



Woodkirk Academy  
&  
The Sixth Form @ Woodkirk Academy

## E-Newsletter

**Date: 4 October 2019**

Dear Parent



### World Mental Health Day

Celebrating World Mental Health Day has become an annual event here at Woodkirk Academy. This year we will continue to demonstrate our commitment to raising awareness of mental health and supporting staff and students with their emotional wellbeing by supporting **#HelloYellow**.

On **Thursday 10 October**, staff and students are encouraged to wear a **yellow** item! Together we hope to show young people that they're not alone with their mental health.

### Year 11 Information Evening – Thursday 10 October

Woodkirk Academy has arranged an evening to provide parents with vital information about the year ahead for their son / daughter in Year 11. The Information Evening will take place on **Thursday 10 October 2019** commencing at 6.00pm in the Main Hall. Year 11 students are welcome to attend along with their parents.

### Restart a Heart Day

Restart a Heart Day  
16 October 2019



Woodkirk Academy will be joining over 170 schools across Yorkshire, which have signed up to provide students with life-saving cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training, in support of Restart-a Heart Day 2019. The Social Studies Faculty is dedicating curriculum time to enable 300 students across Years 7-13 to take part in the event on **Wednesday 16 October 2019**. We are sure you will agree it will be time well spent.



## Ski Trip, Italy-February 2021

Woodkirk Academy will be taking to the slopes in February half term 2021 at Sestriere in Italy. All students have received information in assembly about this fantastic opportunity.



If you would like further information on this trip, letters are available to collect from B17 in school or email Miss Mills on [mills.c@woodkirkacademy.com](mailto:mills.c@woodkirkacademy.com)

## School Photographs for Years 7-10

Please return any school photograph orders to **B17**. We will be sending the orders off next week, so please make sure all orders are returned by the deadline of **Tuesday 8 October** to avoid any additional postage costs.

## Term Dates 2020/21

Please [click here](#) to view the term dates and Training Days for 2020/21

## October Half Term 2019 Activities

Trips and activities available for ages 11+ & 13+ - Doncaster Dome, Xscape, Alton Towers and Lightwater Valley!

Booking line is now open - click [here](#) for further details

## Vacancies

We are currently recruiting for a Cover Supervisor, Teacher of Social Studies, Second in Faculty, Social Studies and Catering Assistant for Woodkirk Academy. Please visit the [Woodkirk Academy website](#) for full details. The Closing date is 9am Thursday 10 October 2019.



# Carols Christmas

**Everybody loves Christmas... Carol isn't everybody**

Stage@leeds are looking for young actors to perform 'Carol's Christmas', a humorous, modern adaptation of Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' written by Steve Ansell. The original production was written in 2008 and performed to appreciative audiences in Harrogate and Halifax. Our updated version will be performed on Saturday 14 December 2019 at stage@leeds.

- Open to all, no experience required and no auditions
- Two groups Age 10+
- Affordable
- Professional tuition in a state of the art modern theatre
- DBS checked professional staff supported by student volunteers

### What will the sessions be like?

The first half of the session begins with physical and vocal warm ups, followed by an exploration of theatre techniques including improvisation, working with text, devising, character work and many others that relate to the production we are working on.

In the second half of the session we will be rehearsing 'Carol's Christmas' (with a little time at the end for theatre games). Carols Christmas will be performed at the end of each term at stage@leeds. Entry is free and you are welcome to bring friends and family.

### PRICE

**£42.00 per person**

**Concession\* or additional family member:**

**£24.00 per person**

(Available to those on low income and to second family members)

### TIMES

10.00am – 11.30am

### DATES

Session 1: Saturday 9 November

Session 2: Saturday 16 November

Session 3: Saturday 23 November

Session 4: Saturday 30 November

Session 5: Saturday 7 December

Session 6: Saturday 14 December

### PERFORMANCE

**Saturday 14 December 12 Noon, University of Leeds (venue tbc)**

To book your place or for further information please contact Steve Ansell, Artistic Director at stage@leeds on 0113 343 8731 or email [S.Ansell@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:S.Ansell@leeds.ac.uk)



