



Parent E-Bulletin – Spring Term Week Commencing 23rd January 2023

Update from the Headteacher

Dear Parents

I just wanted to take the opportunity to update you on a few things as we approach the end of another productive, if not slightly challenging, week (weather wise!)

Attendance

This week the school has been informed that the attendance of learners in the autumn term has been placed in the top 10% of schools nationally. That is a fantastic achievement and reflects the commitment of learners, parents and staff to ensuring that all learners are in school regularly. This is important as we know there is a direct correlation between school attainment and attendance. Thank you for all your support in achieving such a great standard.

School Production

Learners continue to prepare for the school production, which takes place between Tuesday and Thursday evening next week. Please find attached link to the promotional film Year 12 have produced!

[LSOH Trailer.avi](#)

Tickets are still available at £7 each and can be purchased via your Scopay account.

Teachers Strike Action

The National Education Union (NEU) has announced strike action across England and Wales. The first strike is planned for Wednesday 1st February 2023.

I am currently working with the Senior Leadership team in the school to look at what provision can be offered on these days. As soon as we have been able to finalise our contingency planning we will share this with you.

Our planning will remain under constant review as this will be a developing situation, not least due to ongoing discussions between the unions and the government.

As I have stated above I will write to you again once I have more information regarding the potential impact on learner attendance.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

L Cummins
Headteacher

Holocaust Survivor – Live Stream – Thursday 26th January

Dear Parent/Carer

On Thursday 26th there will be a livestreamed conversation with a holocaust survivor organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust. This will take place in the school day during period 2, I am writing to inform you about the details of the speaker and with some guidance to following discussions on this.

The survivor we are honoured to hear from is Ruth Posner. Ruth was born in Warsaw in 1930. After the Germans invaded, Ruth was thrown out of her home and marched to the Warsaw Ghetto. Eventually, Ruth and her aunt were able to escape to the non-Jewish side of Warsaw. Ruth assumed a false identity and was hidden with a Catholic family. However, Ruth and her aunt were arrested for being Polish Catholic as opposed to being Jewish. Toward the end of the war, the Germans put Ruth on a train which ended up in the large town of Essen, where she hid on a local farm until the end of the war.

Post-War Ruth came to the UK at the age of 16. She went to school and later to a dance and drama college. She continued training with the London Contemporary Dance theatre, became a member and stayed with them for 18 years, performing and teaching.

The role of personal memory is one of the most powerful ways of remembering the Holocaust and honouring its victims is to bring the voices of survivors to your students. 1 Oral history interviews provide glimpses into the history of the Holocaust that cannot be obtained from documents or written records. While textual documents are essential for the study of the Holocaust, an individual's testimony can supplement those documents by providing a detailed and personal look at a historical event that may be underrepresented or even absent from written works. The current generation may be the last to hear the testimony of a survivor and we believe every opportunity should be taken to grasp this window to the past.

As parents or carers we want to make you aware students display a broad range of responses to testimony no one response is the correct one. You may wish to help students reflect on their experience with a few questions as suggested below:

Why is it still important for us to hear from survivors like Ruth?

Why is learning about the Holocaust still relevant today?

How has the experience of hearing from a survivor helped you to understand more about the Holocaust?

Was there anything that you particularly remember about Ruth's testimony?

Please feel free to let me know if you have any further questions or queries, thank you for your support.

Kind regards,

Mr Fearon (Head of History and Politics)

Support for parents - GCSEPod

We receive a lot of queries from engaged parents who are interested in how GCSEPod can help with revision and home learning. To ensure maximum impact from the resource, they have released a video and free webinar on how parents can support their child with GCSEPod. Here is the link: <https://unicorntrainingvideos.wistia.com/medias/m4q4h2yje9>

Parents can also register for the free webinar here: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/480437529103983631>

Kindest regards,
Mrs Bradbury
Assistant Headteacher

Stay Safe @ Upton January 2023 Focus: Body Image

Please use the link below to view our latest Stay Safe @ Upton bulletin which is focusing on Body Image:

[Stay Safe@Upton January 2023](#)

Careers and Next Steps

Click on the link below to see the latest information

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ab57VM41x7_yzr0Q19PUj0r4KoWn--X2iSfZR7Kl_yc/edit?usp=sharing

Information from External Partners



Please use the following link to find out details of the Spinney Day Nursery 25th Anniversary event:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/10z4ckPpk4-CZrLy6B1jjOgUYjEC58yPY/edit?usp=sharing&oid=115578742848420758639&rtpof=true&sd=true>

KLA/LCU