

12th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welwyn Youth Drama Festival

Last Friday evening I had the pleasure of watching our Year 9 GCSE Drama students perform the short play *The IT* by Vivienne Franzmann at the Barn Theatre. The play explores the important theme of teenage anxiety, and the boys delivered a thoughtful and assured performance, demonstrating both confidence and maturity in their work.

They were taking part in the Welwyn Youth Drama Festival, a celebration of youth theatre featuring schools and young performers from across the region. The Richard Hale entry competed in the Junior section of the competition, and I am delighted to report that the group was awarded the Louis Davis Cup. In addition, they were nominated for the adjudicator's Special Award in recognition of their outstanding ensemble work. Particularly pleasing was the fact that they achieved the highest acting marks in the Junior competition, a testament to the boys' commitment, teamwork, and hard work.

The cast are now looking forward to performing the play again to the rest of Year 9, helping to share its important message about recognising anxiety and reaching out for support when it is needed. We are extremely proud of all the students involved.

National Bowl Semi Final vs Perse

Richard Hale progressed to the final of the Under-15 National Bowl with a thrilling 17–14 semi-final victory over Perse. Perse started strongly, racing into a 14–0 lead in the opening minutes, but Richard Hale's physicality and strength grew as the game progressed. Trailing 14–5 at half time, it proved to be a game of two halves as Hale regained momentum, winning collisions, generating quick ball, and scoring two impressive, well-worked tries. With the score finely balanced, Hale held on to their lead during the final six minutes with some heroic defensive displays. They will now face Embley College in the National Bowl Final at Ealing Trailfinders on Wednesday 18th March, with a 10:30am kick-off.

Under 18 South East Sevens - Eltham College

The Under-18s travelled to the prestigious Eltham College Sevens, where a number of renowned rugby schools were in attendance, including Wellington College, St Joseph's and Sevenoaks, to name but a few. In their opening game, Richard Hale took an early lead and battled hard against a strong Wellington College side, but eventually lost out in a closely fought contest, 28–22. With no rest, they then played back-to-back against Colfe's School. Hale again started strongly and took an early lead, but fatigue, ill-discipline and unforced errors were punished, resulting in a 21–12 defeat.

A key element of sevens rugby is the ability to bounce back quickly after setbacks, and following the two opening losses Hale did exactly that. They produced an excellent response, beating Eltham College 38–12 before overcoming Sevenoaks 27–14. One of the highlights of the day came in a heroic defensive moment. A determined chase from Albie Hughes helped shut down what looked like a certain try, with Myles Bentley-Greave arriving in support to win the crucial tackle. This sparked what was surely a contender for try of the tournament:

starting deep inside Hale's own tryline, the ball passed through multiple hands with not one breakdown and almost the entire team involved before Alfredo Whitehead-Benitez finished the move to score.

ESFA National Cup

The Year 8 'B' football team played in the quarter-final of the ESFA National Cup against Nailsea School (Somerset) in a thrilling encounter that ended in a 3–2 victory. The team started the game strongly, creating several chances early on but were unable to convert them. Their pressure eventually paid off when Quinn Ward delivered a superb cross that was finished well by Douglas Lofty to give them a 1–0 lead.

Nailsea responded quickly and levelled the score. As the half progressed, they began to grow into the game and were awarded a penalty, which they converted to take the lead. The teams went into half-time with the score at 2–1 to Nailsea.

In the second half, our team took control of the game and created the majority of the chances. Their persistence was rewarded when Quinn Ward met a corner and scored to bring the game level at 2–2. The team continued to push for a winner and, with just five minutes remaining, Alfred Sinclair-Hows capitalised on a defensive error to score the decisive goal.

The 3–2 victory means the Year 8 'B' team progress to the national semi-finals, where they will host Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Boys (date to be confirmed).

Foodbank Easter Appeal

Following the phenomenal support RHS students and families have provided to our foodbank appeals over the last two years, we are pleased to support Hertford & Ware Foodbank's Easter egg appeal. To help bring some Easter cheer to families who rely on accessing our local foodbank, we are asking students to bring in an Easter egg which will go into food parcels over the coming weeks. These can be Easter eggs of all sizes, any donation is greatly appreciated. If you would like to contribute, please bring in your eggs on Monday 16th or Tuesday 17th March and take them to Mr Camm's office (6th form block) during registration or break time. Every student who donates will also receive achievement points and a small edible token of our appreciation!

