

Dear Parents, Guardians, Carers, Staff & Governors

.....

You will probably be aware of recent announcements from the government regarding mobile phone use in school. It is clear that we are moving to schools being phone free spaces during the school day and the expectation is that schools will have policies and approaches to ensure this.

We currently operate a 'no see, no hear, no use' policy. We accept and understand that many of our students will have phones with them whilst in school primarily for safety reasons when travelling. The vast majority of students adhere to our policy and confiscation is minimal. However, we have to be mindful of guidance and so will be taking some time to consider our policy and approach moving forwards.

Last week we got some respite from the demands of everyday school life by attending the FONS Comedy Evening. It was a fantastic event and we place on record our thanks to Kerry Godliman for her efforts and for securing some excellent acts, all of whom gave their time for free. It is an event that provides a lot of financial support for the school for which we are hugely grateful. It also underlines the work that FONS do on behalf of the school. A small team of committed and generous parents put in many hours of their time to support the school via fundraising events which makes a real difference to us being able to support staff in providing resources and opportunities for our students. They are always looking to recruit parents or carers who are able to donate some of their time to support the school so please get in touch if you feel this is something you would like to get involved in.

As ever, another busy week ahead including mock speaking exams, mock elections, house assemblies and the steel pans ball on Thursday at 6.00.

We hope you have a good week.

Niki Clemenger & Richard Cole
Co-Headteachers



Highlights of the Week

Firstly, A heads up that the VA yr 12 art exhibition is coming up at the Portico in West Norwood. The private viewing takes place on 12th Feb.

This week, Year 8 students on a Debate Mate trip to Sacred Heart School, and they were absolutely outstanding. They won 5 out of 6 debates — including a victory against Sacred Heart..

The Year 7 boys' team played Elms Academy Secondary School in the last 16 of the South London Cup, proudly wearing their new green and white kit kindly sponsored by the Walcot Foundation. I am delighted to share that the team did us all proud and progressed to the quarter-finals with an excellent 5-1 victory.

Year 13 Psychology students trip to Bethlem Museum of the Mind on 14/1. Here they are, meeting Mr Raving Madness and Mr Melancholy Madness. Students had a great time understanding the history behind mental health and psychiatry in South London.

Finally 'The Norwood School Eco-Club is interested in setting up an Eco-Refill Shop. To gauge whether there is a need and an audience in the Eco-Refill shop, please complete the google forms via the QR code below:'

<https://forms.gle/7CHT3dTK2qy2orSp8>

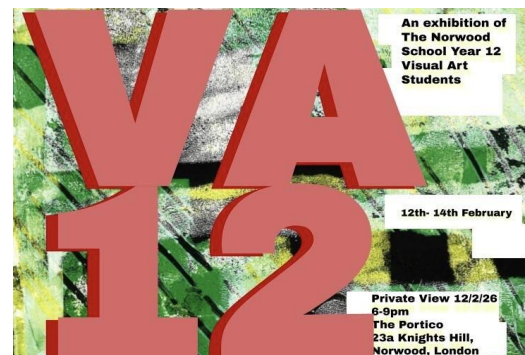
Important Dates

- Steel Pans Ball 05/02 - 18:00-20:00
- Y11/13 Mocks Week 1 - 09/02
- Yr 10 Parents' Evening 10/02 16:30-19:00
- Y12 Exhibition Portico Gallery 12/02
- Feb Half Term 16/02-20/02
- Year 9 Parents' Evening 03/03 16:30-19:00
- Year 11 Information Evening 19/03 16:30-19:00
- Music Spring Showcase 26/03 18:00-21:00
- Last day of Spring Term 27/03

Hot Chocolate with the Heads this week

Congratulations to:

- Margot Desmeules (7NZH)
- Ella Foley (8JLT)
- Emilia Hardy (9DRO)
- Rita Quiney (10DCL)
- Lesley Ann Kouassi-Assale (11JHB)



Supporting our school

As you may be aware, schools across the country are experiencing significant budget pressures due to rising costs and reduced funding.

To help us continue providing the best possible learning experiences for our children, we are inviting voluntary donations from parents and carers.

All funds received will go directly towards curriculum resources and materials that enhance teaching and learning across the school.

If you would like to make a contribution, please log in to your ParentPay account where you will see an item labelled "Parent Donation."

There is no obligation to contribute, but every donation, large or small, makes a real difference and is greatly appreciated.

Please note that this fundraising stream is separate from our Friends of Norwood fundraising and is not attached to the QR code that is regularly shared on the FONS page of our weekly newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.



FONS Notices

Hi Everyone,

Comedy Night was a fabulous success with a lot of laughs (much needed at the moment), some thoughtful and insightful observations and a random moment involving Swindon FC, a parent and Ivo Graham! You really had to be there! As always there are so many people to thank – if it looks effortless, it is because behind the scenes are a lot of people working very hard to make it so. Thanks as always to all the school staff involved (particularly Mr Blakelock, Jessie Nicholas, Niki Clemenger and Richard Cole, facilities and finance) and 6th formers who sort the theatre, music, lighting, the green room, checking tickets and escorting the talent, providing the trolleys to the PTA and clearing up afterwards. Thanks to the PTA, led currently by myself, Alex and Miranda, the amazing Bar Team and Pre-Order Team – headed up by Meri and Laura, it's a big night and a lot of people to get through the bar! Thanks to Jo and Sam on the Raffle table and Mady for the donations of Champagne and student Aram for the bucket shaking! It takes a bit of time to work it out but we think we have probably

cleared around **£13.7k** which will be heading back into the school soon to benefit staff and students.

This week we have the **Steel Pans Valentine's Ball** on the 5th Feb to look forward to, another excellent evening of entertainment from the music department with the full PTA bar. Tickets are on sale [here](#). An incredibly generous donation by a parent means we have a fun raffle on the evening for Prosecco, Champagne, chocs, JD and cokes and other gifts plus a restaurant voucher – perfect for Valentine's Day! Please don't forget to check your tickets on the way out to see if you are a winner!

Other things to remind you:

- Please sign up to [Easyfundraising for the Norwood School](#) if you haven't already – every £1 you spend online can get us free cash!
- Estate agent boards will be back soon – look out for our reminders to sign up for that
- School Uniform - please make sure all items are named with a surname and class code eg SMITH 7WMA to help us identify them. Clean, good quality school uniform can be donated to the school at Reception to go in our shed. Access to the **PTA UNIFORM SHED** is in school hours and Prisca on Reception has a key. Optional payment for secondhand clothing can be made to the PTA bank account Friends of The Norwood School, Acc: 41188934, Sort: 604005, or via our QR code which is in the shed.

Thank you all for your ongoing support!

Ailsa, Alex & Miranda

Advertiser:

Sheryl Makin from [The Luxury Travel Boutique](#) is a local mum (and school parent!) with over 30 years travel expertise. Fully bonded with independent advice, The Luxury Travel Boutique offers a stress-free booking experience, taking care of all your holiday needs. Get in touch if you fancy some winter sun! Sign up to my newsletter for inspiration [Get the latest from The Luxury Travel Boutique](#)

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