



PARENT BULLETIN

Welcome to the Academy Bulletin – May 2026

As we move towards the final half term of another incredibly busy and successful academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our students, staff, parents and carers for their continued support of the Academy and all that we strive to achieve together.

A key focus for us this year has been our continued commitment to listening to our students and working alongside them to further raise standards of attainment, progress and engagement across the school. Student voice remains central to our improvement journey and we are incredibly proud of the maturity, ambition and positivity our young people continue to demonstrate on a daily basis.

Since our last bulletin, we have held further highly successful Progress Evenings for Years 10 and 11, as well as our inaugural Year 7 Progress Evening. It was fantastic to see such strong attendance and engagement from students, parents and carers alike. We also welcomed Year 8 families to a virtual Parents' Evening, providing another valuable opportunity to celebrate successes and discuss next steps in learning.

Towards the end of the half term, we launched our Key Stage 3 'Sprint' competition, where students competed within their year groups and across the bands to demonstrate exceptional engagement in lessons and learning. Thousands of raffle tickets were earned during a closely fought contest, with Year 9 eventually emerging victorious and earning themselves a non-uniform day. Alongside this, a wide range of individual and team prizes were awarded, recognising the excellent effort and commitment shown by so many students across Key Stage 3.

Preparing students for their future pathways remains a vital part of our work. Our Years 10 and 11 students recently attended a Careers Fair, helping them to explore the wide variety of opportunities available to them beyond school. In addition, Year 10 students completed a week of work experience and we were delighted to receive such overwhelmingly positive feedback from employers regarding the maturity, professionalism and conduct of our students in the workplace.

Our Year 11 students have now begun their GCSE examinations. We are incredibly proud of the resilience and determination they have shown throughout this important period and we wish them every success over the coming weeks. It was also wonderful to welcome students in for breakfast ahead of their first core examination in English, helping to settle nerves and ensure they started the exam season positively.

Elsewhere around the Academy, students have continued to enjoy a wide range of enrichment opportunities. Our Year 7 students had a fantastic trip to Normandy, where they immersed themselves in the culture and language whilst creating memories that will last a lifetime. We also enjoyed another hugely successful four-night run of our school production, which this year was *The Prince of Egypt*, which received rave reviews from audiences throughout the week. More recently, our KS3 Talent Show showcased the incredible creativity and confidence of our younger students, while also giving our Performing Arts team the opportunity to identify future stars of the stage.

Looking ahead, we have an incredibly busy and exciting end to the academic year. We are preparing for our annual Year 11 and Year 13 Awards Evening, alongside our annual Sports Awards Evening, both of which are always wonderful occasions to celebrate student achievement and success. At the same time, we continue to prepare for the arrival of our newest students, with a comprehensive two-day induction programme planned for our soon-to-be Year 7 cohort.

Thank you once again for your continued support. Together, we will continue to ensure that every student is known, seen, supported, challenged and inspired to achieve their very best.

Yours faithfully,



Mr Chris Conlon – Headteacher Wigston Academy

SCHOOL TERM DATES

SUMMER TERM 2026

Mid Term Break Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2026

Last day of term for students Thursday 9th July 2026



Wigston Academy Parents & Carers

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Find a copy of the full calendar on our website under the [Parents](#) section.

LEARN·ASPIRE·ACHIEVE

JUNE 2026

15	JUN, MON	● All day	Year 8 Camp (Day 1/5)
16	JUN, TUE	● All day	Year 8 Camp (Day 2/5)
17	JUN, WED	● All day	Year 8 Camp (Day 3/5)
18	JUN, THU	● All day ● All day	Year 8 Camp (Day 4/5) Year 11 & 13 - Awards Evening
19	JUN, FRI	● All day	Year 8 Camp (Day 5/5)
22	JUN, MON	● 7:30 – 9pm	Sports Awards Evening
24	JUN, WED	● 7 – 9:30pm	WAT Productions - Summer Fiesta
25	JUN, THU	● 7 – 9:30pm	WAT Productions - Summer Fiesta
2	JUL, THU	● All day	Year 11 - Prom

A message from the Executive Headteacher

After a long career in education, I have decided to retire at the end of this academic year.

I regard myself as extremely privileged and lucky to have been involved with a number of schools in Wigston Magna and have met many exceptional and inspiring people.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to making my time in Wigston so rewarding and to wish you all the best for the future.

