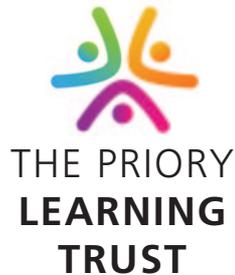




An Academy



WORLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL ACADEMY  
MAGAZINE SUMMER EDITION 2019



## PRINCIPAL'S POST

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the last newsletter of the academic year. This will also be the last "paper" version of the newsletter. We will be sending e-newsletters out from September 2019. Here at WCSA, we are passionate about saving the planet; please read below an article from Climate Justice Revolution and you will see on page 4 how we have improved recycling facilities around the site. I get many e-mails from students who are passionate about the environment; I am delighted that we have such an environmentally conscious student body. We now have a P6 dedicated to this cause; this is the best way to bring about change – practical action.

The summer term is always an incredibly busy term. Year 11 finish their GCSEs and end their school days with their Prom which takes place at Rookery Manor (see pictures later on in the newsletter). It is a thoroughly enjoyable evening with students arriving in style, dressed to impress. We are always sorry to see our students leave us; please do keep in touch. We love to hear how our ex-students are getting on with the next stage of their educational journey.

So, we now welcome 290+ new students to WCSA – a record number in recent times. Term 6 was transition term. We spent our time getting to know our new cohort and their parents. Our transition day on the 2nd of July was filled with science and art activities, as well as getting to know each other. We enjoyed the evening session with our new parents / carers.

I know that the Learning Cycles and attached homework booklets can seem confusing, but students quickly get used to this way of working. As I always say to parents and carers, please do drop me an e-mail if you ever have a question, suggestion or problem. We are always quick to respond and sort things out.

Please do take a look at the term dates on the back of the newsletter. With a two-week October break, we have a holiday pattern that allows for a slightly cheaper break. As you may know, we cannot authorise absences outside holiday time. Finally, please do enjoy the summer break. I spend a couple of weeks in school, so if you have any burning issues or need to get in touch with me, please do not feel that you have to wait until September.

*Jacqui Scott, Principal*  
[jscott@worle-school.org.uk](mailto:jscott@worle-school.org.uk)

# CLIMATE JUSTICE REVOLUTION



Climate Justice Revolution is a small group of students from WCSA that are changing our school for the better. We know that we can't stop the climate emergency on our own; however, if everyone, including our government, big corporations and you change your everyday actions, we can stop the ecological breakdown before it gets too far. We can jointly begin to create a better world for all.

There are so many little things that we can do in our lives that have such a big impact; you just need to take the time and put in a little effort to make these changes happen. Some of the changes we aim to make are:

-  Reduce our waste
-  Encourage wildlife through creating habitats
-  Reduce our meat consumption

We hope you will support the group in creating a cleaner, greener school! Everyone is welcome to our meetings which you can find out about on our website:

[www.climate-justice-revolution.weebly.com](http://www.climate-justice-revolution.weebly.com)



In this final newsletter / magazine piece of the school year I want to say a huge 'thank you' to all parents / carers who have supported our Trust this year.



Come September, we will have 5,000 students in our care and we will have over 700 staff. We are continuing to grow wisely. I am delighted to say that things are going really well at all our academies – we are fully staffed and heavily over-subscribed with students as a Trust. I hope you will agree we have a group of really great Heads / Principals who are leading our academies with great passion through putting STUDENTS FIRST.

We have developed a very clear 2019-20 strategic plan. You can see this plan on all websites and on the central TPLT website - [www.theplt.org.uk](http://www.theplt.org.uk). Please do have a look at the plan. It has been drawn up with all stakeholders involved – it reflects our **GO PLT** aims of strong **G**overnance, great **O**utcomes, developing our **P**eople, **L**imited and wise growth and great **T**PLT Business Services. We are delighted to have 330 new students joining PCSA next year - we were asked to go over number by 30 students; whilst WCSA's numbers are up by 17% to a recent record of 290 new Year 7s joining us. Again, thank you for your great support.

