Wye School
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

Newsletter

27 November 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

Autumn is moving into winter in weather terms which has been a shock to the system after all those months of warm, and relatively dry, weather. Year 11 have now finished their mock exams and are back in normal lessons after two weeks of sustained hard work. I set out below some of the events at school recently and some information from third parties that may be helpful.

Christmas Lunch Arrangements

We are pleased to confirm that Christmas Lunch will be served on **Wednesday 16th December** and at no extra cost to our usual roast dinner. Students will have a choice of chicken or turkey, or vegetable and cheese pastry crown or Quorn grill for meat-free options. All are served with the usual festive trimmings: chipolata, roast potatoes, Yorkshire pudding, sage and onion stuffing, brussels sprouts, carrots, peas and gravy. Dessert will be a delicious chocolate Yule log. Please see here for further menu details. We hope that students will join us that day for a taste of Christmas cheer.

Y7-10 Mid-year Assessments and Effective Revision

Mid-year assessments will take place during the **first three weeks following the Christmas holiday**, providing an important opportunity for students to demonstrate what they have learned so far this academic year, identify areas of strength, and highlight any topics that may require further revision or support.

To help students prepare effectively, assemblies will be held between **23 November and 2 December**. These assemblies will explain the purpose of the assessments, how students can revise successfully, and the strategies they can use to perform at their best. Students will also have tutor time sessions, looking at different revision techniques as well as opportunities to discuss their targets and how they can aim to achieve them.

We encourage parents and carers to talk with their child about their revision plans and support them in establishing regular revision routines. Guidance for parents on effective revision strategies can be found on our website: Effective Revision.

Further details about the assessments, including revision lists and timetables, will be shared in a separate communication.

School Buses

The buses, minibuses and taxis that some students use to get to school are not a school service. They are a contract between parents/carers and Kent County Council. Kent contract Chalkwell to deliver some of them, other operators for the smaller services. School has no oversight of the service and does not task the route or the driver, does not fund the service and does not usually know if there are service issues. Where we are informed, as a courtesy, by Chalkwell or other operators that they are doing something different that day, we send out a message, but, we often are not.

You can communicate with the operators of the service as follows:

1 Kent School Transport (03000 418484) homeschooltransport@kent.gov.uk

2 Chalkwell (01795 423982) https://chalkwell.co.uk/contact/

3 R & J Coaches - 01303 813696

4 Parents whose children use the smaller serivices have the contact details provided directly.

We like to be kept informed of any issues with any of these services so we can make our own representations to Kent, Chalkwell and other operators as needed, so please do let us know. However, we have no power to change services or direct them.

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme - Christmas 2026 School Holidays

The **Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme** will return during the **Christmas 2026 school holidays** for children and young people eligible under the **Targeted Free School Meals (FSM)** category.

Further information about the programme can be found on the **Kent County Council** website: Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) – Kent County Council.

As with previous holiday periods, bookings will be managed through the **Holiday Activities** platform.
Automated e-vouchers will be issued to eligible families on **1 December 2026**.
Any help needed to access and use the e-vouchers, please go to I'm a Parent – Holiday Activities.
If you have any questions, please contact the Holiday Activities support team at support@holidayactivities.com

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Policy

Please see link to our RSE and Health Education Policy, which we are putting out for consultation. If you have any feedback about the policy, please contact Lucy.Drake@wyeschool.org.uk. We will be consulting on the policy until 18 December 2026 before publication on our website in the New Year.

Celebrating Sparx Science Success

A huge well done to all our students who have collectively completed **1,976 hours** of personalised learning on Sparx Science this year! This will have allowed students to cement their understanding built in the classroom and become confident scientists.
Congratulations also to our current top XP earners across the school:

Year 7	**Sathwik Saleesh**
Year 8	**Caven Chan**
Year 9	**Mia Thomas**
Year 10	**Benjamin Dumont**
Year 11	**Molly Cornford**

What a fantastic achievement from all our students. Keep up the great work!

RS Trip Year 10 Monday the 23rd of November

As part of their GCSE Religious Studies course, our Year 10 students recently enjoyed a guided visit to Canterbury Cathedral to support their study of Christian Practices. Throughout the day, students were exemplary ambassadors for the school, demonstrating excellent behaviour, politeness and respect. They engaged thoughtfully with the tour, asking insightful questions and showing genuine interest in the history, worship and significance of the Cathedral. It was wonderful to see them bringing their classroom learning to life in such an inspiring setting. Combined with the great weather and Christmas Market, it was an enjoyable and memorable day for everyone involved.



Sports News

District Cross Country 2026



A huge congratulations to our Wye School runners for their fantastic performances at October's Ashford District Schools Cross Country Championships. Competing against some of the strongest athletes from local grammar and independent schools, our students showed tremendous determination, resilience and team spirit, returning home with two team medals and an individual bronze medal.

Special congratulations go to Tilly (Yr8), who claimed an excellent bronze medal in the highly competitive combined Year 8/9 Junior Girls race. Tilly was joined by Malaika, Lola, Isobel, Sophie and Eva in the Junior Girls team, whose consistent performances throughout the race also earned them a fantastic team bronze medal.

Our Intermediate Girls team (pictured above) went one better, securing a superb silver medal in the combined Year 10/11 team event. Outstanding runs from Brooke, Evie, Mia, Ellen and Sienna ensured the girls finished among the top teams on the day. All of our Year 10/11 girls, along with Tilly and Josh (6th place

in the junior boys race) in Year 8 have been nominated for the Ashford team for Januarys Kent Schools County Cross Country Championships.

Football

Congratulations to our Year 9 Boys Football Team, who have been crowned Division 2 Champions following an excellent unbeaten league campaign.



