



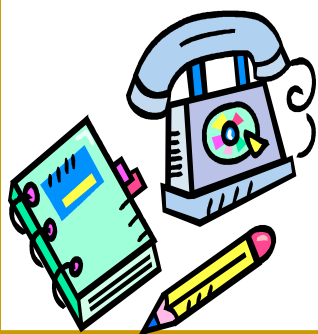
Whitburn World



The Principal's Post — May 2015

Welcome to the latest edition of Whitburn World, which also incorporates the May edition of the Sixth Form Update. The exam season is now well and truly upon us and Year 11 pupils have already completed more than half of their GCSE exams. Year 11 had a fantastic 'Leavers' Day' with the Assembly of Light in the morning followed by their Awards Assembly, both of which are highlighted later in this edition of Whitburn World. This is always an emotional day and this year was no exception. However the sadness we always feel when pupils come to the end of their time at Whitburn was tempered this year by the knowledge that the vast majority of Year 11 will return to us in September as our first ever Sixth Form students. For many years we've had to put up with our leavers, parents and carers asking "Why can't Whitburn have a Sixth Form?" Finally we can offer all of our Year 11 pupils who wish to progress to A levels the opportunity to do so at the school where they have grown into hard working and confident young adults. It will be an immense privilege to help them on the next part of their educational journey and work with them as they aim for university or employment.

We have enjoyed many sporting successes this term, which you can see throughout Whitburn World. It is all too easy to focus only on exam success and forget the part that extracurricular activities such as sport, music, art, Duke of Edinburgh Award and the school production have in helping pupils develop self-confidence and skills of teamwork and collaboration. The wide offer that we already have in place will further expand when we open our Sixth Form. I have no doubt that our Sixth Form students will also take a lead role in coaching, supporting and encouraging our younger pupils in a whole range of activities, further adding to the exciting opportunities we provide. I hope that everyone has an enjoyable half-term break and that summer weather finally arrives in the next week!



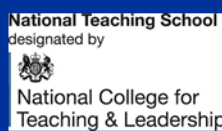
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Maths & Computing



Prince Bishops
Teaching School Alliance
Growing together



Diary Dates

5th—7th June	Year 9 Visit to Dukeshouse Wood
Monday 22nd June	Normandy Trip Parents' Evening
Wednesday 24th June	Summer Showcase 7pm Septimus Hall
Friday 26th June	Year 7 & 8 Visit to Flamingo Land Democracy Day Careers Fayre
Monday 29th June	HPV Vaccinations Year 8 Girls Maths & Computing Fayre Year 6 Non-Feeder Parents' Evening 4pm Lecture Theatre
Thursday 2nd July	Year 11 Leavers' Ball STEM Day

Diary Dates

Friday 3rd July	INSET Day School closed for pupils
6th—7th July	Sixth Form Taster Days
Wednesday 8th July	Year 7 & 8 Awards' Assemblies
Thursday 9th July	Year 9 & 10 Awards' Assemblies
Friday 10th July	Year 6 Induction Day
Tuesday 14th July	Year 6 Parents' Evening 6:30pm Septimus Hall
Thursday 16th July	Mini Olympics
Friday 17th July	Last Day of Term Whole School Assembly

Year 11 Revision Sessions

The following revision sessions will take place over the half term holiday.

Tuesday 26th May	Business Studies Unit 3 Maths (non calculator) Higher Maths (calculator) Foundation Maths (calculator) Higher RE—Revelation RE—Evil and Suffering RE—Miracles	9:30—11:30 10:30—12:30 10:30—12:30 1:00—3:00 9:00—10:00 10:00—11:00 11:15—11:25	:Library 32, 31, 29, 26 33, 30 33, 32, 31, 30 38 38 38
Wednesday 27th May	English Foundation English Higher—pupils have signed up for 2 hour session Physics Unit 1	9:00—11:00 9:00—3:15 1:00—3:00	48 43, 48 LT
Thursday 28th May	Computing Science Graphics Food	10:00—12:00 12:30—2:30 12:30—2:30	Library Room 3 Room 6
Friday 29th May	Geography Paper 2 History Media Studies	9:30—12:30 1:30—3:00 1:30—3:30	Library/LT 25/LT Library

Year 11 Assembly of Light and Awards' Assembly

Friday May 8th was a very special day for Year 11 as we enjoyed their final assembly – the Year 11 Assembly of Light; this is a significant moment when each pupil lights a candle and enjoys a quiet time of reflection on their journey as part of the Academy community, which for some of them is coming to an end. It is also a time to look forward to the future and what is to come in their journey of life! Pleasingly a high number of the Year 11 pupils will be continuing their journey on with us into 6th form.



