



# Newsletter 02.05.2025

## Parent Newsletter

Messages from the Headteacher

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### Welcome Back and Well Done

It's been a positive and purposeful start to the new term, and I'd like to begin by thanking all of our students and staff for the way they've returned after the Easter break.

We've seen high levels of commitment and focus across the school, and I'm especially proud to share that our whole school attendance continues to place us in the top 7% of schools nationally. This is a fantastic achievement and one that reflects the collective efforts of families, students and staff. We know the clear link between high attendance and strong academic and personal development outcomes, and it's brilliant to see this consistency continuing into the summer term.

There have been moments over the last two weeks when the hot weather has made learning environments more challenging, but our students and staff have shown real empathy and understanding for one another, continuing to adapt and stay productive throughout.

A particular well done goes to our Year 11 students, who completed their language speaking exams this week with maturity and focus. With public examinations beginning next week for Year 11, and the following week for Year 13, we know that many students may be feeling a sense of apprehension. It's important that they continue to work hard and give their best—but also to take moments to rest, reflect and recharge. We will continue to remind students of the importance of balance and to support them every step of the way through the exam season.

### Thank You to Our Student Guides – Y4/5 Information Evening

This week we hosted our Information Evening for Year 4 and 5 families, and it was

a pleasure to welcome prospective students and their families into our school. These events are always a valuable opportunity to showcase our community and provide a sense of what makes WKGS such a special place.

Our students played a central role in the evening, with many volunteering to give tours, answer questions and welcome guests. Their warmth, honesty and confidence were noted by countless visitors and were a powerful reflection of our school's values and ethos.

Thank you also to the parents and carers who supported this event by facilitating student attendance. The evening was very well received, and we are grateful for your continued partnership.

#### Careers Fair – Thank You for Your Support

Over the last two weeks, we have held two Careers Fairs for students across different year groups—both of which were brilliantly attended and very well received.

These events were largely organised by Mrs Harris-Smith and the Sixth Form Team, and I want to thank them for securing such a wide and varied group of visitors. Students had the chance to learn more about a diverse range of professions, industries and post-18 pathways, and the opportunity to ask questions and explore possibilities beyond school.

Thank you also to the many students who attended and made the most of the opportunity. Events like these really matter, and the thoughtful engagement shown by students speaks volumes about their ambition and curiosity.

#### Vacancy – Head of Computing

We've had a highly successful recruitment cycle so far this year, and we're excited to welcome some incredibly talented teachers to WKGS in September.

We are now looking to appoint a new Head of Computing, following Mr Douthwaite's successful application to a promoted Senior Leadership post in another organisation. We thank him for his contribution to WKGS and wish him all the best in this exciting next step.

This is an important appointment, and we are looking for someone with the skill, passion and vision to lead this subject forward. As ever, we really appreciate the support of our community in sharing the opportunity. Full details can be found on the school website in the usual News & Dates section.

#### Parent Governor Nominations – Thank You

Thank you to all those who have submitted nominations for our Parent Governor vacancy. It's fantastic to see such interest from parents and carers who are keen to contribute further to the continued success and development of our school.

The next steps in this process will be shared shortly, and we're very grateful for the ongoing engagement and support of our wider community.

Thank you for your continued support and I hope everyone enjoys the Bank Holiday weekend.

Mr S Clarke  
Headteacher

General messages:

- [Journeys to school questionnaire](#)
- [West Kirby Bookshop event - Thursday 8 May](#)

#### Journeys to school questionnaire

Could you please encourage all students to spare one minute of their time to complete a short questionnaire about their journeys to school using the link: [WKGS Journeys to school survey - Google Forms](#)

WKGS EcoClub students will be attending the Wirral Changemakers Conference next Friday to pitch their ideas to local councillors and transport providers, to provide fairer train fares for young people and provide live bus information at bus stops. Evidence from the questionnaire results will put pressure on key decision makers to enact change, so the more responses the better!

Any parents who are local decision makers, councillors or transport specialists, see the attached stakeholder invite and attend the conference. Student presentations are between 1pm-2pm on Friday 9th May at the Start Yard in Birkenhead.

#### West Kirby Bookshop event - Thursday 8 May

The West Kirby Bookshop is delighted to welcome the award-winning, bestselling writer, Robert Macfarlane to West Kirby Grammar School, for the Merseyside launch of his much anticipated book, *Is A River Alive?*

Join us on Thursday 8th May, 7pm, when Robert will be in conversation with writer, editor & podcaster, Andy Miller, before answering questions from the audience and signing copies of his books.

Robert Macfarlane is one of the UK's most revered and respected writers. His work is extensively reviewed and featured across the globe, and *Is A River Alive?* cements him as a vital voice in our understanding of the natural world.

Tickets are £8 standard admission, or £30 including a copy of the book. Copies of the book will also be available to purchase on the night, and there will be a fully licensed bar for refreshments.

To book your place, please click [this](#) link, stop by The West Kirby Bookshop, or email [hello@thewestkirbybookshop.com](mailto:hello@thewestkirbybookshop.com) for more information.

We look forward to seeing you there!



## What we've been up to...



**West Kirby**  
Grammar School

## ON SOCIAL MEDIA...



Your online shopping at over 8,000 brands can raise free donations for West Kirby Grammar School - Wirral! Sign up to @easyuk via the link, and we'll get a £5 bonus when you raise your first £5. It's a little act of kindness with every shop. Sign up now:  
<https://rb.gy/h8ucir>

Stay connected with us! Follow our social media accounts for the latest updates, news and glimpses into the vibrant life of our community.

## upcoming events



### May Bank Holiday

5th May



### Y8 Immunisations

7th May



### External Exams start

8th May



### Y10 DofE Bronze Expedition - Group 1

10th May - 11th May



VIEW OUR EVENTS CALENDAR



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