



VERULAM SCHOOL

Headteacher: Julie Richardson

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11th November 2022

Dear Parent/Carers,

As we enter the final weeks of the autumn term, the nights get colder and the weather gets harsher, we have planned a number of events to raise the spirits of staff and students. At Verulam we believe in service to our community and supporting others. This half term we have a number of initiatives coming up that I would like you to be aware of and support where possible:

Children in Need day – 18th November 2022

This will be a non-uniform day for students who have contributed £1 to wear non-school uniform. Please note no football clothing please. We will open ParentPay for donations next week.

We will also be holding cake sales: one for the Lower School (years 7 and 8) and one for the Upper School (years 9-11). If you would like to make/buy cakes and donate them, please send them in with your child on the day. Please note that cakes **MUST NOT CONTAIN NUTS OR NUT BASED PRODUCTS** as we have students with severe nut allergies in school. Please allow your child to bring in some change to buy a cake on the day – they will be sold at 50p per cake/slice of cake.

FIFA World Cup - England vs Iran – 21st November 2022

We recognise the importance of supporting our National team in the World Cup, and that many students will be keen to watch the game. Unfortunately, as Qatar hosts the World Cup this year, the time difference and schedule means that there is a clash for students that would typically wish to view the game. After careful consideration, we have decided to facilitate viewing for those students that would like to view it.

Locations

Y7 & 8 in the Hall

Y9-11 in the Sports Hall

Y12 & 13 in 6A and 6D

Timings

Y7 & 8 gather in Hall from 12.45. Students not wishing to watch to continue in lunch and then attend lessons

Y9 released from lessons at 12.40

Y10 released from lessons at 12.45

Y11 released from lessons at 12.50

Students registered on entry to the hall – paper registers

Rules

No food / drink in the halls

School uniform worn at all times

Verulam School

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Eating lunch / half-time / end of game – One-way system in and out of hall
All students dismissed at 3.00pm (instead of 3.10)

The International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women – 24th November 2022

This day is marked every year around the world and is followed by 16 days of activism; a campaign to end gender-based violence. **Orange the World** is led by the United Nations to mark awareness of the campaign, which ends on Human Rights Day on 10th December. Buildings and organisations all over the world take part in this campaign every year, by lighting up orange in an act of solidarity for the campaign, and as a public call to action. It is an opportunity to raise awareness at a local, national and international level about violence against women and girls. The pandemic of violence against women is not new. Even before COVID-19 hit us, globally 243 million women and girls were abused by their intimate partners in the previous year. The COVID-19 pandemic intensified the violence, even as support services faltered and it became harder to get help.

At Verulam we will continue our support for St Albans and Hertsmere Women's Refuge in conjunction with **Orange the World** day. On the 24th November, students are invited to wear one item of ORANGE clothing WITH their school uniform (not football shirts or hoodies). We will be transforming the school hall into 'The Orangery Jazz Lounge' where some of our talented Year 11 jazz musicians will entertain diners during the lunch break. Students can enjoy a different, more relaxing lunch break in the hall, which will be bathed in orange light and orange table decorations, IF they are wearing orange! If your child would like to wear orange on the day we would appreciate a £1 donation – ParentPay donations will open next week.

Verulam Sleep Out supporting Herts Young Homeless (HYH) – 2nd / 3rd December 2022

Our Senior Prefects, House Captains, and House Representatives will be invited to take part in a sponsored sleepout from 7pm on Friday 2nd December until 7am on Saturday 3rd December. This will take place on the school site – outside the Bradshaw Block.

Just for fun; Christmas Jumper Day – 8th December

Students will be encouraged to wear a Christmas jumper with their normal school uniform.

I hope you will support the school and our students in these events.

Finally, I would like to thank all parents/carers that contributed to the online Ofsted survey during the inspectors' visit on Tuesday this week. The visit was not a graded inspection, but a drop-in to quality assure our safeguarding processes, behaviour, leadership and management across the school. The visit went well and I would like to thank those of you that supported and engaged with this process.

Yours sincerely,



Miss Julie Richardson
Headteacher

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