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Friday 25th October, 2024

Head Teacher's Weekly Update

Dear Families,

What a fantastic half term we have had here at St Wilfrid's. It has been a pleasure to see all of our pupils strive to do their very best and to achieve and to grow over the last 8 weeks. I am sure that they are very much ready for a break over half term.

Next half term, we will be making a few changes to our school day that I wanted to share with you.

Changes to our school routines

As you will be aware, we are a busy school and as such we are continually looking to refine our procedures in order to support a calm and orderly environment. One particular area that we have been reviewing is around lunch times.

We are pleased to announce that, following the half term break, we will be moving to a single lunch service, which will be slightly offset by Reading Time. The timings of this can be seen below; the start and finish time of our school day and lesson durations are unaffected by this change. We believe that there are a number of important benefits to this, which include:

- Higher levels of staff supervision as we are operating one rather than two lunchtimes
- Less disruption to learning as lessons will not be taking place whilst other pupils are enjoying their lunchbreak
- More opportunities for pupils to participate in extra-curricular activities, as more staff will be available to lead these
- Greater access to outdoor facilities at lunchtime
- More opportunities for academic support, again as more staff will be on hand to support pupils
- All pupils still benefit from a long lunchbreak

However, it will involve some changes for pupils, which will include a reduction in breaktime service. As all pupils will be having lunch earlier, there is less need for pupils to purchase food at breaktime.

- Breaktime service in the new café will be available for our Year 11 pupils only
- All pupils will continue to access free breakfast before school in Saints' Café from 0815

The new café, as part of our recent extension, along with our 'Pod' will support us to serve more pupils in a shorter space of time and allow pupils time outdoors to get some fresh air. As winter approaches, please ensure that your child brings a coat to school so that they are warm when using our outdoor social spaces.

Our New School Day

Time	KS3 & KS5	KS4
0840 - 0900	Tutor Time /Assembly	
0900 - 0955	Lesson 1	
0955 - 1050	Lesson 2	
1050 - 1110	Break	
11.10 - 1205	Lesson 3	
1205 - 1225	Reading Time	Lunch
1225 - 1300	Lunch	
1300 - 1320		Reading Time
1320 - 1415	Lesson 4	
1415- 1510	Lesson 5	

Pupils will be given more details around specific logistics for their year group in an extended tutor period on Monday 4th November.

Year 7 Parents' Evening

Year 7 Parents' Evening will be taking place on Thursday the 7th November. For further details, please refer to our letter: [Parents' Evening Information](#)

Arrangements for Parents' Evenings

- School will close at 2:15pm to all pupils
- The School Buses will arrive early on these dates
- Parents can arrive on site from 2:30pm for a 2:40pm start
- Car parking will be available
- Please ensure you have booked your appointments through School Cloud



Year 7 Welcome Mass

It was wonderful to be able to welcome so many of our families to this event; we hope you enjoyed joining us.





Key Project-Key2Life Foodbank

Thank you all for your generous donations for this wonderful cause. We are proud to support our local community; the donations will be greatly appreciated.

Year 11 and 13 Preliminary Examinations

All of our Year 11 and 13 pupils have been working incredibly hard for their Preliminary Examinations, and they should be very proud of their achievements to date. Our curriculum and examinations team of staff have also done a fantastic job ensuring that pupils have a realistic experience of what their final examination experience will look and feel like.

The Preliminary Examinations continue in the week following half-term. A copy of the examination timetable can be found here: [Examination Timetable](#)

If you have any queries or your child requires any support, please do not hesitate to get in touch with our Heads of House:

Aidan	Bede	Cuthbert	Hilda	Clitherow	Columba [6 th Form]
aidanhouse@st-wilfrids.org	bedehouse@st-wilfrids.org	cuthberthouse@st-wilfrids.org	hildahouse@st-wilfrids.org	clitherowhouse@st-wilfrids.org	columbahouse@st-wilfrids.org

I do hope you all have a wonderful half-term break.

Best Wishes,

Mrs. C Lennox
Headteacher