



**Wye School**  
The best in everyone™  
Part of United Learning

# Newsletter

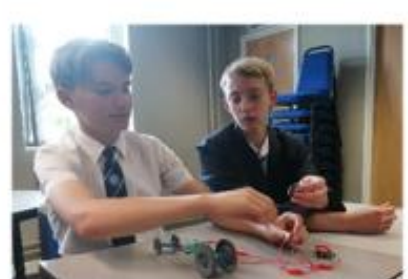
27 June 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

A mid-term newsletter to keep you up to date with events at school. The exams are now over and we have moved into the enrichment phase of the year with lots of activities for all year groups. A selection are highlighted below.

## Stem Careers Challenge – University of Greenwich Medway Campus

Ms Gawthorpe and twelve students from Yr 9 went to a STEM careers challenge day at the University of Greenwich Medway campus. They learnt about the wide variety of careers that use Science Technology Engineering and Maths. They tried their hand at producing an E-Fit image of a crime suspect; programmed a robotic lawn-mower; refined an electric car for maximum speed and learnt the basics of medical examinations and diagnostics. It was lovely to spend the day with these ambitious and creative students.



## Spotlight on Speech and Language

At Wye we are committed to supporting our students and giving them the best opportunities to reach their full potential. In the UK around 20% of children understand more than one language. If your child speaks English as a second language (ESL), your support at home can make a significant difference in their confidence, academic success, and overall well-being. Learning in a second language can be exhausting and sometimes isolating. Be patient, listen to your child's concerns, and celebrate their progress—no matter how small. Confidence grows with encouragement. We work alongside Speech and Language therapists to ensure all children receive the support they need to feel comfortable in school.

Below is a link with more information on how you can best support your child. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact Nicky Hargrave on [office@wyeschool.org.uk](mailto:office@wyeschool.org.uk) or the SEN team.

[Children learning more than one language - Speech and Language UK: Changing young lives](#)

**KentPACT** are a forum for parents and carers of children and young people who have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) within Kent local authority. They are hosting webinars for parents to explain the developments and allow parents the opportunity to find out what this means for their children. Webinars are planned for **Monday 14 July at 3pm** and **Wednesday 16 July at 6:30pm** - for parents wanting to register please email [info@kentpact.org.uk](mailto:info@kentpact.org.uk).

## **Apply for your KCC Travel Saver (from KCC)**

You can now apply for your KCC Travel Saver bus pass.

Apply by **10 August** to get your pass at the start of the school term in September.

This year we're:

- using government funding to keep the cost of the KCC Travel Saver as low as possible continuing to protect school bus services and keep them running.

For further information on costs and how to apply, visit [KCC Travel Saver](#)



## **Bringing Spanish Culture to Food Tech**

The Cruz family are from Colombia and are living in Ashford, Nathalie their daughter is in Year 8 here at Wye.

We wanted our Year 9 Spanish class to experience something cultural and relevant to the Spanish speaking world, so I invited Luisa, Jorge and Nathalie to come and help 9c make some traditional Colombian empanadas.

They were so lovely and so enthusiastic - they even brought special empanada equipment! They explained that many Colombian women depend on selling empanadas to people in their neighbourhood and also answered lots of questions about Colombia too. Everyone was encouraged to go and see their beautiful country for themselves...

I 'believe' the empanadas were delicious, however, there were none left for me to sample! Our United Learning languages advisor, Mr Lamb was very impressed and 'blown away' by the respect, kindness and interest 9c showed our visitors, as was I. Well done 9c, you made it enjoyable for everyone - gracias a todos!