Mr Mike Wilson

Year 7

Year 7 have had an absolutely brilliant few weeks packed with energy, laughter and A LOT of colour! Our recent Colour Dash was a huge success, with students running their hearts out whilst being covered head-to-toe in powdered paint; and together we raised over an incredible £900 for charity, which is something we are extremely proud of. Of course, some members of staff who definitely planned on staying clean somehow ended up looking like walking rainbows by the end of the event... apologies again, Mr Roberts! Meanwhile, Miss Tabor-Brown's football matches continue to be a huge hit and we are delighted to report that Year 7 are currently beating Year 8, exactly as we would expect! Alongside all of this excitement, students are also taking part in our Progress Sprint to boost engagement and effort in lessons. Year 7 are already collecting plenty of raffle tickets and there are some very exciting prizes up for grabs... so watch this space!

Miss Bhogal and Miss Tabor-Brown - Year 7 Progress Leader and Year 7 Assistant Progress Leader

Year 8

Year 8 students have shown excellent progress, with Commitment to Learning data improving across all subjects. We are very proud of their achievements, reflected in the wide range of prizes earned this year, including an Android tablet, indoor skydiving, bowling for four with food and a supercar driving experience. With a helicopter experience as the next major prize, we are delighted with the progress students are making and look forward to building on this success in the summer term.

As always, I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for their continued support. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Mr Hodgkinson and Miss Marsden – Year 8 Progress Leader and Year 8 Assistant Progress Leader

Year 9

At the end of last term, we completed our second data drop and we were absolutely delighted with the progress so many of our students have made. It has been fantastic to see their hard work paying off, and we are incredibly pleased with the improvements across the year group.

This success was celebrated in our rewards assembly, where we gave out the highest number of prizes so far – a real moment of pride for everyone involved. Our next data drop will be in June and we are already very excited to celebrate our students' continued progress in our next celebration assembly.

Mrs Bentley and Miss Quinn – Year 9 Progress Leader and Year 9 Assistant Progress Leader

Year 10

It is that time of year when the weeks are whizzing by, especially for Year 10, who have had a very busy term. Students have received their latest predicted grades, completed a week of Work Experience, met NEA deadlines and attended progress meetings.

Students have reflected on their effort grades and considered where they currently feel they are and where they would like to be in the future. As part of this process, students have been asked to grade

themselves from 1–10. We are also working with students to begin developing effective revision schedules and ensuring they are completing sufficient study at home.

Next term will focus on PPEs, the next data drop and the transition into Year 11. Through assemblies, we will guide students through the next steps and ensure they are fully prepared for the move into their final year at the College.

Please continue to support your child by ensuring they:

- Have the correct equipment every day
- Attend school regularly and arrive on time
- Complete Maths Weeklies and all other homework
- Revisit lesson content via Teams to help secure their knowledge

If your child is absent from school or loses their maths paper, the weekly paper is now emailed to students' school email addresses every Wednesday. Students can either print the sheet or write their answers on plain paper, so there should be no reason for the work not to be completed. Most students are now completing this every week as part of their routine and we are extremely positive and excited about the impact these papers are having on grades. As a result, we will be introducing weeklies in other subjects next year.

With NEA deadlines continuing and PPE exams approaching, please remember that the library is open daily until 4pm, providing access to computers and revision materials.

If you have any questions regarding Year 10 transition, PPEs, or NEAs, please do get in touch via email at rchapman@wigstonmat.org

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mrs Chapman and Miss Gregory – Year 10 Progress Leader and Year 10 Assistant Progress Leader

Year 11

I cannot believe we are almost at the end of our time with Year 11! Where has the time gone?! It has been a positive term for the year group and students have been working hard in lessons; they have approached their learning with commitment and determination. Many students have been staying after school for interventions and revision sessions, it has been evident that our students want to secure the best possible GCSE grades. We have really enjoyed celebrating achievements in assemblies, we had many raffle draws and individual rewards for students who have embraced school life.

I would like to congratulate the year group on the positive and mature way they have started their GCSE examinations. We had a nice, calm start to the day, students enjoyed breakfast together and benefited from "hot-tips" from their subject teachers. We encourage all students to keep up the routine, revising consistently and asking for support where needed. We would also like to thank parents and carers for the continued support and encouragement you are providing at home during this important time.

