



Weekly Letter

Friday 8th March 2024

Dear Families,

I hope you are well. Our students have been involved in a range of trips and experiences again this week.

Our Year 10 Hospitality and Catering Students enjoyed a trip to London where they visited both Borough and Camden Markets to explore all the different cuisines they had to offer.

Later in the week another group of Year 10 students visited the PWC offices in Bristol to learn about the financial industry and routes into that profession. They met a director and quizzed her on her job and day to day work. They then were set 2 tasks to work with PWC graduate apprentices to come up with sustainability and diversity and inclusion initiatives in teams. They had to present their ideas back to the room and receive feedback on their ideas and presentations. The group worked fantastically and were a true credit to themselves and the Academy. Their participation and enthusiasm has resulted in PWC offering to visit the Academy and run a talk with our 6th form - thank you year 10!



The Holiday activities and Food (HAF) programme:

The Holiday activities and Food (HAF) programme is running again during the Easter holidays for children and young people in South Glos.

Dates are generally between Tuesday 2 April and Friday 12 April but will vary by provider.



The HAF programme is for children and young people aged 5 to 16 who receive benefits-related free school meals.

Before booking funded HAF places, you need to have successfully applied for free school meals at

www.southglos.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Children receiving universal free school meals, automatically offered in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 without needing to apply, do not qualify for funded HAF place unless they have completed a successful application.

Please follow these steps:

- Visit www.southglos.gov.uk/HAF for full information on the HAF programme and further support available to families.
- Click on 'book a space for your child now' – this will take you directly to our booking platform with full listings of all the available activities and clubs.
- You will need to register your child on this system unless they attended a HAF programme over the summer holidays – in which case you will already have an account, so you will simply need to book the dates.
- The system will run an eligibility check to ensure that your child is registered on our benefits-related free school meals list. The list is kept up to date on a weekly basis, so it's best to build in time to apply for benefits-related free school meals ahead of booking HAF places.
- The booking system is mobile friendly so should be accessible to most families.

If you do not have online access, you will need to contact the HAF club provider directly to book places for you.

Online Mental Health and Wellbeing Support for young people

Over the coming weeks your child may mention they have been made aware of a service called Kooth. Kooth, provides a safe, secure means of accessing online emotional health support from a professional team of qualified counsellors and emotional wellbeing practitioners.

Kooth offers wellbeing support 365 days a year via a range of self-help materials and peer to peer support which young people are able to contribute to. Everything is pre-moderated and age appropriate, in order to safeguard users, so you know that what your child is accessing is safe.

Kooth work alongside schools and colleges across the UK and are running student facing webinars through April and May on topics like 'Staying safe online' and 'Tips for managing exam stress'. For more information please visit www.kooth.com.



PE Updates:

It's been a busy few weeks for boys Football, with rounds 3 and 4 of the football leagues, playing against Downend last week and Chipping Sodbury this week. The stand out team this week has been the year 8 team with a fantastic 6.0 win against Chipping Sodbury with goals from Harry M, Zac G, Jai, Amir B and two from Zac H.

It was great to see 8 new faces at Thursday basketball club this week, a reminder it's open to all students from year 7-10 on a Thursday from 3.15- 4.15. Girls fitness on a Wednesday continues to be well attended with on average 20 girls at the sessions. As with all our clubs students just need to turn up with kit, no payments or pre bookings are needed.

On Friday we hosted 6 primary schools for a girls come and try/play football session, organised by Mr Smallwood and the year 7 and 8 sports leaders, Millie A, (7) Erin F, Amelia S, Rae B, Isla L, Livianna L, Taz R, and Millie S. It was great to see the girls coaching and inspiring students to hopefully take up football at their schools or local clubs.

Finally, the end of term is approaching. Yate Academy will close to all students at 1:10pm on Thursday March 28th for the Easter holidays. We will provide lunch on this day for any students who normally have **free school meals**.

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday 12th March	UCAS Exhibition UWE
Wednesday 13th March	Year 10 - Big Interviews
Tuesday 19th March	Sixth Form Open Day
Tuesday 26th March	Sixth Form Open Day
Wednesday 27th March	Year 11 Parents' Evening
Thursday 28th March	School closes (1:10pm) for the Easter holidays

With very best wishes

Eddie Rakshi
Head Teacher