In the afternoon we also enjoyed the annual Year 11 Awards' Assembly to celebrate the achievements of pupils throughout the year; the awards recognised good attendance and punctuality, contribution to the Academy and to the wider community, progress, subject excellence and overall academic excellence. As usual the awards were in plentiful supply and pupils were delighted!

In addition a special congratulations must go to Isobel Chapman, Mary Gibson and Christopher Williams who were awarded the coveted 'Paula Williams Award' which recognises the pupils as being 'exceptional' and an 'inspiration to all'. Also Olivia-May Oughton was the first Year 11 pupil to be awarded the 'Alexandra Simpson Award' which recognises her as being 'exceptionally kind and supportive to others'. These pupils are thoroughly deserving of these awards. A huge congratulations must also go to 11BA who won the hard fought battle for 'Top Form' and will now enjoy a free Leavers' Ball ticket. Well done!!

All in all a great day for Year 11's but poignant nonetheless. This year group will be greatly missed by all.

Milly Writes her Way to Success

Congratulations to Milly Pomfret in Year 8, a regular member of our Creative Writing Club, who has been chosen by the Guardian Children's Book site to go to London and meet Cathy Cassidy, the writer of 'Lucky Star' and 'Chocolate Box Girls'.

Milly will get the VIP treatment at a book signing at the Strand in London in June and has been asked to write an article about her visit to be published on the Guardian website. Well done Milly!

May 2015

Sporting Roll of Honour



Sisters Lead the Way in Karate Championships

Talented sisters Holly and Sadie Stoner have recently enjoyed amazing success at the English National Karate Federation Championships, which were held in Sheffield.

Sadie, in Year 7, competed in the individual Kata 12-13 years and won Gold, ranking her number 1 in the country.

Holly, in Year 11, competed in the individual Kata 16-17 years and won silver, ranking her number 2 in the country.

Both girls have now been invited to select for the England Squad and could potentially represent England at international level. What a fantastic achievement, we wish the girls every success and look forward to bringing you news of their achievements!

South Tyneside Football League

Our Year 7 boys' team have won the South Tyneside Football League on goal difference! Well done boys!

Indoor Rowing

On 30th April our South Tyneside winners attended the Regional Rowing Event, which was held at Durham University. Reece Carhart, Ross Stephenson and Ethan Banks narrowly missed out on medal positions but performed exceptionally on the day. Well done for a good effort boys!

Rounders

Competing in their first every Rounders competition, our Year 9 and 10 girls stole the show to see off other schools in South Tyneside, taking Gold! The girls (pictured right) have now qualified to represent South Tyneside in the Tyne and Wear School Games, which will take place in July. What a fantastic achievement!



May 2015

Sporting Roll of Honour



Tennis

On 8th May some of our pupils represented the Academy in the South Tyneside Schools' Tennis Competition. Both boys' teams scooped Gold medals in their doubles events with Year 10 girls also collecting gold and silver in their doubles events. The Year 7 girls, competing for the first time, gave an amazing performance to collect Silver. The teams have all now been invited to represent South Tyneside in the Sainsbury's School Games Finals which will be held in July.



May 2015

Sporting Roll of Honour



Rugby

Both of our girls' Rugby Teams qualified to represent the Academy at the Regional Rugby League Finals in Warrington on 14th May. The girls came up against very tough competition and lost out on a place in the National Finals but thoroughly enjoyed the experience of playing against schools from around the country.