It has been a successful term Year 11, thank you for all you are doing. Keep up the excellent work and keep doing your best for the remainder of the exam season!

Miss Bramley and Mrs Brennan – Year 11 Progress Leader and Year 11 Assistant Progress Leader

TOP TEN STUDENTS

Commitment to Learning Points

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Laura Poplawska	Jess Emery	Levi Hills
Kerlana St Brice	Amelia Douglas-Boyd	Casey James
Elsie Christer	Evie Colver	Megan Wheatstone
Amane Ali	Khaleesi Allsop	Addison Hall
Aamane Akanni	Poppy Penfold	Jonah Hill
David Dan	Taylor Furlong	Erica Wiltshire-Ross
Max Wright	Sienna Beyer	Lily Wells
Scarlet Randle	Tulisa Ross	Chester Alexander
Logan Richards	Mia Muma	Dylan Brownen
Lilianna Kwiatkowska	Kimberly Kunaka	Vanesa Malollari

Year 7 Trip to Normandy – March 2026



Year 7 had a very successful trip to **Chateau de la Baudonnière** in the Normandy region of France in March. 50 students, accompanied by Mme Dubois, Mrs Tinnion, Mr Chalk, Miss Chapaneri, Mr Sevens and Mr Bridges, left extremely early on Monday morning to take the 8.00 am ferry crossing from Portsmouth to Caen.

On arrival at the Chateau the language immersion started immediately as students joined in with a variety of activities, all conducted in French! Over the course of the week, students made bread; went kayaking; donned their oldest clothes for a muddy obstacle course; visited the mini-farm and participated in problem solving games in the forest - ALL IN FRENCH!

The evenings were packed with activities too: sports tournament, treasure hunt, culminating on the last night with a French themed night with snail tasting, talent show and a disco!

As well as all the fun activities at the Château, students also enjoyed two excursions. One day we visited the Mont St Michel (the famous UNESCO site) and we did some shopping at the typical French market of Saint Hilaire. Students spoke French to the market stallers and bought delicious crêpes and French bread, as well as souvenirs and gifts for family. On the last day, we stopped at a supermarket so students could see the difference between supermarkets in France and England before carrying on to the town of Granville, where we had a walk by the coast and a picnic. We then headed to Cherbourg to catch the ferry back home.

We were fortunate to have the most beautiful sunny weather and it was, once again, a very successful trip. Students felt that their French had improved and it was fantastic to see them all grow in confidence, be it with their French or just being more self-reliant with everyday tasks. The staff at the Château were full of praise for them, commenting on their excellent behaviour and their brilliant engagement in all the activities on offer. They were a real credit to the school.

Bravo les élèves de l' Académie de Wigston 🇫🇷

Ms Dubois and Mrs Tinnion - Trip Leaders and MFL Teachers



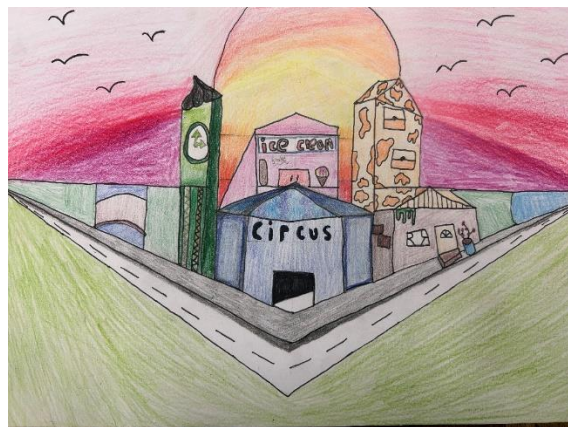
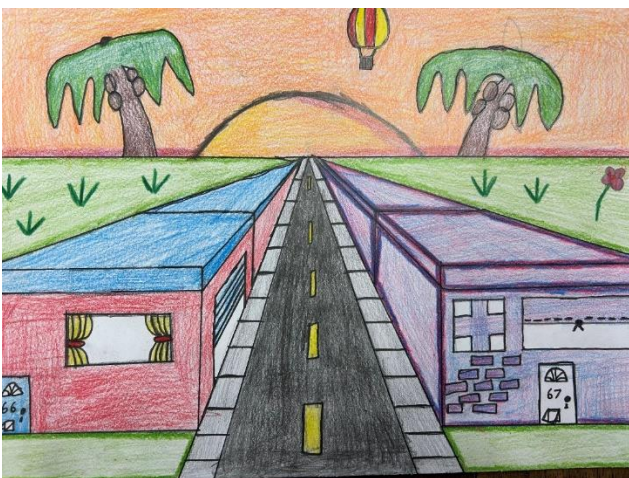


