

School Update

We have had a busy week again. Students have had their flu vaccinations and we will send out information about Covid vaccinations when we have got more details. Obviously, both of these are only done with parental consent.

Mrs Powers will remain off next week as she is unwell; we will endeavour to continue to cover her internally with SLT and teachers as much as possible.

The KS2 Maths review went really well and we are now reviewing English. A member of the Local Governing Committee plays a role in these reviews so that the governors have an accurate and up to date picture of each subject.

Huge well done to all of the Dene Dancers and mums that Chaperoned. I was very proud of all of the girls that took part who were amazing.

Wolgarston High School's Open Evening for Y8 is next Thursday evening. Y8 should have brought home a letter which explains the details.

Our Open Evening is 21st October which is for prospective parents in Y4 and Y6 (from other schools) to join us in Y5 and Y7 in September 2022. This is followed by an **INSET day on Friday 22nd October when school will be closed to students.**

Next Friday (15th October) please can children (only if you can spare something) bring in an item of non- perishable food/ toiletries so that we collect a small food and product bank for anyone of our families that are currently struggling financially. We will then box this up and leave the produce on a trolley outside reception so that any parent can come and help themselves if they need to. We also have our rails of pre-loved uniform just inside reception for children to benefit from.

Dates for your diary:

3rd December is the Advent Fayre.

10th December the choir will sing at the village Victorian Fair.

16th December is our Christmas Concert based at St. Michaels Church.

More details will follow as will more dates of other festive activities (Covid permitting).

We also have a PTFA meeting in school on the 18th October at 5.30pm. Please feel free to come along. We will meet in a large, well-ventilated space.

In terms of how your child's progressing in school, there will be a subject Parents Evening early in the Spring term where you will be able to meet subject teachers and then an annual report will be sent out in the Summer term.

We have only got (unbelievably) two weeks left of this half term and we are noticing some students are getting increasingly tired. Please help us by trying to get them to bed a bit earlier as we approach half term. This will help them to feel refreshed and ready to learn.

Many thanks for your support as always,

Happy weekend!

Mrs Frost

Check out these links

Trick Box-[Click Here](#)

Anti-Bullying Policy-[Click Here](#)

Year 5 Curriculum-[Click Here](#)

Year 6 Curriculum-[Click Here](#)

Year 7 Curriculum-[Click Here](#)

Year 8 Curriculum-[Click Here](#)

Parent Pay-[Click here](#)

English Disclaimer-[Click Here](#)

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL PARENTS/CARERS

We are a Trick Box School!

TRICK BOX[®]

WHAT IS TRICK BOX?

We all need a few tricks up our sleeves.

It's not always easy being a young person working out who you are and how to navigate challenges and changes in the world.

Building Happy Life Habits

Trick Box is a simple, evidenced based, whole school, whole journey, emotional management and personal development programme. It supports children, young people and their families from pre-school to sixth form. Each programme, which is available across the Academy Trust, (Early Years to KS5) builds on the others but also stands alone.

We are utilising this programme in school to support the mental health and wellbeing of your children. In TRICK BOX time, children will be taught a series of 'tricks' to help them deal with everyday situations.

In KS2, these tricks are printed on cards and used throughout the school. If you would like a box of TRICK BOX cards to use with your child at home, then please order these via ParentPay. They are very reasonably priced at £3.



to purchase a ParentPay.

In KS3, children will be provided with a journal to be filled with the tricks. An overview of the half-termly habits and tricks will be provided that they can reflect on when further support is needed for their well-being.

Years 5 and 6- The 4 C's

The Trick Box programme develops personal skills in 4 key areas



Trick Box programmes from Reception to year 6 develop personal skills in 4 key areas through positive habit formation.

Children develop self-coaching skills and use tricks from their Trick Box to help them manage everyday life.

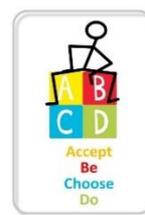
Teachers use the tricks in class and parents are able to practise these with their children at home (cards are available to order).

introduced and practised regularly everyone is confident about using Trick Box offers the personal skills need to not only manage ourselves but to take up positive opportunities and thrive!



