

Insight

Summer Term: Edition 2



Dear Parents & Carers,

In the last edition of Insight, I mentioned to you about the importance of our students showing respect and courtesy at all times. Respect underpins everything that we do at Wade Deacon High School and provides us with the foundation for our success.

This week, school assemblies are focussing on the strength of our school as a place where everyone's differences are celebrated and where everyone feels included and valued. Assemblies provide us with an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the exemplary standards upheld by the vast majority of our students, whilst enabling us also to model these behaviours to those students who perhaps require a little more support and guidance in terms of understanding our core expectations and values.

I must, once again, pay special tribute to our Year 11 students and their teachers who are working so hard at the moment in order to build evidence of learning that will be so important for students in terms of their examination outcomes. We want the very best for each and every student and every moment is precious.

We have exciting times ahead in terms of rewarding our students for their outstanding work and contribution to our school and community during what has been a very tumultuous year and details of these events will be revealed over the coming weeks.

In the meantime, a big thank you, as always, to all parents and carers for your support, encouragement and partnership which is appreciated so much.

With kindest regards,

Simon Corner
Principal

The Funky Fish Project



Our Year 8 students have been working extremely hard in developing their final piece for The Funky Fish Project. They have been practicing a variety of oil pastel techniques over the past few weeks and have carefully used the techniques to create an abstract colourful fish design! We cannot wait to see them completed!!



Farewell to Mrs Davies

The end of last term marked the retirement of Mrs Davies after nearly 21 years of service to our school.

Lesley had a lovely send off from her close colleagues with an beautiful Afternoon Tea – perfectly appropriate for Lesley, we think. We wish her all the very best for the future.

Mental Health Awareness Week



Every year, the Mental Health Foundation organises and hosts Mental Health Awareness Week.

The Week offers an opportunity for people to talk about all aspects of mental health, with a focus on providing help and advice. The theme for Mental Health Awareness Week 2021 is "Connect with Nature". We will be raising awareness of this through our "Theme of The Week" which Ms Graham has sent out to students and which encourages them to spend more time outside, taking in and appreciating their surroundings.

There is also a Tutor Group challenge to take a picture or video of the most creative image of nature. It could be an animal, a plant or a scenic view, with the best ones being displayed in school.

There will also be top tips to support mental health on the screens across school and on social media throughout the week.

6 REASONS TO GO ON A WALK



GOOD REASONS to put down your PHONE



Trying to Keep Things Neutral

Year 10s have been conducting a series of titrations, seeking to calculate the concentration of an unknown substance with the challenge of achieving concordant results.

The experiment involves students titrating an alkali into an acid until the acid is neutralised. This involves students working with the highest degree of precision that they have used in Chemistry lessons so far. Students measure the volume of the alkali needed to neutralise the acid, and then use this to measure the concentration of that alkali using a weird and wonderful formula that only Dr Briers and her students understand!



Mrs Lewis Gets the Chop!

No – we haven't got a new Leader of Maths! Mrs Lewis has had quite a severe chop – but all in a great cause. Mrs Lewis is supporting The Little Princess Trust which helps girls who have lost their hair through cancer. Well done!



Let's Get Things into Perspective



Miss McConnell's Year 9 class have been working extremely hard over the past few weeks to create some fantastic food sculptures. Part of the project involved students going outside to take photographs of their sculptures using different angles and locations next to mini figures and props to make them appear life-size. It definitely gave them a sense of perspective!

Gone with the Wind!

Mr Fitzpatrick's Y7s have been investigating the Wade Deacon site in order to find the most suitable spot for a wind turbine in order to generate part of the school's electricity. This fits in with our students' study of Renewable Sources of Energy as part of the Y7 Geography curriculum. Once their field study is complete, students will write a persuasive letter to Mr Corner, urging him to install a turbine at Wade Deacon. Watch this space for the outcome!



The Teds Are Back!

Big thanks to Mrs Holland for her latest under the stairs display – always beautifully presented and a great way to cheer us all up. Brilliant!



Mr P: Quizmaster Supreme!

Mr Perritt has been trialling Quiz Quiz Trade with his GCSE classes. This is a classic revision activity to prepare students for their next assessment.

Every student has a card with a different question and answer on it. They pair up and ask each other their questions. They give the other person feedback on their answer. They then swap cards and move off to find another pair. Great for improving concrete knowledge.

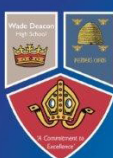
We always encourage teachers to share resources and ideas which all help students to learn and retain information.



Student Rewards


A big well done to all students who are working so hard at the moment. A special mention to our Students of the Week. Brilliant – well done everyone!






Wade Deacon High School


Students of the Week




YR 7
Daniel J
Grace F




YR 10
Holly M
Evie W



YR 8
Honey SH
Grace G



YR 11
Millie R
Saoirse K



YR 9
Joshua R
Imogen B

Helping People to Connect

We were very happy to help one of our former students recently. Roy Jones, now in his 80s and who attended Wade Deacon Grammar school way back when, asked for some help with tracing relatives who had featured on the Honours' Boards that used to feature prominently in our old school hall. It was a pleasure to help Roy as this information is important for him in terms of writing his family's history.

Hi Roy,

It's Howard Mealey from Wade Deacon High School.

Thank you for your enquiry.

Unfortunately, the old school hall does not exist anymore as the school was re built back in 2013.