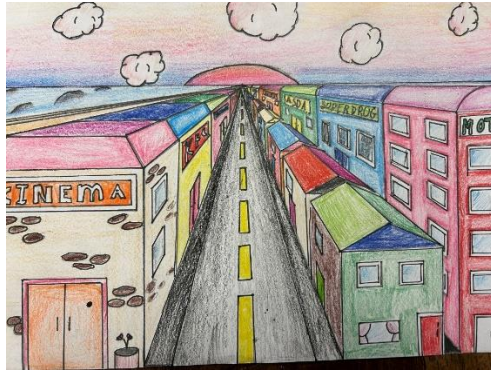
ADT

Year 7 in graphics (last rotation) have been learning how to draw in perspective and have been creating one-point and two-point perspective street scenes. The work produced shows a high level of knowledge, as well as excellent colour skills.

Students worked really hard on their final pieces and the outcomes are fantastic.

Miss Robinson

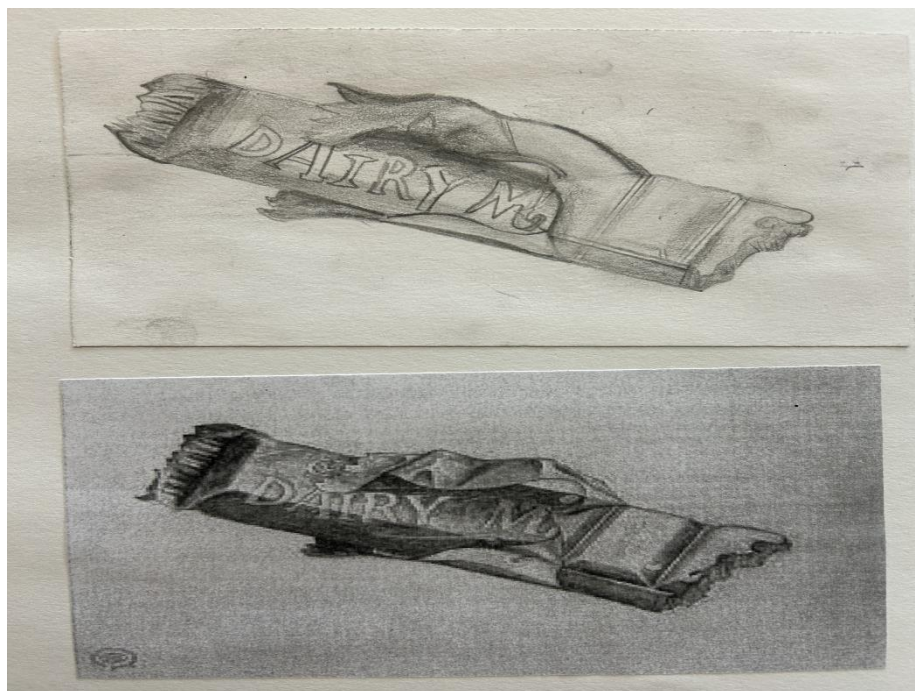




Year 8 Art have been looking at sea creatures and have been creating lots of wonderful work using different media before creating designs for a clay tile.



Year 8 Graphics have been drawing chocolate bars from observation with a focus on tone and shading.



Year 9 Textiles have been working on their Insect Study project. We have used inspiration from Levon Biss and Caroline Kaufman to inspire our final pieces which is a 3D bug. Year 9 have used a range of skills such as batik, fabric dyes, hand embroidery techniques and complex beading and sequin techniques. This project is used as a base to set students up for GCSE Textiles if they have chosen it next year. We are really proud of their efforts and outcomes!

Miss Percival & Miss Guiver



PE and Sport News

The PE Department and students have been as busy as ever with lots of extra-curricular clubs, fixtures and events!

Extra-Curricular Clubs

We have now started our Summer Clubs which include Athletics and Cricket. A reminder that all clubs are free and finish at 4pm. Even if you are not or do not want to be in a team, come along to training to have fun with friends, meet new people and develop your skills!

