



# WEOBLEY HIGH SCHOOL



## Message from the Headteacher

Looking out of my window today as the rain hammers down, this doesn't feel like the usual end of the summer term. It only feels like yesterday that some of the pupils were asking me if they could wear shorts to school – a very brief hot spell indeed!

It has, however, been a positive year. The school continues to go from strength to strength and we were delighted with the excellent OFSTED report we received. Once again we have substantial waiting lists for September and we hosted some very popular Year 5 Taster Days recently with over 150 pupils coming from primary schools across the county. As the summer holiday beckons, I can see some of the pupils (and staff!) flagging a little. It feels like it is time for everybody to have a well-deserved rest in readiness for what will no doubt be another busy year.

Sadly we will be saying goodbye to some staff but will be welcoming others in September. Mrs Jones has worked here as an LSA since the last Millennium, having started here in 1998! She has supported hundreds of some of our most vulnerable children in that time; she is an incredibly popular and respected member of our team who will be greatly missed by staff and pupils alike as she now embarks on her well-earned retirement.

Another departing member of staff

who has worked here almost as long is Mr Gowland. He has taught music here for over 20 years; both in the classroom and on a peripatetic basis. His passion for music knows no bounds and he has inspired a great many of our musicians over the decades. He has decided to retire from classroom teaching however thankfully we will still see him occasionally as he continues his peripatetic work.

Mr Lund also leaves us at the end of term having completed his contract and obtained another post in Powys. I thank him for all his work this year and wish him all the best in his future career. Mr Klein is also completing his contract with us. He has worked closely with Mr Gowland in running the music department and so I thank him for his valued contribution this year. Finally Miss Strangwood is leaving us to begin her degree having worked for the past year as an LSA. I'm certain she has a very bright future ahead and wish her all the best in her endeavours.

We also have a number of new arrivals. Mr Stratford will be starting before the end of term as our new full-time Head of Music. He is a very experienced teacher who has just moved back to the UK having worked as a Head of Music in an international school in Bangkok. Mrs Bennison is also joining the mathematics department having taught in a couple of other

Herefordshire schools and similarly Mrs Mayo-Evans, another local teacher, will be joining the PE department on a part-time basis from September. We have also been fortunate to appoint a number of LSAs who will be beginning with us: Mrs Jenkins, Miss Newman and Miss Bradshaw will all be joining in September. Finally you will notice a Mrs Heath on the staff from September as Miss Ghent is getting married! My best wishes go to the current Miss Ghent for what I'm sure will be an amazing day!

All that remains is for me to wish you all a relaxing (and hopefully warm!) summer. Thank you once again for your support this year and we look forward to seeing the children again on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September**.

*Dean Williams*

# UNIFORM ... AGAIN!!!

On the whole, school uniform is very good however it is still frustrating that staff have to deal with issues with a small minority of pupils – issues which really should be resolved before the pupil leaves the house in the morning. Please ensure that you check the school website closely when considering purchasing any new uniform and make sure that your child's uniform is fully compliant when they return in September. Please remember that skirts should be pleated and **close to knee-length** – also shoes should be black and polishable; not trainers. The pastoral team will be focussing on this when pupils return and we would appreciate your full support with this.



## Jewellery Rules!!

Only one small stud in each ear is allowed.

No other piercings or jewellery is permitted.



**No Skater or Tube Skirts**



**Black socks with trousers**



**White socks with skirts**



**Black tailored trousers -**

**NO SKINNY FIT**



**Black Polishable shoes**





## Weobley High School Excavates History: Involvement in the Big Dig 2023



In a remarkable display of community engagement and educational enrichment, Weobley High School has made its mark on history by participating in the prestigious Weobley Big Dig 2023 excavation project. The school's involvement in this archaeological endeavour has not only provided unique learning opportunities for its students but has also contributed valuable insights into the past.

The Big Dig 2023, a local initiative to uncover and preserve historical artifacts, has captivated the attention of historians, archaeologists, and enthusiasts alike.

Led by a team of professional archaeologists and with the support of the local community and the Weobley History Society, Weobley High School students embarked on an unforgettable journey to uncover hidden treasures buried beneath the grounds of their school. The excavation site, was selected due to its potential for yielding significant historical artifacts on an old track that once went over the school field.

Under the guidance of experienced archaeologists and their dedicated teachers, Mrs Waring, Mr Nicholas, Miss Wood and Mrs Loupart, students at Weobley High School gained hands-on experience in excavation techniques.