One very important new initiative we are introducing in 2019-20 is our 'reading for all' programme. Each morning all secondary aged students in Years 7-10 will be taking part in a reading session led by tutors at tutor time. This will be three mornings a week. We will read books from a set list in all our academies and complete at least 3 books per year. Clearly, we will still be encouraging private reading. Reading is so important in developing vocabulary and we must champion reading in all our academies. The same ethos will prevail within our primary academies – although the exact system will be slightly different.



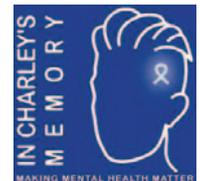
One member of our Central Team who needs a special mention is our Chief Operations Officer (COO) Martin Kerslake. Martin is retiring this year and we wish him well. He will continue to work with us for 40 days next year to mentor and coach our new COO. Martin has worked with us at PCSA since 2003 and been an integral part of establishing the Trust's good financial position. As the New Zealand 'All Blacks' would say Martin, 'leaves the shirt in a much better place.' Thank you, Martin, for your really great work.



Lastly, and on the topic of great work Sunday June 2nd saw over 100 TPLT employees and around 30 students take part in either 10, 20 or 30 miles of walking over the Mendips as part of The Mendip Challenge. This was for our charity of the Year - Weston HospiceCare.

As a Trust we will have raised a very significant sum this year for this great local charity. In terms of The Mendip Challenge walk, I was so pleased to see so many employees taking one day out of busy lives to walk for charity. Our TKASA scout troop were a credit to our Trust.

Next year we support another great local charity called, 'In Charley's Memory'.



Please enjoy reading about the academy in this newsletter and enjoy the summer holiday period. Looking forward, we again have a two-week October break across TPLT – as always, thank you for your support.

*Neville Coles*

*Executive Principal – The Priory Learning Trust*



## WELCOME - ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL IAN SHOPLAND

I entered teaching in 2003 after completing my degree in Environmental Science and PGCE specialising in Geography at Plymouth University. I started teaching in Plymouth however was fortunate to have been appointed a teacher of humanities at PCSA in 2004.

Over the last fifteen years I have gained promotions within TPLT and currently and currently hold the position of Assistant Principal. I am a strong believer of TPLT's strap line of 'Students First' and follow the philosophy that all students deserve the very best.

I live locally and in my spare time enjoying nothing more than spending time with my family in the North Somerset countryside. I have three children, all boys, who take active roles in local sports teams. When not teaching I can be found supporting on the on the side lines of rugby and cricket grounds.

I very much look forward to working with the WCSA team, continuing to provide high quality education and life experience

*Students from Worle Community School Academy helped to launch a new student-led TV station in Jill Dando's name on the 20th anniversary of her death.*



A group of TPLT students launched Jill Dando Television (JDTV) in front of the former TV presenter's brother Nigel and other guests. This was live at Jill's old school on the 26th April.

The students were representing WCSA in a room packed full of inspirational people connected to Jill and the school and their Jill Dando News Centre, which is flourishing with inspirational news stories.

Olivia Finch, aged 14, and the JDNC student editor at WCSA gave a truly inspiring speech on the day which impressed all the guests. She said "Jill was the face of Britain. Our news teams are having a brilliant time carrying on her legacy by writing inspirational stories on students and the community". Nigel said: "The Jill Dando News Centre scheme is mind bogglingly brilliant."



The Priory Learning Trust has seven JDNCs, sharing good news, positivity and mental wellbeing in schools. Over 5000 children in Somerset and Malawi have been inspired by the life of Jill to transmit good news across the area in local newspapers, radio and TV.

The other schools with JDNCs are Priory Community School Academy, St Anne's Church Academy, and Castle Batch Primary School Academy in Weston-super-Mare. One is also being built in Pawlett Primary School Academy near Bridgwater - also part of The Priory Learning Trust that launched the initiative, and The King Alfred School Academy.

African children in Malawi also have a JDNC.



The students' work has highlighted Jill's life and legacy, boosting positivity, kindness, good news and mental wellbeing. The JDNCs are simple but powerfully effective. Armed with iPads and notepads, the children aged 9 to 18 find and write positive stories across their schools and community. Students are trained by Jill's brother Nigel and other professional journalists and editors from local, regional and national Media. Their stories go into the media and social media. There is also an in-house newspaper "The Post" which they deliver to their old primary schools.