Boys Football

After being crowned Oadby and Wigston Champions, our Year 10 team represented Oadby and Wigston in the County Cup. They faced a strong Uppingham side in the quarter finals and despite a valiant display, it proved to be the end of their brilliant season. A big well done to all the lads for this year and we look forward to seeing what they can achieve in Year 11.

The Year 8 team also represented Oadby and Wigston in the County Cup after winning their league. They faced last year's County Champions Thomas Estley in the quarter finals. Unfortunately, it was a step too far for the lads who, despite never giving up, lost the game. Well done on another successful season lads.

It has also been amazing to see even more students being given the opportunity to represent the school through our KS3 B Teams. They have played matches v Bilton, Winstanley and Keyham Lodge and represented the school well. We look forward to providing more opportunities like this in the future.

Girls Football

The busy schedule for our girls continued in both the league and National Cup. The Year 7/8 team narrowly lost to the National C of E Academy in round 2 of the National Cup but things look very positive for this team moving into next season.

In the league, our teams faced Beauchamp, South Wigston and Manor. There were some fantastic performances and results but, more importantly, it was amazing to see so many girls representing the school and enjoying their football. Both the Year 7 and 8/9 Teams narrowly missed out on being Oadby and Wigston Champions as they finished runners up.

The Year 7 Girls Football team also took part in the Oadby and Wigston Futsal Tournament. Once again, they showed what a good team they are as they came runners up. We're excited to see where this team can go in the future!

We'd also like to say a massive thank you to our Year 11 leavers who played their last games for the school. A large number of these girls have represented the school for the past five years and won numerous Oadby and Wigston Leagues and played at Seagrave in County Cup Finals. It has been a pleasure having you all in our teams and we wish you all the best in the future!

Netball

The Year 7, 8, 10 and 11 teams finished off their season with a strong performance at the South Leicestershire Netball Tournament. It has been another good year for our netball teams and they continue to make progress and enjoy their netball.

The Year 11 team played their last games for the school. These have been one of our most successful netball teams, regularly winning the Oadby and Wigston League and representing the area in the County Cups. The girls have shown real dedication to the school and are a very talented team. We'd like to say a massive thank you for representing the school so well and we wish them all the best in the future.

Darts

In March, we hosted a South Leicestershire KS3 Darts Competition. It was great to see our students representing the school in another different sport and we certainly have some students to keep an eye out for in the future. Well done to all involved!

Badminton

A big well done to our KS3 and KS4 Badminton teams who travelled to Beauchamp for their Oadby and Wigston League Tournament. They came up against some very strong opposition but showed a brilliant attitude and resilience throughout. Well done on representing the school so well.

Sports Leadership

Our brilliant Year 10 Sports Leaders continued their busy year with Primary Dodgeball and Boccia Tournaments.

Once again, they were received extremely positive feedback and continue to represent the school in a fantastic way. Well done all!

Dates for your diary...

We are looking forward to the annual Area Athletics Competition on the 20th May at Saffron Lane. Preparations are well underway and if students want to be considered for the team, they must attend Athletics Club on a Tuesday (Year 7/8) or Thursday (Year 9/10).

As always, our busy year will culminate with our Annual Sports Awards Evening. This year it will be held on Monday 22nd June_ mainly to avoid clashes with a certain football event! More information will follow but we hope that you will join us for what promises to be another wonderful evening of celebration.

Performing Arts

The Performing Arts Department has enjoyed a busy and highly successful year to date. We have staged three major productions this academic year, including our ambitious and exceptionally well-received *Prince of Egypt*. This production involved over 60 students on stage and was performed to audiences exceeding 900 people - an increase on last year's figures. It has been the most demanding production undertaken by the Trust in many respects, and we are immensely proud of our talented students who rose to the challenge with outstanding commitment and professionalism.

We have received an overwhelming amount of positive feedback from staff, students and our valued WAT Productions community, whose continued support is greatly appreciated. Rehearsals are now underway for our final production of the year, *Summer Fiesta*. This event will celebrate our outgoing students and showcase a vibrant combination of Musical Theatre, Music and Dance. We look forward to these performances with great anticipation.

This year, several students have also contributed to our choreography team and we are extremely grateful for their dedication. While we are sad to see such a strong cohort leave, we thank them for

their commitment, support and exceptional talent. We wish them every success in their future endeavours and look forward to seeing the next steps in their journeys.

We are also delighted by the growing number of students engaging in Performing Arts, which we are confident will lead to even more exciting opportunities for our emerging performers.