24 Tricks

+



Self-Coaching Model

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Happy Habits

The tricks are so that them. we all

life

ENCOURAGEMENT | EFFORT | EXCELLENCE



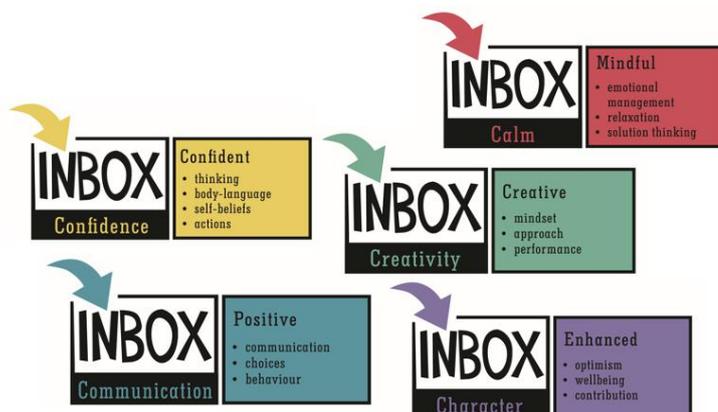
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This programme is already in place in some of our first schools and will be in all our trust schools imminently.

Years 7 and 8- Inbox

The **Inbox programme** for KS3-5 (Middle years 7-8) is all about developing personal habits and skills in 5 key areas (building on the skills already practised with Trick Box).



Less is more

Developing personal habits doesn't have to be hard work. Inbox tricks in the 5 key areas are introduced weekly, building on the skills learnt previously with Trick Box.

The habit-based tricks develop progressive skills and subskills in line with age-related experiences and development.

This programme will then continue if they transition to Wolgarston High School or The Rural Enterprise

Academy.

Independence is key

The Inbox programme encourages young people to build individual strengths.

Using a self-coaching model alongside the habit-based tricks helps to manage challenges in the here and now and create motivating for the future.

Everyone is unique and we all need to find our own paths

Some young people may prefer to keep which tricks they're practising to themselves. Some may wish to share with parents/carers and gain further support. The family can choose to work on some tricks together. Others prefer to talk to peers or get a little extra help from staff.

We are very pleased to be introducing this programme and hope that we see the benefits soon. Please do not forget to order your Trick Box cards for KS2 children, via ParentPay.



them plans





KS2 TRICK BOX FOCUS

Practise **'Mirror Mirror'**

Say nice things to yourself, even in the mirror.

Parent Pay



To contact you at home alongside Class Charts we will also cease using parent mail and instead use Parent Pay.

In order for us to do this we need parents to take the following actions.

- > Log in to parent pay.
- > Click on the 3 white lines at the top of page (left hand side)
- > Telephone Number
- > Mobile Number

This will support us in contacting you if needed as well as paying for any school items including lunch, trips and visits.

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English curriculum disclaimer

Over the course of the year, students will study progressively more mature texts, concepts and themes, all within the appropriate boundaries for their age groups. We endeavour to deliver this content subtly and with careful consideration of all students' needs, maturity and awareness.

In Year 5, we cover war (WW2 and civil) and the loss of a loved one; family bereavement; racism and mental health issues such as dementia.

In Year 6 we discuss animal cruelty; civil war; family bereavement and racism. Once specific text is a picture book called 'The Wolves in the Walls'. This is an age-appropriate text; however, there is a version of this book online in the format of an immersive video game, which some students may find a little scary due to the sound effects. Students will be informed of this as we commence our study of this text, but we thought it was worth warning you in advance.

Themes touched on in Year 7 include conflict, relationships, pregnancy out of wedlock, racism, murder and horror. Our media unit entails analysis of the film JAWS. We do not watch the whole film, only clips to study tension; however, we will provide alternative clips should you or your child feel the selected clips inappropriate.

Year 8 focuses on murder; conflict; redemption; adult relationships (Romeo and Juliet) and the overt racism in 1920's and 1930's America. By the time students reach Year 8 they are expected to approach these themes in a mature and respectful manner. We begin to use the GCSE criteria for analysis of these texts and do expect students to understand the context in which these texts were written and set, which often involves an awareness of more mature themes.

We hope you understand the need for students to be exposed to these themes on their journey through literature; however, should you wish to discuss these themes further with your child's English teacher, please feel free to contact them on class charts. Furthermore, if you feel your child needs an alternative curriculum, this can be arranged; however, we do request that you carefully consider the reasoning behind our study of these texts.

Many thanks,

Mrs Gutteridge

(Head of English)



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English— Students perform and discuss the poetry of Charles Causley and Michael Rosen, giving reasons for their preferences. They draft whole-class and individual poems, evaluating and editing as they go. Next, they step back in time to WW2 and consider what the theme 'friend or foe' really means within a famous Michael Morpurgo novel. Using evidence from the text, they justify their answers, explore the feelings of the main characters and infer what these evacuees may be thinking and feeling during their evacuation from London.

P.E.— All students learning through swimming; developing confidence and stroke techniques. Boys and girls—multi/ball skills—building on fundamental movement skills. E.g. throwing and catching/spatial awareness and footwork.