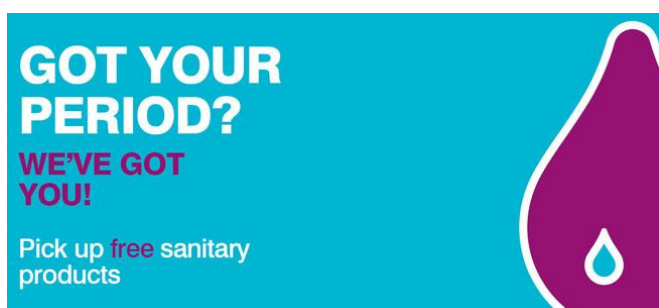
## Period Product Scheme

The government funded Period Product Scheme allows for Wye School to have access to sanitary products for our students, to decrease period poverty. Period products should be available for all who need them, when they need them and should not be a barrier to education for anyone. This may include, for example, where individuals:

- have forgotten or run out of products at their school
- cannot afford products
- have come on their period unexpectedly

Period products are kept in the Pastoral Office and Reception and can be accessed by students when required.

Please email [vicky.dilworth@wyeschool.org.uk](mailto:vicky.dilworth@wyeschool.org.uk) if your child doesn't always have access to period products and we will see if we can help in any way.



## Holiday Clubs

A couple of events taking place over the summer holidays. Follow links to [Godington Primary School Summer Camp](#) and [Musical Theatre Week](#) for more information.



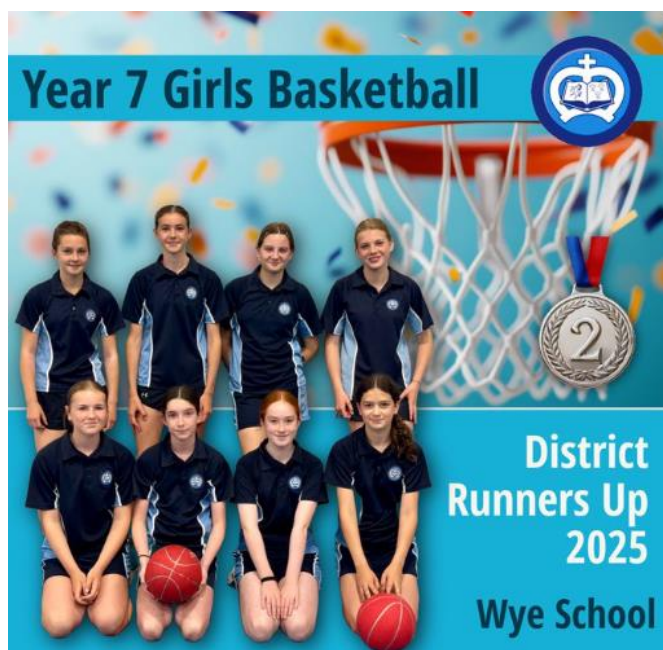
## Magic Flute Music Trip

This week, students at Wye School have enjoyed the extraordinary opportunity to perform Mozart's opera The Magic Flute on the renowned stage of the Royal Festival Hall.

Their performance is the culmination of a project delivered by United Learning in partnership with the Royal Opera House to introduce pupils to opera. Over the past few months, students have been working hard to be able to showcase their talents, creativity and confidence on the iconic stage through their performance of the famous opera.

In the lead up to the performance, students were lucky enough to participate in workshops with professional opera singers and artists from the Royal Opera House, giving them exciting experience in high-calibre musical and dramatic performance.

## Sports News



### Year 7 Girls Basketball

Our Year 7 girls put in a valiant performance on Monday against a very strong Highworth Girls Grammar in the Ashford & Shepway District Schools Basketball Final. Highworth were victorious 30-8 but we are very proud of our girls who finished as District Runners up. An exciting 28-22 comeback victory against North School in the group stages and an incredible 52-12 win at Folkestone Girls Grammar in the semi-finals stand out as highlights from the year. Well done to Eva, Emma, Mariana, Isla, Sophie, Isabelle, Millie, Hannah, and Olivia for their efforts this season.

### Ashford and Shepway District Athletics Championships 2025 round up

Last week our boys and girls teams in Years 7-10 took part in the annual District Athletics Championships at the Julie Rose Stadium in Ashford. The standard was as high as ever but our students performed admirably against the best athletes from the Ashford and Shepway Districts. Our teams were competing against THIRTEEN other schools, including the always strong boys' and girls' grammar schools from both districts, as well as Ashford School, but nevertheless came away with some amazing team finishes and individual medal hauls. Our performances in the combined 'High Schools only' categories, of which there were ten schools, highlight even further how well we performed.