In addition, we hosted our Key Stage 3 talent show, *WAT's Got Talent*, at the end of April. This event provided a valuable platform for younger students to showcase their abilities. With over 20 acts, the show featured a wide range of performances, including singing, dancing, roller skating, cello and original poetry. It was a pleasure to support these students at the beginning of their performing arts journey.

Now in its fourth year, *WAT's Got Talent* continues to go from strength to strength. Our student judges, all accomplished performers, provided thoughtful and encouraging feedback and we are very grateful for their contribution, as well as for the support of Mr Manton. The event also raised £652.43 to date for our chosen charity, Wishes4Kids.

Please see below a poem written by one of our Year 9 students, Lexie Erskine:

*My miss honey,
In a room where voices echoed loud
and rules felt sharp and cold
where every word was heavy and every story told was scolded bold,
there you stood so quietly, with kindness in your tone, like a light
I didn't realise I would've needed all along.
You reminded me of miss honey, soft-spoken but so strong,
The only voice that felt like it was where I could belong.
While others rushed to judge me, to silence or dismiss,
You listened like my words were something not to miss.*

*Everyone else seemed unreasonable, too quick to turn away,
But you would stop and understand the things I couldn't say.
And somehow in your patience, I found a place to be.
A version of myself that felt a little more like me.*

*I would listen when you spoke, not out of fear or rule,
But because you made the chaos feel a little less cruel.
You didn't have to shout to make me understand,
You reached me with a gentle, steadier hand.*

*And maybe you'll never know just what you have helped me through,
How much it meant to feel like someone finally knew.
But in a world that often felt too loud, too much, too many-
You were my quiet answer, my own real life miss honey*

Summer Fiesta will be performed on 24th and 25th June. Tickets are available via the Academy and College websites (www.wigstonacademy.org and www.wigstoncollege.org) by following the production ticket link. Tickets may also be purchased from the Academy reception by cheque. We warmly invite you to join us in supporting our talented students in their final production of the academic year.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our dedicated Performing Arts team. Their significant contributions make these productions possible and provide invaluable opportunities for our students. In particular, I would like to thank Mr Roberts, Mrs Smith and Mrs Bradley for their continued commitment and support.

Miss Watkiss - Head of Performing Arts



Careers Update

Year 10 Work Experience – Monday 27th April – Friday 1st May

212 Year 10 students completed a successful placement. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to gain an insight into the world of work, supporting their development and preparation for leaving full-time education. It was reported that our students had an excellent week and we were overwhelmed by the wonderful feedback and references provided by employers. Well done and congratulations to all of Year 10 who successful went out on placement.



Spencer Cardwell had an amazing week, well done Spencer – here are his thoughts:

The work experience program at the Academy gave me the amazing opportunity to conduct my placement with the Conservative MP, Dr Luke Evans. The week showed me all aspects of the career of an MP and MP's staffers, how they work for constituents and represent the area in Parliament. Overall, the week has encouraged me to continue to aspire for a career in politics and given me the knowledge on how to get there.



Students who were unable to secure a placement completed a range of enterprise activities throughout the week. These included the Tyre Challenge and the Food Challenge, where students worked in teams to tackle real-world problems. Across the week, they took part in every stage of the projects, including problem-solving tasks and developing creative solutions.



The activities were practical, collaborative and linked to different sectors, giving students a realistic experience of the workplace while developing key skills such as teamwork, communication and critical thinking. In the final session, students presented their ideas to one another and had the opportunity to ask questions about each project. The standard of work and creativity shown was excellent - well done to all students involved.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Comic Relief/Red Nose Day – 20th March

On Comic Relief/Red Nose Day we held a cake sale for all year groups, with an amazing amount of home baked cakes. Thank you to all students and parents who took the time to support this.



At the Trust, we are always looking for ways to bring our community together, have fun and support great causes. This year we held a Staff v Students challenge in support of Comic Relief, giving students the chance to take on staff in a series of fun activities. Activities included darts, basketball shot, netball shot, curling and vertical jump. For each activity, scores were added together, with everyone receiving a total score. Well done to Mr Megginson who won the staff challenge scoring 171 points!