PSHE - Healthy Me—learning about risks of smoking and alcohol. Know basic first aid, healthy eating and how body image is portrayed online.

Science—Working scientifically. Developing scientific skills such as identifying variables, accurate measuring, recording and presenting results.

Year 5 Curriculum

Autumn Half term 1

Maths—Students will develop their sense of place value, working with numbers up to 1,000,000. Students will also apply the formal written methods of addition and subtraction to numbers with up to 5 digits. In addition this this, students will build on their knowledge of statistics by reading and interpreting line graphs and two-way tables.

Computing— Students learn how to log onto the school network, open and create their own files and save to their own documents.

History— Ancient Egypt, including mummification, pyramids and gods.

R.E.—How different religions and non-religious groups approach peace and forgiveness.

Geography— We learn the features of a good map and learn to use them with confidence to support our place and location knowledge.

Art—To learn about the visual elements in art. Exploring Tone, Line, Colour, Pattern, Texture, shape/form. Students will learn what these are and experiment ways of creating them. Linking to artists/cultures.

Design and Technology— Autumn Term—Textiles— Students design and make a pencil case or mobile phone case, using hessian fabric. They create designs based on their own interests and practice basic stitches using fabric. They use embroidery threads to create their designs.

Music— All the learning is focused around one song: 'Livin' On A Prayer'. The material presents an integrated approach to music with games, the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), learning to sing, play, improvise and compose with this and other classic rock songs.

French— Let's communicate! Students will briefly recap the basics learnt at first school. They will learn the French alphabet and use it to spell out names, etc. They will be starting to use classroom language to communicate with other pupils and adults. They will also be practising their dictionary skills.

Homework—is set on the vle. Students can expect regular homework with a focus on Maths and English. Students will also get homework in other subject areas that they are encouraged to complete for additional positive points.



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English— Through reading Ted Hughes poetry, students reinforce comprehension strategies and develop their own compositions. They then journey through Daniel Pennac's 'Eye of the Wolf', focussing on the author's use of language and specific devices such as flashback and character viewpoint. They also consider the theme of humans as a destructive force. After that, students enter the nightmarish picture book, 'The Wolves in the Walls' by Nick Gaiman. Here students consider the key themes of narrative writing and explore idioms and philosophical questioning.

P.E.— Boys- basketball/ handball. Girls learning through netball/handball. All students consolidate skills in isolation and through un/ modified games. Additionally, learning the principles for attacking and defending.

PSHE - Healthy Me—learning about types of drugs/effects. Know about exploitation and risks of being in a gang. Emotional and mental health .

Science—Evolution, students identify adaptations to environment and how they were created and passed on through inheritance. Students study evolution and the evidence that supports the theory, such as fossils.

Year 6 Curriculum

Autumn Half term 1

Maths— Students will develop their understanding of place value of numbers up to 10,000,000. They will then develop their written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. In addition to this, students will learn to recognise and find common factors and multiples, as well as prime numbers. Finally, students will investigate the effect of squaring and cubing and they will learn about the order of operations.

Computing—Online Safety. Students learn the SMART rules to stay safe online

Art—To look at other cultures—African Tribes, fashion, artists , patterns, colours. Students create their own artwork inspired by their study of Africa art and culture.

Music—All the learning in this unit is focused around one song: Happy, a pop song by Pharrell Williams . The material presents an integrated approach to music where games, the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), singing and playing instruments are all linked.

History- Early Islamic Civilisation. Students discover the ancient civilisation including the Silk Road Trade and what this civilisation added to education.

R.E.—Creation Stories from different religions. Students also look at different ways of celebrating Christmas.

Design and Technology— Students undertake a module of electronics, having the opportunity to make their own functioning circuit comprising of components which they have joined together using permanent joins.

French— Introduction to a francophone country: Mali. Students will learn some facts about Mali, and learn some greetings in 3 of the many languages spoken there. We will study Bamako (the capital city) to introduce places in a town and compare Bamako to towns and cities in Great Britain.

Geography- We delve into the structure of the earth to consider the movements and processes that cause earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

Homework—is set on the vle. Students can expect regular homework with a focus on Maths and English. Students will also get homework in other subject areas that they are encouraged to complete for additional positive points.



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English— Students meet the character, 'Little Freak' in a short black and white animation and explore the writer's powerful use of pathetic fallacy and other creative writing techniques. They then read Darren Shan's 'Cirque Du Freak' and follow the protagonist's journey, developing more analytical reading skills and P.E.E. responses. Students also reinforce their creative writing skills and explore how to compose and craft more mature and stylised pieces.