Over the course of 5 days, the young archaeologists meticulously uncovered remnants of bygone eras, ranging from Later - Medieval pottery to an old school merit badge. The Weobley Big Dig has been an incredible opportunity for our students to engage with history in a meaningful way, witnessing their enthusiasm and dedication throughout this project has been truly inspiring.



# English and Literacy

## KS4 – A Christmas Carol performance

On Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, we began the return of visits by professional theatres to Weobley High School, with 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens.

Adapted and presented by Anthony Roberts, Artistic Director of Colchester Arts Centre, the production followed the style of Charles Dickens's original, fire-side story-telling to groups of his friends.

Our audience sat in rapt attention, as Anthony unfolded Scrooge's heart-warming journey, from miser to good friend and 'second father' to Tiny Tim, and we very much hope he will return.



## War Horse

Year 8 spent the afternoon listening to and watching parts of the stage adaptation of Morpurgo's "War Horse". Following this, the students had a seminar in production techniques.



## All on the board...

Restaurant Reads are a selection of topical news stories which are made available in the canteen for students to read during their lunch break. Stories with links to specific curriculum subjects are on display alongside inspirational, thought-provoking and, occasionally, amusing articles.

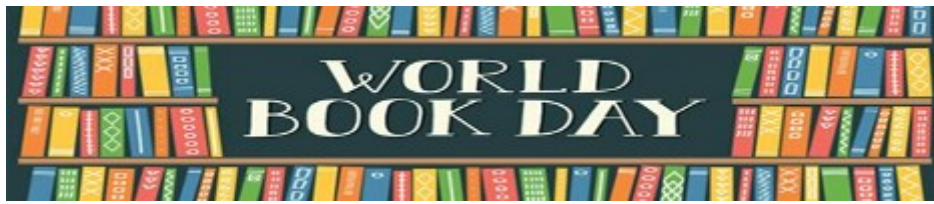


## Read Around The World

Over the last academic year, our Junior Book Club has been succeeding with the 'Round the World' reading challenge.

Using a stock of over a hundred extraordinary titles, each set within one of the world's continents, readers have been engaging with characters as far afield as those of the explorers in the polar chill (*Alone in Antarctica*, by Felicity Aston), and in the burning humidity of the backstreets of Rio (*My Sweet Orange Tree*, by Jose Mauro de Vasconcelos).

Readers such as Amber Kimber and Hannah Hodgson have far out-run their targets of one novel from each continent, and, in the process, deepened their understanding of the huge world we all live in. Bea Barnard has successfully introduced herself and the group to the work of Jane Austen with her classic *Pride and Prejudice*, and that can only be a good thing!



Every year, students and teachers are invited to choose their favourite book and 'dress' their form room door with images from the story. Mr Williams is tasked with judging the best door. This year's winners were: 1<sup>st</sup> Mrs Juliard's door – The Wizard of Oz, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr Dwyer's door – Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, 3<sup>rd</sup> Mrs Waring's door – Alice in Wonderland. Congratulations, everyone!



### Library Ambassadors - Yoto Carnegie Awards 2023

The shortlist for the *Yoto Carnegies 2023* was announced in March. Thousands of young people have been taking part as 'shadowers' across the country, as they 'shadow' the judging process for the Yoto Carnegie Medals. Miss Smith and a group of our Library Ambassadors have been busy reading their way through the shortlist.



In May, they visited The Courtyard to take part in an event organised by Herefordshire Libraries. Guest author Luke Ayleson ran a fantastic workshop, which unpacked the three crucial components for fiction writing: setting, characters and plot-types. We had the chance to meet other Herefordshire schools, discuss our favourite shortlisted books and complete many other fun activities.

The students all said what a 'thoroughly enjoyable day' and a 'fantastic experience' it was.

### Reading Certificates

Students at WHS have read 1000 books this year with Bethany Davies, Hannah Hodgson, Carly Kincaid, Alessia Rosu and Diamond Smith having achieved a Diamond Reading Award, which means that they have read over twenty books since September. James Ratcliff, Year 9, achieved the feat of a Platinum Reading award, which means that he has read forty books this academic year.

## A Sad Goodbye

We bid a sad farewell to Amy Norman our Education Mental Health Practitioner . She has supported lots of our students with their mental health and wellbeing.

Amy has worked alongside Mrs Davies to develop the whole school approach to mental health and supported staff wellbeing. She has also delivered sessions to our students at our Consultation Days.

We are sorry to see her leave and wish her well at her new school.

In September, we welcome Ellie Todd to Weobley and look forward to working with her.