## Parking

There have been some problems with parents trying to drive in and out of the school at the end of the day. This practice creates a serious health and safety risk, as does using the bus bay as a 'pick-up' point at the end of school. We also politely request that you are mindful of local residents on Rein Road and do not block drive-ways. The police have been informed of this concern. May we remind you of the following rules:



- *Please only collect your child by car if it is absolutely necessary. The congestion on Rein Road at 3pm (2pm on Fridays) is becoming increasingly more dangerous for the students.*
- Please observe the new single yellow line restrictions. Parking on Rein Road has been significantly reduced and there are now parking restrictions on the opposite side to school, and alongside the highway leading up to the M62 motorway bridge. The afternoon restrictions run from 2.30pm until 4pm. It is crucial drivers observe these restrictions, otherwise staff, students and other pedestrians are at considerable risk.
- Students' safety is paramount. Parents may park in the visitors' car park (the Front Yard opposite reception), arriving **before** 2.50pm *but must remain there until 3.15pm* (Monday to Thursday) and 1.50pm until 2.15pm (Friday) when they may leave. However, the parking spaces, near the school reception are limited.

## Loot Boxes

Parents may have seen stories about 'loot boxes' in the news in the last few weeks.

### What Loot Boxes Are

Loot boxes are virtual items users can purchase in games with real money. In the box users will find a randomised selection of items that customise or alter the user's experience of the game. The user will not receive any physical objects in the offline world as a result of these boxes.

The items in a loot box could be skins (that change the appearance of their character), new weapons or tools (that improve their characters ability), or access to new characters (e.g. a player for a FIFA team).

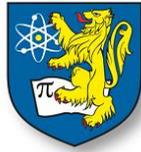
Loot boxes are common in Battle Royale (last man standing) and first-person shooter games, such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Overwatch, Star Wars Battlefront II, and others. They can also be found in sports games, such as FIFA, Pro Evolution Soccer, Madden, and others.

The randomness, the possibility of winning big, and the opportunity to upgrade or alter their experience of the game all make loot boxes appealing to young people.

In the news there have been reports of children racking up thousands of pounds in purchases within games.

[Click here](#) to read more information about safe internet usage and how to ensure your children are using loot boxes safely and responsibly.





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# WEEKLY ATTENDANCE RANKINGS WEEK 5

7AP	99.3%
7AW	99.3%
8ZV	99.3%
9YU	99.3%
10XS	98.0%
11WV	97.5%

THE **BEST** ATTENDING  
FORM GROUPS IN WEEK 5

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK.



## Own It' App – Providing a helping hand to young people online

Young people getting their first phone will have a new way to help them have a happier, healthier, more positive life online - with the new BBC Own It app.

The app, which features a special keyboard, combines machine-learning technology with the ability to keep a diary of their emotions to allow children the chance to record how they're feeling and why. In response, the app can offer help and support, giving advice if their behaviour strays outside safe and sensible norms. Children can access the app at any time to get instant, on-screen advice and support the moment they need it. [Click here](#) for more information from the BBC website.

## MY Ed

The **MY Ed** app is an excellent method of communication between school and home. It will allow you to check information about the Academy, attendance of your child, his/her timetable, and positive referrals will be 'pushed' to your phone. In addition, you will be able to communicate directly with the Attendance Team for free. Please download this free app and check out the 'News' page of the Academy's website for an information video: [NEWS](#)

[- CLICK](#)



## Weekly Events

### Week commencing Monday 7 October 2019

Monday 7	Tuesday 8	Wednesday 9	Thursday 10	Friday 11
Year 12 assembly – National Citizen Service	Sixth Form students visiting Leeds University for Channel 4 Focus Group  <b>Detention 3m in the Main Hall</b>	Year 12 National Apprenticeship Show	World Mental Health Day. students are encouraged to wear one item of something <b>yellow</b>  <b>Detention 3pm in the Main Hall</b>  <b>Year 11 Parents' Information Evening 6pm</b>	Years 9, 12 & 13 trip to the Museum of Computing  <b>Friday PSA detention 2pm - 3pm</b>  <b>Year 11 PSA detention 3pm-4pm</b>

