



7 October 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

Firstly, my apologies that this fortnightly letter is a couple of days late, this is due to an unforeseen delay in me writing it!

In the midst of what can only be described as an 'interesting' time in British politics, it is important that we continue to engage our students in the reason why voting is important, the reasons for doing so and the process by which it takes place. It is also important that we encourage students to take part in the process by informing others of what they stand for and how they want to make a difference. As a result, and with thanks to the District Council for lending us the actual voting booths used in polling stations, our students have been voting for their new Student Council. They have been voting based on statements put forward by students anonymously, to make the process an idea and vision based election, rather than a popularity contest. The winning candidates will then form the new Council, meeting with Mrs Tregear and myself to become part of the College's decision making process during the year.

At WVC, we take the safeguarding and inclusion of our students very seriously, hence adopting The SHARP System (Student Help Advice Reporting Page System) last year. This system allows our students to report any incidents, which occur within the College and local community, anonymously and without fear. This enables us as a College to deal with the issues raised accordingly. SHARP also delivers educational content to raise awareness on a wide range of subjects including Bullying, Health and Community Issues. The Year 7 and 8s have been shown how to use The SHARP System during their Computer Science lessons over the last 2 weeks. Year 11 were reminded on their collapsed timetable day and Year 9 and 10 will be reminded again of the process by tutors over the next 2 weeks. The SHARP system can be accessed by both our website and Edulink, and we would encourage all students to use this if they have any concerns.

At the end of September, a number of Year 10 students attended the 'STEMtastic' event put on by JDR Cabling, to offer students an experience of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subjects. As part of the day an inter-school competition took place at which Witchford were victorious! Well done to all students involved.

Our new College library is very much up and running now, and is proving to be a great resource for the College. We are now turning our thoughts to looking at how we can make this resource available to the local community. With the backing of Witchford Parish Council, we are going to be asking the immediate local community for their input into how the library can be opened up to individuals and groups both during and outside of College hours. Any input you could give us would be of value, and we will be sending a consultation document out in the next couple of weeks. Alternatively, if you would like to make direct comment, please contact the College direct.

Finally a reminder that the College will be closed on the 18th of October for staff training.

Yours sincerely

Daniel Baxby
Principal