### Autumn Term

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Half Term Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Christmas Holiday Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024

### Spring Term

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January - Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Half Term Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

Easter Holiday Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024

### Summer Term

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Half Term Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024

### MOBILE PHONES

**Please remember that mobile phones are not permitted in school. As well as being a huge distraction, there have been increasing concerns about the safeguarding risks they can pose. We would very much appreciate families' support in this so please ensure that your child does not bring their phone to school. Thank you.**



### UKMT Mathematics Challenge.

64 pupils across years 7 and 8 participated in the UKMT Junior Mathematics Challenge.

Codie Boxall in year 7 achieved a Silver Award and was the highest in year 7.

Harriett Semple achieved a Gold Award and was the highest in year 8.



# Prom 2023

The Leavers 2023 Prom was held again at “The Causeway Restaurant” at Herefordshire Golf Club. After arriving at school in a very interesting variety of transport, the group was bussed up to the restaurant to enjoy a meal and say their final “Goodbyes” before attending the eagerly waited After Prom Parties .

We wish all our leavers every success in life after Weobley and we are extremely proud of the young adults they have become.







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# Our Prefects 2023

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**This year's prefects have been selected and are already doing a fantastic job.**

**Prefects were required to complete an application form evidencing their integrity, reliability, correct school uniform and how they have made a positive contribution to the school.**

**The group will no doubt become excellent role models to all our pupils**

## Work Experience – 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023

In June our new Year 11 students had their work experience programme, with 100% of our students finding a placement. The majority of students arranged this themselves, we had such a vast range of placements, from Vets to Primary schools, solicitors to Tattoo studios and many, many more. Many of our students stayed in the local towns yet we had a few that went to Stafford to complete their placement with the British Army.

Work experience is a great opportunity for our students, as it gives them the chance to have an insight into what is involved in their desired career, the roles that are performed and daily tasks that come with any career.

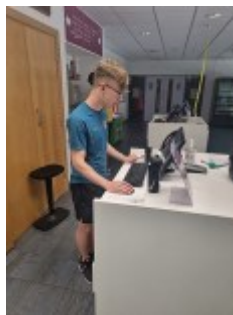
We are very proud of all our students as they have represented Weobley High School to a high standard. The feedback received from employers has been very positive and our students have behaved professionally. Some have been offered employment which is amazing.

Below are a couple of quotes from placements.

***"I cannot compliment this kid enough. One of if not the best work experience, we ever had" – Body Mods***

***"Everyone complimented how they have enjoyed having her on her placement, I honestly couldn't think of anything I would ask her to work on." – Lloyds Cooper LLP***

***"I think \*\*\*\* is well on the way to great success and we would like to say a big thank you for all the help" – Leominster Library***



### Criminology workshop

Nicola Taylor, who is the criminology teacher at Hereford Sixth form, attend Weobley High School to give a work shop to our new Year 11 students.

The work shop was 2 hours long and it gave an insight in to what will be involved in the course whilst also having a hands-on approach. Each student was given a work book and at intervals they would work through a task, one of these being where the students had to look at a picture for 10 seconds and then answer questions in the booklet about the picture. Other tasks were taking their own finger prints and looking at each other's to see how they are all different and putting insects in the order that they assist in the decomposition of a corpse. They also had the opportunity to look at pictures of blood splatter and how they may have been made, plus many more.

This was a great insight for those students wanting to take criminology at college, yet it was also really insightful and enjoyable for those who don't as this subject is one that many are interested in. The feedback from the students was good with many wanting to do more workshops.



## Art Exhibition 2023

We had a really successful exhibition of our GCSE student's Art work this year in our main hall. In addition, this year we decided to showcase the talents of our members of staff too, and had some fantastic contributions, including photography from Mr Ives, a selection of Watercolour paintings from Mr Chapman, felt work from Mrs Cooper, a sequined bridal cape from Mrs Warley, Digital portraits from Miss Dawes, Portraiture drawings from Miss Highley, collage illustration from Mrs Ives and handmade soap from Miss Hurds – quite an eclectic mix!

Our students' work this year was of a very high standard and this was commented on by many visitors. Students were confident to try a number of different media and challenged themselves in many ways, featuring large canvasses and mixed media work as well as clay bust portraits and plaster moulding.

The exhibition was very well attended by both staff and students and it was great to see so many younger students looking at the work and questioning how it had been made – including our Year 6 students from the Primary School, who were very inspired and said how they were looking forward to experiencing Art lessons when they arrive with us next year!