The team secured impressive victories over North School, Chilmington Green School, and Turner School, with a dominant 9-2 win over Turner last week confirming the league title and ensuring Wye could not be caught at the top of the table. This season also included a hard-fought draw against Marsh Academy, demonstrating the determination and resilience shown by the squad throughout the year.

To go through the season unbeaten is a fantastic achievement and a testament to the players' commitment, teamwork and attitude in every fixture. Every member of the squad should be incredibly proud of their contribution to a memorable and well-deserved league title. A special thank you also goes to Mr Millward, whose leadership as team manager have helped guide the team to a superb season

Rugby



Josh in Year 8 has been selected for the Elite Rugby Academy for Kent, an exceptional squad of just 30 players chosen from clubs across Kent and the South East, including Thanet, Deal, Gravesend and South East London.

This prestigious programme provides a pathway towards Premiership Rugby clubs and university opportunities in the future.

We are incredibly proud of Josh's dedication, hard work and talent, and we look forward to following his rugby journey.

Netball Highlights

The end of Term 2 will see the culmination of an extremely busy two terms of our school Netball programme.



This week has seen our Year 7 and 8 girls continue their season with a visit from North School. Year 7 (pictured left) continued their excellent start to school Netball and remain undefeated, securing an impressive 11-2 victory. The team displayed fantastic teamwork and determination throughout, with Nancy earning the Star Player award for her outstanding performance. The Year 7 girls also came out 5-4 winners in a thrilling match vs Chilmington Green earlier this term.

Year 8 have also produced some superb performances this season with November's 18-13 victory over Chilmington Green a highlight. The girls did suffer their first defeat of the season this week in a highly competitive and closely contested match with North. Despite a spirited effort, they narrowly lost 14-11, with Bluebell named Star Player after an excellent individual display.

Highlights for our Year 9 and Year 10 netball teams have also included a trip to North School for an exciting double-header fixture, with both teams returning home victorious. The Year 10 team edged a closely contested match, coming out on top with an impressive 8-7 win. It was a brilliant team effort, with Bonnie earning the Star Player award for her outstanding performance.

Wye's Year 9 girls then produced a dominant display, controlling their match from start to finish to secure a convincing 9-3 victory. Sophie was deservedly named Star Player after an excellent all-round performance.

Year 9, 10 and 11 have also secured victories over John Wallis, with the Year 11 girls also finishing third in the District Netball Tournament.

Family Learning / Community learning & Skills (offer from Kent County Council)

'We are pleased to share our upcoming **free online Family Learning courses** taking place throughout December. Our online courses provide parents, carers and family members with the opportunity to develop new skills, support their children's learning, improve confidence, and connect with others from the comfort of their own homes. All courses are delivered online by our experienced Family Learning tutors and are free to eligible learners. Please see here for course information for December.

Families can enrol directly using the details provided on the course information, or they can contact us if they require further information or support with booking.'

Farm Visit

On a recent visit to the community farm, students learnt about the history and importance of wool and it's uses, as well as feeding all the animals and maintaining their housing.











A Walk with Nettle

Students enjoying a recent walk with our therapy dog, Nettle!

Year 9 Visit to CEMA Museum

On 5th November, a group of Year 9 students enjoyed an engaging and educational visit to the CEMA Museum in Maidstone. Throughout the day, students took part in interactive workshops that explored both the life of a soldier on the front line and the experiences of those on the Home Front. They then had the unique opportunity to explore a replica World War One trench and step inside a dugout, bringing their classroom learning to life. Tank you to the brilliant staff at CEMA for a fantastic day of hands-on history that helped students develop a deeper understanding of the realities faced during wartime.







Art Work

Current Year 10 clay sculpture pieces they have made recently. The pieces are all inspired by natural forms with a focus on displaying the textures observed in nature. As part of GCSE Art.









Navy Talk - Thursday 26 November 2026
Today, our Year 11 students welcomed Andy from the Royal Navy for an engaging and informative presentation. Students gained a valuable insight into life in the Navy, learning about the challenges, opportunities, and experiences that come with a career in the Navy. Andy also explored the wide range of career pathways available, from engineering and aviation to logistics, medical services, and leadership roles. The session encouraged students to consider future possibilities and provided a fascinating look at the skills, training, and dedication required to serve in the Royal Navy.

Freedom Leisure at The Stour Centre

'Freedom Leisure currently have spaces available on their Learn to Swim programmee, see here for further information.'

Learning through Play – Canterbury Brick Festival
'The Canterbury Brick Festival is an exciting celebration of all things Lego, but it isn't just about fun – although it is absolutely packed full of that too! Brick Festival events also invite visitors to explore a range of STEM subject skills through the medium of Lego bricks.

How do you become more interested in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths? By understanding them. And how do you best understand things? By having fun while learning. LEGO is the perfect tool for developing new skills, exploring new ideas and having new adventures. For further details on how to book your place, see here'

Parent Survey

If you have not yet completed our Parent Survey, we would appreciate you spending a few minutes doing so via this link. The deadline is 4 December 2026.

Key Dates

Date	Time	Event
7 December		Year 11 Results from mock exams
10 December	15:30-20:00	Year 8 Virtual parents evening
17 December		Pantomime – Year 7 students
18 December		Last day of term – students finish 12:15 pm Non-uniform day

Conclusion

I was lucky enough to spend time with the Year 9 boys football team just after they won the cup this week, they were extremely happy and proud, as we all were of them. Sport has really gone from strength to strength at Wye School, thank you to all staff who support that, the parents and carers who enable it and of course the students for putting their time and effort into sport, individually and as part of teams.

Yours sincerely



Luke Magee
Principal