#### Girls

Year 7: 5<sup>th</sup> place

Year 8: 4<sup>th</sup> place

Year 9: 5<sup>th</sup> place

Year 10: 8<sup>th</sup> place

Junior Girls combined (Y7&8): 4<sup>th</sup> place

Intermediate Girls combined (Y9&10): 4<sup>th</sup> place

**Overall Girls: 5<sup>th</sup> place**

**Overall Girls High School: 2nd**

#### Boys

Year 7: 11<sup>th</sup> place

Year 8: 5<sup>th</sup> place

Year 9: 10<sup>th</sup> place

Year 10: 8<sup>th</sup> place

Junior Boys combined (Y7&8): 6<sup>th</sup> place

Intermediate Boys combined (Y9&10): 8<sup>th</sup> place

**Overall Boys: 7<sup>th</sup> place**

**Overall Boys High School: 4th**

**OVERALL HIGH SCHOOLS BOYS AND GIRLS COMBINED: 3<sup>rd</sup>**

## Individual medallists



Emma Yr 7 girls  
200m – gold  
High jump – bronze



Sophie Y7 girls  
1500m – bronze



Brooke Y8 girls  
1500m - bronze



Dillon Year 8 boys  
300m – gold  
100m – bronze



Matti Year 8 boys  
Long jump – bronze



Jenson Year 7 boys  
1500m bronze



Dillon, George, Avi & Riley – Year 8 boys  
4 x 100m relay – bronze



Richard Year 10 boys  
100m gold  
200m silver



Chloe – Year 10 girls  
800m - bronze



Hattie – Year 10 girls  
Long jump – silver



Aneya Year 9 girls  
High jump – gold  
100m – silver

Congratulations to all Wye School competitors for their efforts. It really was another week to be proud of our student's commitment and dedication to school sport.

## **Kent School Athletics Championships 2025**

We must also give further congratulations to Richard in Year 10 who took the 100m silver medal in the Kent Schools Athletics Championships on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June at Medway Park, running a Personal Best time of 11.2s. Well done to Richard for cementing his status as the second fastest U15 boy in the county, a reflection of the hard work he puts in training and competing as part of Ashford Athletics Club.

Wye also had further representation at the Kent Schools Athletics Championships. Emma in Year 7 finished fourth in both the 100m and the long jump. Dillon in Year 8 qualified for the 300m Junior Boys final but unfortunately was not permitted to run due to a technical issue with the electronic timing system being used. Well done to Richard, Emma, and Dillon for their efforts competing for the Ashford and Weald District Team alongside the best athletes in the county.



## **Year 10 GCSE PE Road Cycling**

Before the May half term we spent a fantastic few days with a group of our Year 10 GCSE PE students at Gravesend Cyclopark working towards an assessment in road biking as part of their GCSE practical grades. For many this was a brand new activity and their application and skills development was very impressive.

## The Stour Music Festival

The Stour Music Festival kindly brought Hanse Pfeifferey, a Renaissance wind ensemble from Germany, to perform parts of their 'I Fagiolini' show. They worked with our music students featuring polyphony from French, Flemish, Italian and German regions, and dance! A really fun and educational event with lots of student participation.



### Farm Visit Year 8 and 9

Some students were invited to come to Wye Community Farm this term and they had a great day. They were busy feeding and cleaning out the chickens, filling up the water and cooling down the pigs as well as grooming the cows going to The Kent Show in a couple of weeks. They all enjoyed getting involved and many were keen to go back again in the future.



