

# The Seagull



Issue 688 Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Next week is Week 1

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## HEADTEACHER'S NEWS

### Bike thefts

Unfortunately, we have had a number of bicycle thefts recently from outside the front of the Castle Green building. Please can students who travel to and from school on their bikes ensure that they bring them into school and use the racks within the school grounds rather than leaving them outside the front. Please ensure your son or daughter has a functioning bike lock and remind them of the importance of always making sure they lock their bikes securely to the racks provided. If students or parents see any suspicious activity at all, please always report it to a member of staff on duty outside the building at the start and end of the day, or to your son or daughter's year team. Thank you for your support in this matter.

### Gold Seagull



Congratulations to this week's Gold Seagull winners

Katelyn Year 10 and Summer Year 10

### Covid measures

Please be aware that the school will be continuing with the current Covid-19 measures we have in place after half term and up until the Easter holidays. While infection rates remain high, we feel it is vital to continue to protect the school community as far as possible. This means we will continue with:

- Staggered start and finish times for all year groups
- Designated entry points for each year group
- A one-way system to minimise crowding around the school building
- Masks to be worn in communal areas
- Regular sanitising on entry to classrooms
- Twice weekly lateral flow testing at home

### Year 9 options/EBacc

Assemblies and tutor time activities are currently underway to help support Year 9 students through their GCSE options process. Students have already heard from a number of GCSE subjects in assembly to find out what KS4 study looks like in each subject, and this will continue over the coming weeks. Options booklets will be coming home shortly, detailing every GCSE course on offer at JRCS.

Our school motto, Success for All, means that we strongly believe in offering a wide and varied curriculum with appropriate pathways and choices for every individual student in our care. Please spend some time going through the information in the booklet with your son or daughter, and discussing with them which GCSE subjects are best suited to their interests, strengths, and future plans. Their teachers and form tutors will also be having these conversations with every student.

One thing we are very keen to drive forwards at JRCS is the number of our students opting to

study the English Baccalaureate (EBacc). The EBacc is not a qualification in itself, but rather a group of GCSE subjects which are looked on very favourably by universities and which open doors for future career and life prospects. You don't need to have studied all of these subjects to go to university, but having your GCSE mix based on the EBacc subjects will provide you with a really strong academic grounding and will help to keep your options open as you progress on to sixth form and beyond.

Studying the EBacc means taking GCSEs in all of these subjects:

- English Language and Literature
- Maths
- The Sciences
- History or Geography
- A modern foreign language, or a community language

Certainly for Year 9 students who are targeted to achieve Grades 5 and above at GCSE, they should be strongly considering picking options which centre around the EBacc.

Students will attend SLT interviews and submit their options choices at the Year 9 Progress' Evening on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022. If you have any questions or require further information about GCSE options before then, please contact the Year 9 team.

### **Year 11 mocks and Easter Revision School**

This is such a key time for our Year 11 students as they enter the final months before their GCSE exams. Students will sit their final mock exams before the Easter holidays, and should now be spending time reviewing their work carefully and understanding exactly how to move their grades forwards to ensure success with their exam results this summer.

The Year 11 mock timetable is currently being finalised. Once it is published, students should use this to plan their time carefully, and should be undertaking several hours a week of revision and independent study at home. Students should also plan to attend Easter Revision School during the Easter holidays. This is a vital opportunity for our students and attending the revision workshops offered by our staff often makes a huge difference to students' final grades. Further information on both the mock exams and Easter Revision School will be sent home shortly by the Year 11 team.

### **Covid Catch-up: Saturday tutoring**

A huge well done to our Year 7 and Year 8 students who have been attending the Saturday reading tuition we have on offer. A reminder to parents that this coming Saturday is the final week of tutoring until after the half term break. The remaining Saturday school dates are as follows:

- Saturday 5th February 2022, 9am - 12pm
- Saturday 26th February 2022, 9am - 12pm
- Saturday 5th March 2022, 9am - 12pm

Saturday private tutoring is delivered in very small groups by our own staff, and is geared towards ensuring students are not left behind in their reading because of the 2020 and 2021 lockdown school closures. Tuition is open to all Year 7 and Year 8 students who are eligible for Free School Meals/Pupil Premium. If your child has not been signed up but you would like them to benefit from the final weeks of Saturday tuition, please contact Ms Eastman on [NEastman@jorichardson.org.uk](mailto:NEastman@jorichardson.org.uk)

Ms Keane  
Headteacher



## **GENERAL NEWS**

### **The JRCS Reading Marathon is back!**



World Book Day is on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March and JRCS will be holding an 'All day Reading Marathon' to acknowledge the day. Every 15 minutes throughout the day different students will read to keep the marathon going.

A staged area will be set up in Main Street especially for the reading marathon. The theme is camping so there will be a tent, campfire, camping chairs and lots more set up on the stage.

To take part students must sign up for a time slot. See Ms Osland in the Library to book a time.

Warning: this event has proven to be hugely popular in the past. Signing up early is advisable.

Students can sign up with a friend for the same time slot.