Whitburn Church of England Academy

Sixth Form Update

March & April 2015



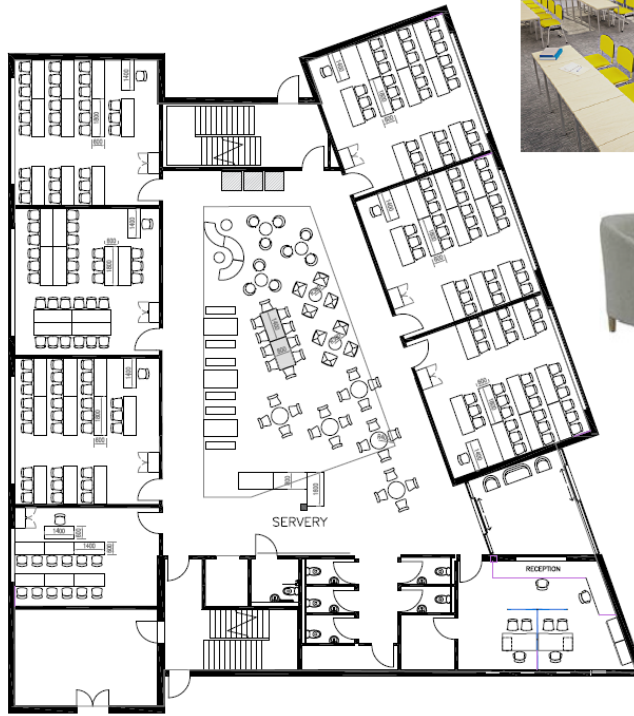
The last month has again brought very significant progress in the construction of the new Sixth Form building. All glazing is now in place with the exception of the largest area of glass around the entrance which will be fitted next week. The insulation and rendering is in place at the rear of the building and brickwork is now all complete. During half-term all remaining services, such as data and CCTV will be linked in from the main building.

It has been a busy couple of weeks of decision making for the interior finishes of the building, selecting colours for carpets, flooring and walls. Similar decisions have also been made with furniture to create a learning environment that meets the



The rear and sides walls of the Sixth Form Centre are coated with the weather-proof render and are now close to completion.

Plans for the internal furnishings and fittings are now been finalised. Examples above are representative of styles chosen rather than the colours selected.

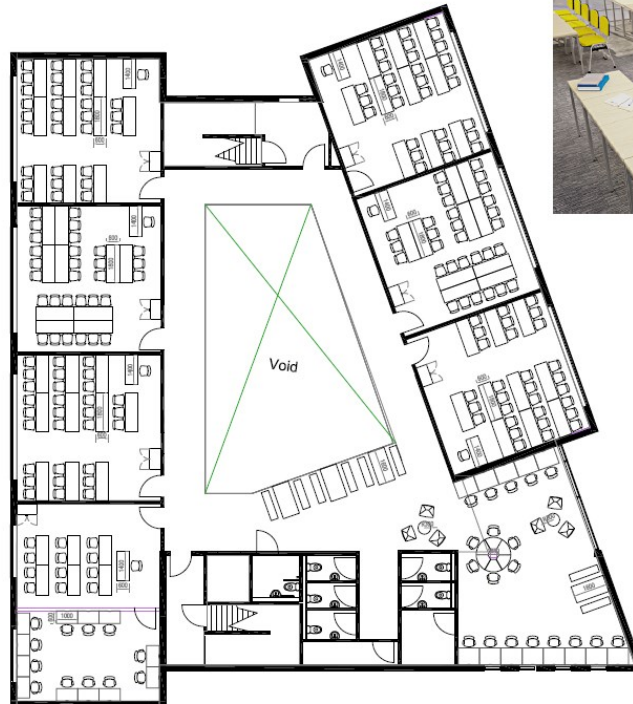


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Ground
Floor

GRESHAM
Working with you

Design: 20/06/2018
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Room Naming Competition

The first ten room names for the Sixth Form block have now been made by representatives from the Sixth Form Student Focus Group. Dozens of suggestions were narrowed down into a final shortlist where all the nominees met the original brief of those with a connection to the North East who would inspire our students to do great things. The winning names are:

Gertrude Bell	George Airy
Catherine Cookson	Lord William Armstrong
Grace Darling	Earl Charles Grey
Dame Flora Robson	Joseph Swan
Paula Williams	William Van Mildert

Congratulations to Eve Connolly, David Girdwood, Phoebe Hedley, Charlotte Walter (all Year 11), Jenny Elder (Year 9) and Nathaniel Smithies (Year 7); all of whom had entries which have been selected in the list above. Staff and Governors will select the remaining names during the week of 1st June and prizes will be presented to the pupils above and any other pupils who's suggestions are selected by staff and governors.

Recruitment update

We have now completed the recruitment of the teaching staff for the Sixth Form. We have appointed an experienced teacher of Psychology, who also teaches Sociology, and Science teachers with substantial and current experience of teaching A level Sciences. We are delighted with the quality of additional teaching staff we have recruited to add to our outstanding team of teachers.

Sixth Form Taster Days

Details will soon be sent out about the taster day sessions on Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th July. Students are asked to confirm their attendance using the electronic link in the letter. The link will also be tweeted via @WhitSixthForm when the letters are issued via Secondary Contact.”

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