Student winners who received prizes were:

Year 7 – Annabela Laksevica -114 points

Year 8 – Archie Thrower – 137 points

Year 9 – Brandon Brightmore – 111 points

Year 10 – Callum Palmer – 115 points

Year 5 Activity Morning: 27th April – 1st May 2026

This term we have had the pleasure of welcoming Year 5 students from four of our main feeder primary schools; Thythorn, All Saints, Waterleys and Meadow schools. Across the morning they took part in a Science lesson where they learnt about Chromatography; a History lesson where they looked into the discovery of 'The Lindow Man' and some students took part in an ADT art lesson. All students were really well engaged in all the activities and couldn't wait to come back to the Academy again.

WA Preloved Uniform Shop

At Wigston Academy we have an excellent preloved uniform shop, would you be willing to donate any pre-loved school uniform items to be a part of our Pre-loved Uniform Shop? Look out for times on our website to come and support and grab yourself a bargain.

We are looking for any good quality, clean, non-damaged items that you would like to donate, please bring them into main reception at the academy. We will soon be announcing when and where you can purchase our preloved uniform items for a bargain price. (Damaged and soiled items won't be able to be sold and will be disposed of)

Making a change – currently only 1% of clothing is recycled, lets help to make a difference!



**WIGSTON ACADEMY'S
FOOD CUPBOARD OPENS**

WHEN: EVERY THURSDAY
WHERE : SITE A ENTRANCE

THURSDAY 8:30 – 9:30AM
PLEASE BRING A CARRIER BAG

- Bread
- Cereals
- Tinned Foods
- UHT Milk
- Drinks
- Toiletries
- Sanitary Products

Supported by MCKS Charitable Foundation UK

LEARN INSPIRE ACHIEVE

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Our year 10 students who are taking part in their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh have successfully completed their expedition. This element of the course involves navigating around Leicestershire, cooking a evening meal and camping overnight. It is a tough experience that involves the students needing to show determination, dedication and team work. They all enjoyed the challenge and were a credit to Wigston Academy.





Hi, I'm James, a **former student of Wigston College**, and this summer I'll be **climbing Mount Kilimanjaro (Over 4x the height of Ben Nevis)** to raise money for the **Meningitis Research Foundation**. This will be the **biggest challenge of my life**, with the expedition taking **7 days** and summit temperatures reaching **-15°C**.

Meningitis can strike quickly and have life-changing consequences, especially for young people. The Meningitis Research Foundation works to **fund vital research, improve early detection, raise awareness, and support those affected**—all of which help save lives and reduce long-term impact.

I've raised over £600 so far! My goal is to raise **£3000 before the end of July**, and every donation helps move me closer to that target and supports this important work.

Wigston College played a huge role in helping me achieve the qualifications that led me to the University of Bristol, which in turn has given me the opportunity to take on this challenge for charity.

If you're able to support, **any donation—big or small—would make a real difference to the lives of people affected by meningitis.**

You can **donate here** (with more details about my journey):

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/uk-kilimanjaro-29th-august-2026-student-choseachallenge-6926d67ddafbf?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=CL

Thank you for your support!

James



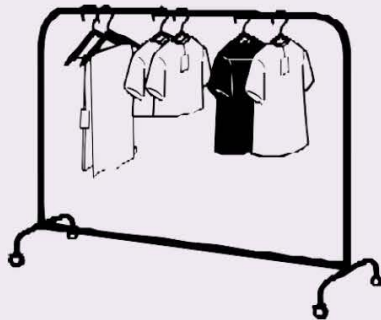


LCH Charity
Lifting Children's Hopes

DROP IN FREE PRE- LOVED SCHOOL UNIFORM STORE



Will you be struggling with the cost of school uniform this summer? LCH Charity are opening their Highcross school uniform store for families to select school uniform and PE Kit their children need for free!



Whilst Stock Lasts.

All families must register their interest



📍 Highcross Shopping Centre opposite Costa.

🕒 Open Monday to Friday 10am till 3pm.

