



Waseley Hills High School

Aspire, Invest, Respect

Waseley Hills High School

Mr. T. Preston, Principal

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13th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,


We have come to the end of the first half of Spring term 2026 this week and it has been another week of excitement and enrichment opportunities for our students.


Our Year 11 GCSE Music students have been busy working on their final coursework pieces that will contribute to their overall grade. They have had to perform compositions, high-level pieces and record these to be sent off and graded. Well done to all those who have worked incredibly hard over the past few months to ensure this week reflected their immense talents. There was also the experience of a live orchestra performance at the City of Birmingham Symphony Hall for some of these students too. It is wonderful to see the curriculum bring cultural capital to our students, and that they are rewarded for this through improvement in examination grades as a result.


This week in IT, our Year 9s have worked collaboratively as a team to design their online game in which a lot of discussions around the *purpose, audience, characters, theme and environment* were thoroughly considered. Students then decided on their input and output items and how to keep the users engaged and challenged. The groups then presented their designs to the class, and we must admit, our Year 9s are certainly a very creative cohort. The development of their oracy skills and confidence to present to others was great to see.


What Is International Day of Women and Girls in Science?

International Day of Women and Girls in Science (IDWGIS) is a day to recognise the gender gap that has happened throughout the years in many levels of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).


science


technology

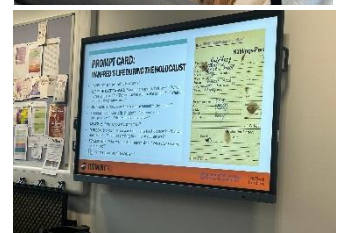

engineering


mathematics

Did You Know...?
In cutting-edge fields such as artificial intelligence (AI), only one in five professionals is a woman – about 22%.

Wednesday celebrated International Day of Women and Girls in Science and our Head of Science, Mrs Eades, prepared and shared an assembly this week. Mrs Eades said, "I feel it is really important to celebrate International Day of Women and Girls in Science as we are still, even in 2026, striving for true gender equality and ensuring that young women see science as a place where they are welcomed, valued, and able to thrive. We are extremely lucky at Waseley to have so many women in STEM acting as role models to our young girls. I enjoyed being able to celebrate this day in assembly with Year 9".

On Thursday the History Department welcomed the Holocaust Education Trust to deliver their Testimony 360 programme. This innovative programme uses virtual reality to take us on the journey made by Manfred Goldberg from his childhood in Kassel, Germany, to the ghettos of Riga, the labour camp at Preču, the concentration camp at Stutthoff and finally, his liberation by the British at Neustadt. Students virtually stood in the street in Kassel, saw the bunkhouse in Stutthoff and were on the beaches at Neustadt. Students also spoke with Manfred about his experiences, asked their own personalised questions and have him give a personalised answer back. The Testimony 360 programme allows students (and their teachers!) to continue to access survivor testimony as those who were there are now passing on, and to 'be' in the places that were significant. Students said that "it was a fun, different way to learn that helped me to understand" Amelia T (Y10) and "an amazing opportunity to experience the life of a Holocaust survivor" Kacey A (Y12). The History Dept are very grateful to the Holocaust Education Trust for such an immersive and rewarding experience.



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As part of our commitment to continual professional development, the CRST Personal Development conference was held at the Assay Studios in Birmingham this week. Staff who contribute to our Learning for Life and PSHE curriculum had training on updates to the statutory curriculum which come into effect in September 2026. They also reviewed and refined the plans for students Personal Development as a whole, which is a huge part of the Central Region Schools Trust values in developing the whole person and not just examination results. There are a number of exciting changes coming to students over the next few years driven by these events which will ensure this part of their curriculum is engaging, purposeful and valuable to them.

We wish all our sixth formers the very best as they travel to New York on Monday for a once in a lifetime experience. Thank you for all the hard work of staff in both preparing for and supervising this trip which brings together our CRST sixth forms from across the trust to share in the joint trip.

Key Updates

After half term, we are furthering our continued work to safeguard our young people in school against mobile phones. We are introducing a same-day 30 minute detention for any student who is seen using their mobile phone in school. To prepare students to meet these expectations, please discuss this with them over half term and we will, in assemblies, inform them of this again once they return to school.

Please remind your child, in Years 9 and 10, to complete the NOMO app survey, which Mrs Joshi has sent to all students in Years 9 and 10 (the deadline is 14.2.26). The survey can be completed by accessing Class Charts or using this link: [📱 Social Media Survey](#)

Parent webinars on county lines and criminal exploitation (Iverson Trust)

The Iverson Trust (formerly Pace) is a national charity working to keep children safe from exploitation by supporting parents, disrupting exploiters, and working in partnership with police and family services. Their work is grounded in a trauma-informed, family-centred approach. During March 2026, the Iverson Trust is delivering a series of live webinars for parents and carers focused on county lines and criminal exploitation. The sessions help parents understand how exploitation happens, how children are groomed, what warning signs to look out for, and where to access advice and support. Each webinar includes local context, time for questions, and input from a parent with lived experience. More information and booking details are available at <https://iversontrust.org.uk/webinars/> The West Midlands focused session is scheduled for Tuesday 3rd March 7-8:30pm.

We hope that you all have a restful and safe half term break and look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 23rd February.

Kind regards,



Mr T Preston
Principal