# Just for Fun

B	O	C	H	E	R	R	Y	Z	B	P
A	S	H	S	D	F	E	Q	Y	U	I
N	T	O	C	B	N	M	I	N	T	S
A	R	C	C	K	T	W	C	M	T	T
N	A	O	O	F	T	E	O	G	E	A
A	W	L	F	P	C	O	C	K	R	C
E	B	A	F	V	A	G	O	J	S	H
M	E	T	E	A	R	U	N	M	C	I
A	R	E	E	N	A	X	U	A	O	O
P	R	K	Q	I	M	G	T	N	T	P
L	Y	E	D	L	E	K	L	G	C	U
E	Z	X	A	L	L	K	T	O	H	M
Y	U	P	B	A	A	M	B	X	I	P
Q	A	B	Z	E	C	R	F	V	T	K
Y	U	M	B	R	O	W	N	I	E	I
B	N	E	A	P	O	L	I	T	A	N

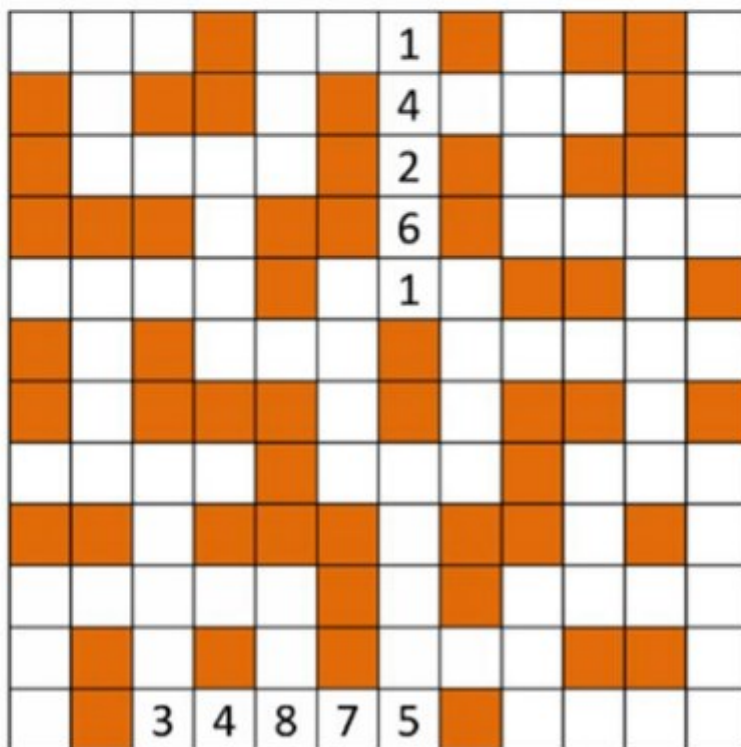
- |              |           |            |
|--------------|-----------|------------|
| Banana       | Chocolate | Neapolitan |
| Brownie      | Coconut   | Peach      |
| Bubblegum    | Coffee    | Pistachio  |
| Butterscotch | Mango     | Pumpkin    |
| Caramel      | Mint      | Strawberry |
| Cherry       | Maple     | Vanilla    |

Which flavour can't be found?



# NUMBER FILL

Work out which of the numbers goes in each space in the puzzle  
One of the numbers has been done for you.



## 3 DIGITS

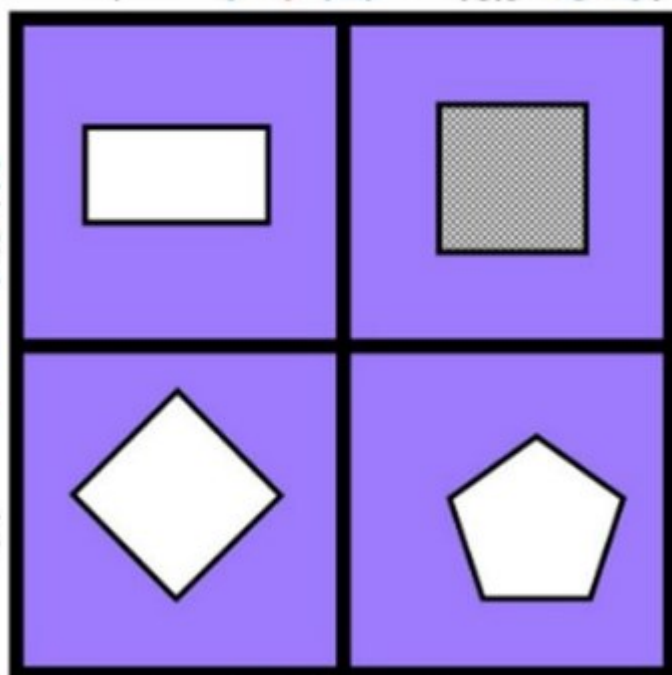
217	625
246	756
251	842
258	924
321	925
328	961
367	

## 4 DIGITS

1524	5371
1594	6174
2652	6205
3861	7326
4528	8275
4832	9527
5290	

## 5 DIGITS

14261	41385
24173	71490
34875	75216
35420	90162



# WODB

**Which** of these four is the odd **one** out and **doesn't belong**?

Can you come up with a reason for each of them? Can you group the others together for a reason?