## Year 9 Mock Interviews – A Valuable Experience



Our Year 9 students recently took part in a series of mock interviews designed to help them develop confidence and key employability skills. We were fortunate to welcome a diverse group of volunteers from a wide range of professions – from doctors to journalists – who generously gave their time to support our students. The feedback we received was overwhelmingly positive. One volunteer commented, “Their preparation and confidence were evident throughout the process. It was truly inspiring to see how seriously they approached this opportunity to grow and learn. Mock interviews can be challenging, but they met the task with enthusiasm and maturity. This achievement reflects their hard work, dedication, and willingness to step outside their comfort zones. Whether it was the way they presented themselves —each of them showed great potential.” Another noted, “The young people interviewed were exceptional human beings, thoughtful, personable and inciteful, I enjoyed my time with them all. I acknowledge that whilst putting themselves in an uncomfortable situation, they ALL took the challenge and answered the questions to the best of their ability. I sincerely hope this interaction will benefit them and hold them in good stead for when they are ready to enter the labour market and go through the interview process.”

We're proud of how our students embraced the opportunity and grateful to our volunteers for making the experience so enriching.

### St Hugh's College

University of Oxford Open Days – 2nd and 3rd July

The University of Oxford Open Days are fast approaching! This year they are taking place on **Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd July** (with another on Friday 19th September). [College programmes](#) and [departmental programmes](#) of events taking place over these days are now available, including a timetable of [talks and workshops taking place here at St Hugh's](#)! All welcome.

**We are pleased to be able to offer free accommodation at St Hugh's for students from our link schools who will be attending the Open Day(s).** Wye is a link school. Rooms are available for students to book free of charge for the nights of 1st and/or 2nd July (i.e. the nights before each Open Day). To request accommodation, students should [fill in this accommodation form](#) by **11.45pm on 25th June**. Please note that spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, so please do encourage

students who would benefit from this to sign up sooner rather than later. Once they have filled in the form, we will be in touch with them to confirm whether we have space for them.

## Scarecrow Autumn Festival – 20 September 2025

A small team of Wye residents are organising a scarecrow autumn festival to be held in and around Wye church, and an auction of local donated prizes to be auctioned by the celebrity Christopher Biggins, who will also be judging 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes for the best scarecrow displayed on the day. All proceeds will be going to Wye clubs. Put on your artistic heads and enter a scarecrow, you have plenty of time to be creative! For more information, see [here](#).

## Duke of Edinburgh

This term has seen the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh group successfully complete their qualifying expedition. We were interrupted by the thunderstorm, but thanks to parents for being adaptable, all coming to collect their children and bring them back so they could all complete their second day.

Several of the students decided that despite the weather warning, they would camp anyway in their gardens and in true DofE fashion had no sleep and returned the next morning not quite so bright eyed and bushy tailed, but nevertheless smiling.



## Key Dates

| Date              | Time | Event                                                   |
|-------------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 4 July 2025       |      | Year 11 Prom                                            |
| 7 July 2025       |      | Year 10 Geography Field Work                            |
| 8 July 2025       |      | Year 10 English Speaking Exam catch-up                  |
| 9 July 2025       |      | Principal's Breakfast- reward for hard working students |
| 14 – 18 July      |      | Year 10 Work Experience                                 |
| 16 – 18 July 2025 |      | Enrichment Days                                         |
| 21 July 2025      |      | Sports Day                                              |
| 22 July 2025      |      | Non-Uniform day                                         |
| 22 July 2025      |      | Last day of term – students finish at 12:15 pm          |

## Conclusion

It has been hot a lot recently, I have written to you separately about the need for students to plan for hot days and bring a full drink with them each day and to consider what to wear e.g. do they need suncream?

I held the first three tours for Year 5 students looking at us for September 26 entry, there seem to be an increasing number of parents on tours now that I taught in my early teaching years. Makes me feel ancient. All I need next is a grandchild of someone I taught to turn up.....But more seriously, it is one of the joys of teaching that we get to see children become adults then parents and then teach their children, I am not sure many other careers do that?

There is a lot more enrichment to come over the next few weeks as we build up to the end of the academic year. I will write to you in the last week to showcase the events held.

Yours sincerely



Luke Magee  
Principal