P.E.— Boys learning through cricket/Danish longball. Girls learning through netball/handball. Students develop skills in isolation and through un/modified games. Use a range of tactics/strategies to overcome opponents.

PSHE—Healthy Me: Physical and mental health. Strategies on stress, types of substances and effects on body (1), nutrition, medicines/immunisation.

Science—Cells: Using microscopes to identify cell features and functions and compare plant and animal cells.

Particles. This includes states of matter, changing state and gas pressure.

Year 7 Curriculum

Autumn Half term 1

Maths—Students will be developing their understanding of: Sequences —describing and continuing sequences; recognise the difference between sequences. Algebraic Notation—find numerical inputs/ outputs and diagrams/letters with a series of two function machines; substitute values into two-step expressions. Equality and Equivalence—understand and use fact families/numerically/algebraically; solve one-step linear equations; understand like/unlike terms and the meaning of equivalence.

Computing— Students learn about the dangers of cyberbullying and how to keep personal information private online.

Art—Students learn about portraits and how to draw a portrait following the proportion rules. We link this to a range of artists and styles of portraits. Linking also the global goals of gender equality, and also equality generally.

Music—Pupils learn about Pitch, Dynamics, Duration, Tempo, Texture, Timbre or Sonority, Articulation and Silence and are introduced to Graphic Notation. Students understand the elements of music and provide pupils with a foundation of musical vocabulary

History— Students study the Norman Conquest and the changes this brought to life in Britain.

R.E.— Students consider the beliefs and traditions held by world's religions.

Design and Technology— Students design and make a fabric roll wrap or wall hanging. This includes market research e.g. questionnaires on public opinions. It is a skills-based project including the first opportunity to use the sewing machine, as well as pinning and tacking.

French— Students will focus on speaking. They will be able to say who is in their family. They will learn to describe themselves and their brothers and sisters in terms of personality, appearances. They will learn this information for a video interview. Students will then learn school subjects and be able to give opinions on them.

Geography - We learn about the process of globalisation and consider the winners and losers associated with it.

Homework—is set on the vlc. Students can expect regular homework from all subject areas that they are asked to complete to support their in school learning



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English— Students explore 19th century fiction, and contemporary non-fiction, under the umbrella theme of 'Journey's, Explorations and being 'Beyond our World'. They analyse and consider the context within which the texts were produced and compose carefully considered responses to a range of questions related to the writer's use of language, technical devices and contextual references. Writing takes the form of extended, creative travel writing and well-crafted, non-fiction pieces, using the technical devices uncovered through analytical reading.

P.E.—Boys learning through basketball/handball. Girls learning through netball. Students develop skills in isolation and through un/modified games. Use a range of tactics/strategies to overcome opponents in direct competition.

PSHE—Healthy Me: Physical and mental health. Strategies on stress, basic first aid, substances and effects (2), medicines, nutrition, quality sleep.

Science—Health and lifestyle: This includes work on nutrition, testing foods and the digestive system. Look at factors contributed to healthy/unhealthy lifestyles.

Separation techniques - identify methods used to separate materials.

Year 8 Curriculum

Autumn Half term 1

Maths—Students will develop their understanding of: Proportional Reasoning— understand and use ratio notation; solve problem involving ratio 1:n; divide a value into given ratio. Multiplication Change—solve problems involving direct proportion; explore and convert between currencies; draw and interpret scale diagrams. Multiplying & Dividing fractions—multiply and divide integers/unit fractions; understand and use the reciprocal; multiply and divide algebraic fractions.

Computing— Online Safety. Students investigate the dangers presented by social media.

Art—Graffiti—We look and discuss political hidden meaning behind some of the artist's work. Develop drawing skills using secondary and primary sources. Students also explore animation .

Music—Hooks and Riffs explores music based on repeated musical patterns through the genres of popular music and Music from the Western classical tradition (Ostinatos). The unit aims to combine the inter-related musical strands of Performing.

History- Power and Politics in the 16th Century during the Tudor and Stuart rule.

R.E.— Students examine Sikhism, its beliefs and practices.

Design and Technology— Students develop a range of practical skills to include chopping, blending, simmering, frying, baking, sautéing, kneading, and knife skills such as bridge and claw grip. They learn to use the hob, oven and grill.

French— Students will study the film "Joyeux Noël" and newspaper articles as media to introduce perfect tense. Developing techniques to understand and "attack" complex texts. Then they will move on to a "Materchef" topic: recipes and food amounts, weights, measurements. They will learn the rules for saying "some".

Geography- We consider the global issues facing the planet at present and evaluate sustainable alternatives to preserve the future.

Homework—is set on the vle. Students can expect regular homework from all subject areas that they are asked to complete to support their in school learning