Challenge your family!

## College Open Days

### HWGTA – Apprenticeship providers

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> Oct 23

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Oct 24

### Hartpury College (book asap as fill up quickly)

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> Sept 23 9am – 1pm

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Oct 23 9am – 1pm

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 23 9am – 1 pm

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> Dec 23 9am – 1pm

### Hereford and Ludlow College

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 23 10am – 12 noon

### Holme Lacy College

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 23 10am – 12 noon

### Hereford Arts College

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> Oct 23 10am

### Hereford Sixth Form College

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October

Book your place via the providers website

# HAPPINESS IS



...the first day  
of summer holidays.

**Herefordshire Badminton  
Academy Summer Club:**  
This will take place at Weobley  
High School on the 7th, 8th &  
9th August 2023.

**Monday 7th & Tuesday 8th  
August**

Morning session 09:00-12:00:  
This will be suitable for  
beginners and those not ready  
for the more experienced  
group.

Afternoon session 13:00-  
17:00: This will be for older  
and/or more experienced players.

**Wednesday 9th August**

All from the previous days sessions are invited to this session which will be held 12:00-17:00

This session will finish early for a BBQ (if we can get volunteers to organise) and will include a game of rounders or some other fun activity.

**Cost:**

First session **£50.00**

(7th 09:00-12:00, 8th 09:00-12:00 and 9th 12:00-17:00)

Second session **£60.00**

(7th 13:00-17:00, 8th 13:00-17:00 and 9th 12:00-17:00)

Families with more than 2 wishing to come should pay for the first two at above rates, the third half fee and any more are free. They should all live at the same address.

NB: To make this event viable we need at least 10 at each session. However, a maximum of 18 at each session will apply.

Please email [Herefordbadders@gmail.com](mailto:Herefordbadders@gmail.com) with the names of the pupils wanting to enter and pay via bank transfer (at the time of booking).



## 7-11 Challenge

Again, we have come together as a community to raise money for a fantastic charity CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young), in memory of one of our ex-students Kieran Joyce. We ask the students, ex students, families and staff to do something 11 times (Kieran's football number) for 7 days.

We have shared all of the endeavours on our Weobley PE Department Facebook page, please do take a look. This year we have raised over £400!!!

We are super proud and thankful to everyone who got involved. Special mention must go to Miss Evans who has run 11k for 7 days.

# Sporting Achievements



Tessa Morgan has represented the Midlands in the National Athletics trials after winning the regional Javelin, Long Jump and 80m Hurdles.



The Cricket team were unlucky to lose in the final over of the U15 plate today. Big performances from Archie sitting 76 and taking 2 wickets, Barney hitting 25 runs and Alex scoring a fast 18 at the death.



11 year 8 students qualified for the West Midlands Athletics competition with Hollie Peruffo and Jack Bentham winning silver in the discus and 300m respectively.



The year 8 "B" team won a small Astro football tournament at Whitecross.



Louis Campbell-Gibson qualified as a fully fledged football referee and will be taking year 7 school games next season.



The U14 football team were rural cup runners up - A fantastic experience to play at Edgar Street. The boys will go again next season.

# Sporting Achievements



The Year 8s competed in the U13 Rounders tournament and finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. However, they were very close to getting in the final and only missing out on points difference.



The Year 8s came 1<sup>st</sup> place in the U13 County Netball tournament. It went down to extra time in the final but they managed to maintain their high level of performance until the final whistle.



Our Year 11s came second at the U16 County Netball tournament in October and qualified for the next round in Birmingham. This was a regional tournament where they competed against the best school teams in the West Midlands.



We competed in a Trampoline competition against other schools in Herefordshire and came away with 1 gold, 2 silvers and 2 bronzes.



Our Year 10 Netball team came second in the U15 County Netball tournament, narrowly missing out on 1<sup>st</sup> place.



We competed in a gymnastics competition against other schools in North Herefordshire and came away with 2 golds, 4 silvers and 3 bronzes.