The re-structuring of the school meant that many of the old honours' boards had to be sacrificed, I'm afraid – we simply could not keep everything. But we did take photographs of the boards before they came down, and I am glad to say that your uncle Thomas Beech does indeed feature as a winner of the Cyril Dennis Medal in 1921 and I have attached a photograph of the relevant board that I hope you will be able to include whilst compiling your family history.

I have also located your cousin Iris Beech on two of the boards – as School Captain in 1946 and as a winner of the John Bryson Orr Travelling Scholarship Award in 1947.

Clearly a very talented family, Roy!

*Wishing you the best of luck with the writing of
your family history.*

Howard

Hi Howard,

Your reply was fantastic - all the details I had hoped for.

Very many thanks. I could read the names on the award board photographs. Tom Beech was my mother's brother and Iris Beech was her other brother's daughter. She is still alive at 91 living in Cheshire.

I have fond memories of the Wade Deacon, being a school prefect in my final A level year.

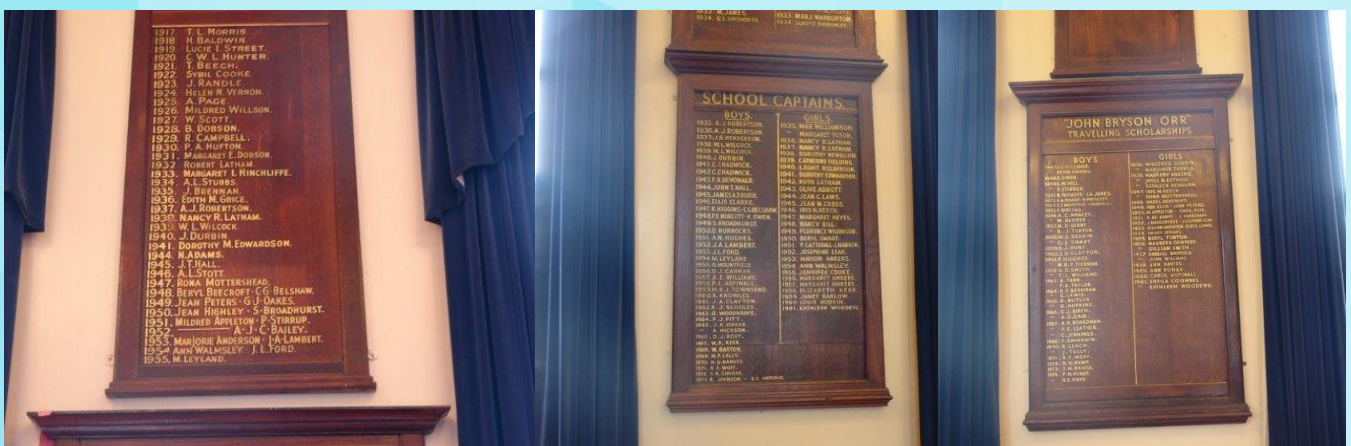
I then did my national service as a Sgt in the Royal Army Educational Corps spending my two years in the Egyptian Canal Zone.

I then gained a Special Honours science degree and teacher training.

I eventually became Head of a Science department in a large comprehensive school. I am now, of course, retired.

Once again very many thanks for your help.

Regards
Roy V Jones



Our Next Candidate for Landscape Artist of the Year!



Here's Poppy in Year 11, painting landscapes. She usually paints very realistic, beautiful paintings of landscapes and sells them to friends and family. In school, Miss Collin challenged her to use texture and colour. She wasn't sure at first, but has really pushed herself! Amazing work!

Animal Magic!

Here's some examples of great work from our Year 10 Art & Design students. This project involves building animal sculptures inspired by the work of Kirsty Fletcher.

Following research, models are built out of card and gum tape using construction skills. Students then paint them in bright and funky colours. Check our next edition of Insight for the spectacular results!



Staff in the Spotlight

Miss Carr

English Teacher



When I was in primary school, I always wanted to be a heart surgeon. The idea of making a difference and saving lives is something I aspired to. I very quickly learnt that the sight of blood made me weak and nauseous and that science wasn't particularly a strength of mine. It became obvious that this was not a realistic career choice for me.

From being very young, my mum and dad have always encouraged me to have a hobby and take part in extra curriculum activities. I Irish danced for 12 years, competing in national competitions and winning hundreds of medals and trophies. After starting high school, I very quickly fell out of love with dance and my parents were very keen for me to find something else to take part in. This was when I joined Prescot Hockey Club and 17 years later I am still playing. I absolutely love my team! Playing has given me a second family, a stress relief and maybe a few injuries along the way but that is all part of the fun.

Before COVID, we had a run of successful seasons. In 2019 we were dubbed the 'Quad Squad' after winning the league and 3 cup competition – for us, it really was a season of success. In the same year we made it to the semi-final of the England Hockey Cup travelling to Oxted in Surrey for our first ever road trip. Our Captain spoilt us and we actually travelled to London on the Arsenal football team's official coach. Drying your hair whilst watching Everton really is a luxury when you are on a coach.

Because of this, lots of people assume I am a PE teacher. As much as I love my sport, my passion has always been English, and I do believe I was destined to be a teacher. From a very young age, I have always enjoyed reading - finding that escape, exploring a new world and being captivated by a character. At school, I was the child that sat at the front and listened to every word my teacher said. I just wanted to learn – anything and everything. Becoming a teacher has really allowed me to continue to learn things, even as an adult.

I may not be saving lives in an operating theatre but in the classroom, we do shape lives and for some students, we do actually save them!