Ms Osland  
School Librarian



### The JRCS Enterprise Provision

#### The JRCS Enterprise Provision

**Wates** As part of the National Apprenticeship Week, we organised a fantastic opportunity for our Year 10 and Year 11 students who are interested in the Construction sector in partnership with Wates. Wates Group is one of the largest privately-owned construction, development and property services companies in the UK and are looking to bring a new generation of talent into their workforce. They currently employ 4,000 people in the UK, and work with more than 10,000 supply-chain operatives and partners to successfully deliver a wide range of building projects.

Consider a Career in Construction with Wates London and South event will be a full day event on the 10<sup>th</sup> February it will be a great opportunity to find out more about the opportunities, the Construction sector and what Wates can offer you.

You can take part in a range of fun and challenging projects and tasks throughout the day, including:

- A chance to explore opportunities in the industry and learn more about the roles available.

- CV workshop and Application skills
- Interview Skills Workshop.
- Q&A panels and interactive webinars featuring Wates apprentices and industry professionals.

We are really looking forward to this event and the impact this can have on the success of our students.

### The JRCS Enterprise Zones and Tim Stillwell Partnership



On 2<sup>nd</sup> February it was an absolute pleasure to host Tim Stillwell at our Year 10 assembly. Tim Stillwell is a very successful entrepreneur who started his business whilst still in full time education which has

continually grown since then. He shared his story with our students and highlighted his life lessons, like resilience and taking opportunities, which led him to where he is now. As part of the partnership with The JRCS Enterprise Provision and Miss Ryzak, he offered a highly valuable contribution to making our Enterprise Zones a true Entrepreneurship Hub.



The opportunity launch for Year 10 students is an International Fair event which will take place between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> March, in the Enterprise Zone 4. The best entrepreneurs in Year 10 will be selling their ideas under Keane's Canopy in Enterprise Zone 4, and will have the ability to



try out their business skills as well as showcase their idea to the whole school community. The biggest advantage this would provide is that the entrepreneurs get to keep 75% of all profit and develop their skills and talents which can create further future opportunities

On Monday, an application form will be sent out to all Year 10 students, accompanied by a worksheet to allow students to plan and test their ideas.

To apply they must submit a video pitch and the filled-out application form to Miss Draisey by the 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022. For feedback the form must be submitted by the 10<sup>th</sup> February. Good luck to all aspiring business entrepreneurs in Year 10, as best ideas will be granted a trading license and each participant can apply for a loan, around £25 per business to start off their business.

### **Year 10 RPC Mentoring**

Last week all Year 10 students were given an opportunity to receive 1:1 mentoring with the RPC Law firm. They each saw a video put together by the firm and were told how to apply for one of the 20 potential positions. Students who were interested then needed to complete a 2-page application form to be sent to their Head of Year.

An impressive 33 students applied for this opportunity, and I feel incredibly proud of each one of them. I have included their names below:

Simi, Radvile, Harry F, Sahil, Manuel, Ameera, Beatrice, Gabija, Teeyah, Summer, Becky, Ife, Saule, Yu, Ayesha, Hepzibah, Dinara, Aimee, Angel, Katelyn, Zainab, Leeyah, Wyatt, Nojus, David, Casey, Sasha, Sadia, Zubin, Corey, Annita, Naima and Naima.

We hope to find out next week who got through to the next phase of the process and wish every single one of these students the best of luck!

Ms Draisey & Ms Ryzak

### **RPC Mentoring Scheme- update**

The RPC applications are still under review but thank you to all who took part and applied. This is a fantastic opportunity; it is a wonderful thing to be involved in and we are so grateful for all the applicants.

For more information about RPC and the applications please check out the other articles from the enterprise provision they give a clearer insight into RPC.

Miss Ryzak, Melani, Feba and Trey.





# Around The World CHINA

**Thursday 10th February**

Kung Pao Chicken with Rice

Veggie Chow Mein with  
Noodles

Soy Green Beans

Chinese Five Spice Cupcakes

**FOOD  
FESTIVAL**





## Catering Survey



Jo Richardson Secondary School  
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/JRSS1121>

Survey open until 25 February 2022

**Aspens**  
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# Get your COVID-19 vaccine or booster at a local walk-in site

12 TO 15  
YEAR OLDS  
WELCOME

It's quick and easy, no appointment needed, and you don't need to show proof of address, immigration status or your NHS number - just turn up!

**Visit the walk-in clinic:**

**Sunday 20 February, 10am to 4pm.**

**Saturday 26 February, 10am to 4pm.**

**Dagenham and Redbridge Football Club  
Victoria Road, Dagenham.**



Anyone who comes on the day will be entered into a prize draw to win FREE football tickets for a home game at Dagenham and Redbridge or tickets for FREE entry at Better Trampoline Park



Anyone aged 12+ is welcome to have their vaccination (first, second or booster depending on what you are due).

Do you want to talk to someone about having the jab?  
Come along to talk to a member of the team for advice and answers to your questions.



For more information about local vaccine clinics go to:  
[lbbd.gov.uk/covid-vaccine](https://lbbd.gov.uk/covid-vaccine)



**Barking &  
Dagenham**