House Music

A reminder that this year's House Music is taking place on Thursday 19th March at 6.30pm. The competition will be taking place in the School Hall. Students have been working incredibly hard on their performances, and we are excited to share their talent and creativity with you.

Please book your tickets on WisePay:

Adults: £5

Concessions: £3

Family of 4: £15.

Refreshments will be available for purchase during the interval supplied by the PTA.

Parent Trustee

Thank you to everyone who voted in the recent Parent Trustee ballot. We received a total of 131 valid votes and I am pleased to confirm that Simon Cox was elected after receiving the highest number of votes and will be joining the Board of Trustees in the summer term. Thank you also to those who were unsuccessful, your interest and willingness to become involved in the school is appreciated. The Trustees look forward to working with Simon.

Important Information shared with parents from Hertfordshire and West Essex Immunisation Service - Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) Vaccination

As you may be aware from recent media coverage, there has been an increase in measles cases due to outbreaks in parts of North London. Considering this, we strongly encourage parents and carers to ensure that their child has received both doses of the Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine.

Measles is a highly contagious disease and, in some cases, can lead to serious complications. As part of the routine UK childhood immunisation schedule recommended by the UK Health Security Agency, your secondary school aged child should have been offered:

- The **first MMR vaccination at 12 months of age**
- The **second MMR vaccination at 3 years and 4 months**

If you are unsure whether your child has received both doses of the MMR vaccine, or if your child has not yet received their MMR vaccinations and you would like to arrange this, please contact our service on **0300 555 5055 (option 7)** or email hct.csaishwe@nhs.net. We run regular catch-up clinics across various locations in Hertfordshire.

If your child has received vaccinations abroad or in another area of the UK, these records may not appear on our system. In this case, please email a copy of your child's immunisation history, including their full details, to hct.immshistories@nhs.net so that we can update our records.

Further information about the MMR vaccine is available on the NHS website, attached are two useful links below.

[MMR \(measles, mumps and rubella\) vaccine - NHS](#)

[MMR vaccination for all eligible](#)

All Saints Church Talks

All Saints Church are holding talks which may interest students and parents and have asked us to share details with you:

Sunday 15th March Faith in the Future of Politics, 7.30pm (choral compline at 6.30pm)

Sunday 22nd March Faith in Children, 7.30pm (choral evensong at 6.30pm)

Ian Hawkins

Headteacher

March 2026 Calendar

Thursday 12 th	Year 13 Revision Evening
Saturday 14 th	Year 10 DofE Training day
Thursday 19 th	House Music
Tuesday 24 th	BTEC Mock Exams and Year 13 Resits to the 27 th GCSE Drama Practical
Wednesday 25 th	Year 9 Parents Evening

Thursday 26 th	Year 11 English Exam
Friday 27 th	Non-Uniform Day End of spring term, school finishes at 12.30pm
Easter Holidays	

April 2026 Calendar

Monday 13 th	Summer Term begins A Level MFL Mock Speaking exams Year 10 Exams to the 17 th
Wednesday 15 th	GCSE Art Exam
Thursday 16 th	GCSE Art Exam
Monday 20 th	Year 10 Work Experience Week GCSE MFL Speaking Exams Week
Wednesday 22 nd	Post-18 Pathways Evening
Thursday 23 rd	Year 7 Bude Information Evening
Monday 27 th	A Level MFL Speaking Exams
Wednesday 29 th	Junior Maths Challenge
Thursday 30 th	Year 12 Exams start A Level Art Exam

May 2026 Calendar

Friday 1 st	A Level Art Exam
Monday 4th	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Tuesday 5 th	Year 7 Parents Evening
Wednesday 6 th	BTEC Exams start GCSE Exams start
Friday 15 th	Year 10 Geography Field Trip 1 – Epping Forest
Saturday 16 th	Year 6 Treasure Hunt
Monday 18 th	French Language Trip to the 22 nd
Monday 25 th	Half Term Week

June 2026 Calendar

Monday 1 st	Return to school
Tuesday 2 nd	Year 10 History Trip – Tower of London
Thursday 4 th	Year 10 Parents Evening

Weeks

Monday 16 th Mar	Week 1
Monday 23 rd Mar	Week 2
Monday 30th Mar	Easter Holidays
Monday 6th Apr	Easter Holidays
Monday 13 th Apr	Week 1
Monday 20 th Apr	Week 2
Monday 27 th Apr	Week 1
Tuesday 5 th May	Week 2

Monday 11 th May	Week 1
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