colorful display of dancing and singing.

A big thank you to Ella for driving the mini bus, much appreciated.



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Wightwick Hall Activities

Fund Raising

The festive season is in full swing, and we have had some exciting fundraising events. Christmas Jumper day and the Christmas Fun Run to name just two.

These activities are a great way for us all to come together, celebrate the season, and support causes close to our hearts. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and we have enjoyed seeing the school filled with festive spirit.

Thank you to you all for your generosity and support with all our events.

Helen Smith & Niamh Bruce

Friends Of Wightwick:

We like to hold events throughout the year benefitting the students, the school and hopefully the wider community. The success of our events is down to 'Friends of Wightwick' which WAS a group of staff and parents that raised money throughout the year by organising events, but currently this is left solely to Mrs S Owen, our founder member. She's lonely on her own, if anyone is interested in being part of 'Friends' and wants to take an active role such as Chair, Secretary or Treasurer please let us know. Any help with future events would be hugely appreciated.

Interesting Facts:

Creative writing - Let's start at the end...
Did you know? Many authors write the ending of a story first!

J. K. Rowling knew how the final Harry Potter book would end way back in 1990, long before she had even finished the first book. This meant she had to keep the ending secret for the next 17 years!

Classroom News

Christmas Card Competition

Students submitted their entries for the local MP Mr Mike Wood. The winning entry to be made into a Christmas card and distributed to councillors, constituents and local business across Kingswinford and South Staffordshire, as well as to his colleagues in Westminster and even His Majesty King Charles 111.

Louis Bolton was a runner up and Mike Wood MP came into school on the 6th December to present Louis with his prize and present certificates to all the students that submitted an entry.

Well done Louis! (see gallery)

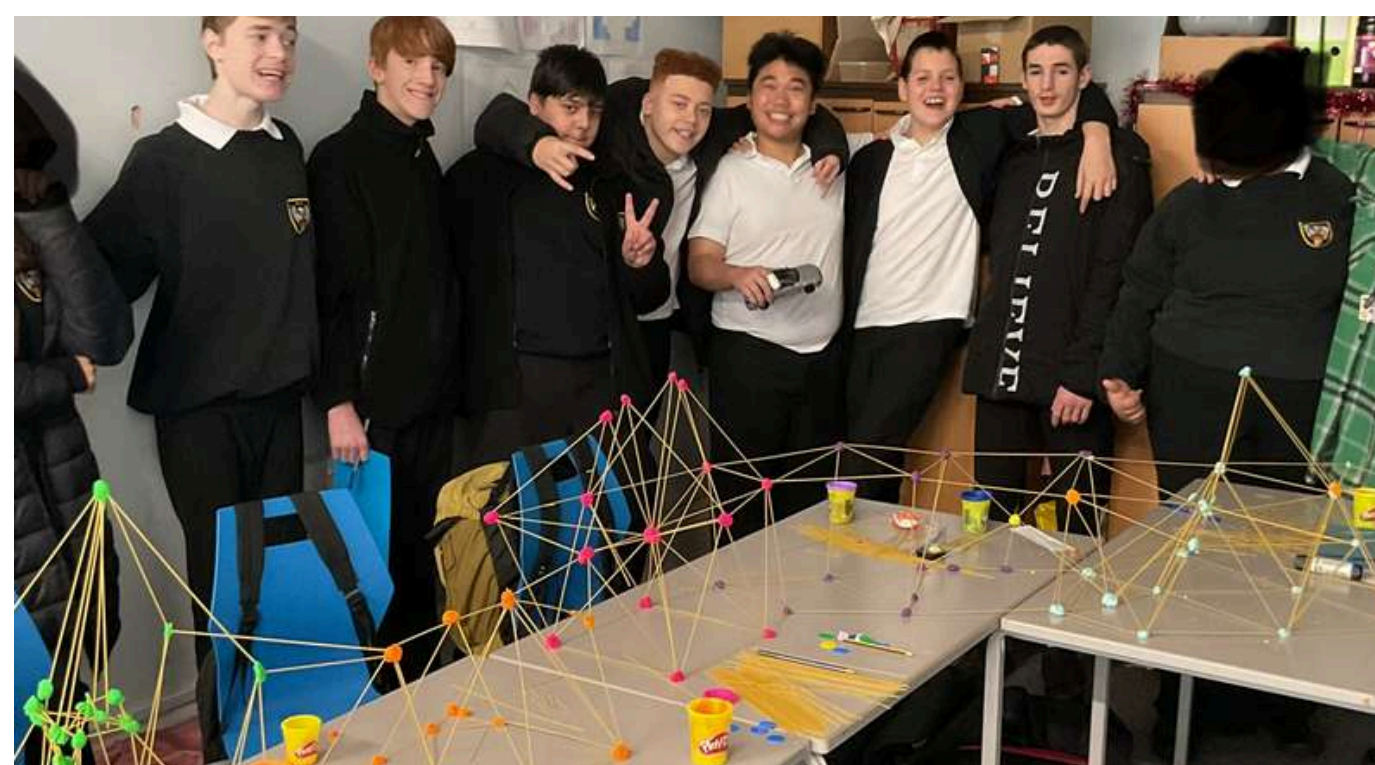
Christingle

JJO made traditional Christingles in RE and NWi, CEEd and NJo classes all took part in a Christingle service at the school by the Revd Andrew Mann-Ray of Smestow Brook UFC.



4EFL

Thursday 4th December, as part of our science lesson, 4EFL worked on forces and motion. To demonstrate this, students built towers/structures out of dried spaghetti and play putty. Then, the excitement continued when they decided to build a bridge that connected each structure together. We are so proud of the students for working hard and working together to achieve this



Willow SDE

Class SDE carried out some experiments for their science project - measuring heart rates for different exercises. very energetic!



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USEFUL INFORMATION

Safeguarding@Wightwick Hall School

We strive to:

- Protect children from maltreatment.
- Prevent impairment of our children's mental & physical health and development
- Ensure that our children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.
- Take action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

OUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Mrs Green - Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Owen - Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Scott - Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Miss Higgs - Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Want to be a Parent Governor?

We are currently looking for a new parent governor to join our friendly local governing board.

Our governors come from a range of different backgrounds, skills and experience but all share a common interest of wanting the best possible education for the children in our school.

We would be delighted to hear from anyone who:-

- Is interested in children's education and the performance of the school
- Is community spirited and would like to represent the community
- Has spare time and the energy for the role
- Is able to work well as part of a team
- Has an enquiring mind and the confidence to ask questions and debate issues that affect the school
- Can consider matters objectively and make informed judgements

If you are interested in finding out more about what this entails, please contact Julie Haynes on j.haynes@wightwickhall.staffs.sch.uk, who can send you further information, along with an application form.



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THE WIGHTWICK WAY

Picture Gallery

November Snow



Fun Run, fun

Presentation Evening



Louis Bolton's Christmas Card



Louis Bolton, Year 12
Wightwick Hall School



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