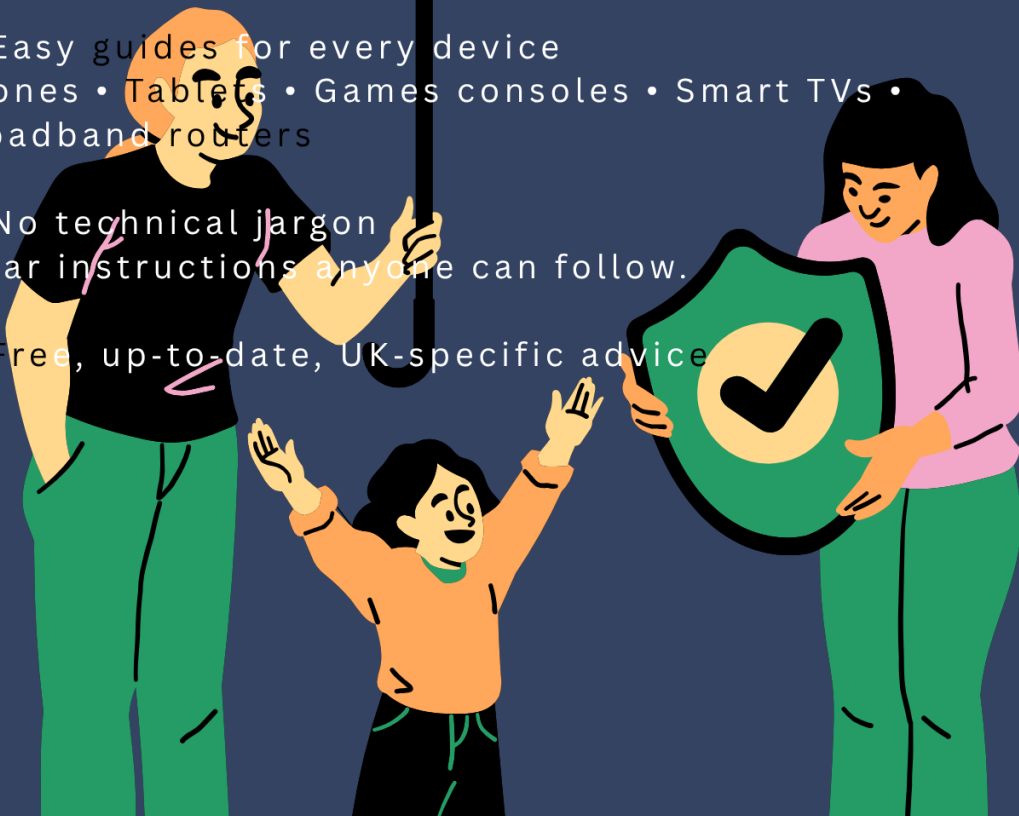
Your Child's **SAFETY** is **OUR PRIORITY**

<https://parentalcontrol.uk/>

Simple, trusted guidance for parents and carers

Want to set up parental controls but not sure where to start? You're not alone – and there's now a plain-English, step-by-step resource designed specifically for UK families.

- ✓ Easy guides for every device
Phones • Tablets • Games consoles • Smart TVs • Broadband routers
- ✓ No technical jargon
Clear instructions anyone can follow.
- ✓ Free, up-to-date, UK-specific advice



Money Mules Warning

Dear Parent/Carer,

Leicestershire Police recently conducted a targeted operation against county lines drug activity, which often exploits vulnerable children and adults by coercing them into transporting drugs, acting as money mules, or assisting organised crime groups.

What is a money mule?

A money mule is someone who transfers money that is either stolen or illegally derived through their own bank account on behalf of someone else and is often paid for doing so, either in cash or with items such as phones or trainers.

Criminals need money mules to launder the profits of their crimes.

Young people are increasingly being targeted to become money mules. They are approached online or in person, including through social media, at school, college or sports clubs. Sometimes people they know persuade them to take part, often because they are also acting as money mules.

Mules will usually be unaware of where the money comes from – commonly fraud and scams – and that it can go on to fund crimes such as drug dealing, people trafficking and terrorist activity.

Being a money mule is illegal

When someone is caught, their bank account may be closed, and they will have problems getting student loans, mobile phone contracts and credit in the future. They could even face arrest for money laundering which carries a maximum sentence of 14 years in prison.

What to look out for

Tell-tale signs that someone might be involved could be them suddenly having extra cash, buying expensive new clothes or top-of-the-range mobile phones and gadgets with very little explanation as to how they got the money. They may also become more secretive, withdrawn or appear stressed.

You and your child can learn more and get advice by visiting www.dontbefooled.org.uk together.

If you are worried that someone close to you might be involved in money muling, you can contact **Crimestoppers** anonymously on **0800 555 111**.

Please do not attempt to contact any individual you suspect of organising money muling.

DON'T BE FOOLED

 UK Finance  cifas