## YOUTH CHOIR

*a report from Emma Burlinson, Head of Music*



Worle's Youth Choir were treated to the fantastic experience of performing *Mass in Blue* with its world famous composer, Will Todd. After months of rehearsals led by Mrs Burlinson, Mrs McLorinan and former Worle Head of Music, Howard Sayer, the choir were joined by Weston Choral, Mezzo Soprano, Martha McLorinan, and Will Todd with his Jazz trio, in a packed auditorium on Saturday 8th June.

The individual choirs performed their own songs in the first half, including Weston Choral debuting new compositions by Will Todd. The Youth Choir performed a Pentatonix arrangement of Ed Sheeran's *Perfect*, accompanied by Year 8 cellist, Natalie Page (pictured left), followed by Coney Island Baby sung by Worle's very own Barbershop Quartet (Riley Backler, Arlie Hobden, Toby Lythgoe, Jake Roberts).



Solo items were performed by Martha McLorinan and Year 9 student, Tessa Ractliffe (pictured right), who wowed the audience with two Saxophone pieces. Tessa has had a fantastic year having passed her Grade 8 Saxophone with Distinction, played with the Marines, and signed up with the National Youth Concert Band.



The second half was dedicated to *Mass in Blue*, a six-part choral suite sung in Latin, with an unusual blend of opera and improvised jazz. The combined choirs numbered seventy-five singers accompanied by the virtuoso piano playing Will Todd, drums, bass and saxophone. Martha was guest soloist resulting in a spectacular evening of music.

Having now worked and performed with one of the UK's great modern composers, these are exciting times for the Youth Choir as they prepare for a tour to Noordwijk in the Netherlands next year.

You can hear the Youth Choir perform at the annual

## SUMMER CONCERT

on the evening of  
Wednesday 17th July

Tickets will be available on Parent Pay soon.





At the start of the Easter holiday the Geography Departments of WCSA and PCSA gave 40 Year 10 and 11 students the opportunity to venture to the country with the most northerly capital in Europe – Iceland; known as the Land of Fire and Ice. The aim was to experience a variety of incredibly dramatic geographical features in a country not many people venture to on holiday! Here we studied tectonics, rivers, geothermal power, glaciers and coasts. These are all topics that feature in the GCSE exams.

Relaxing at the Blue Lagoon (below) – a geothermally-heated pool, was followed by a visit to the Hellisheidi Geothermal Powerplant to see how Iceland is able to utilise the natural phenomena in order to develop their electricity and hot water.



*Strokkur geyser, which erupts regularly is pictured left*



As always, I hope our students had an amazing time and I am sure they have created memories which they will never forget. Emma a Year 11 student said, “Going to Iceland was an amazing experience. We saw mountains and waterfalls that are unlike anything in England. We also visited a geothermal power plant which was really interesting and showed us a different way of producing electricity.”



*The black sandy beach at Vik with basalt caves*



*One of the many waterfalls we visited*



*The Solheimajokull glacier*



# PROM







## FAREWELLS FROM

### *Anne Ley-Morgan*

*Head of Child Development*

It is with a degree of sadness that I write this article since it will be for my final newsletter. After 44 years of teaching, 33 of those at Worle School, I shall be retiring at the end of the summer term. I have enjoyed immensely my teaching during that time: exciting, exhilarating sometimes frustrating but NEVER boring! Teaching Child Development has been amazing, a subject I never expected to take but which has become a real passion. I look back to the hundreds of students who have benefitted from the lessons learnt and know how much it has helped them further their careers or simply to become better parents. It was my pleasure last term to show the Spanish Exchange students and their staff around the Child Development Department and to witness the enthusiasm they had for a subject that does not exist in their country, but which they all agreed should!

The first OCR Cambridge National exam for Child Development has now been sat with 70 students entered from both Year 11 and Year 10. All are now anxiously awaiting their results in August and I intend to be there to share, hopefully, in their successes. For Year 11 this will give them their final grade once marks have been added to their two course work tasks. For Year 10 it will mean they have banked 50% of their marks, with their two course works to be completed in Year 11.

It has been a hectic year with two Year 9 groups beginning the first of their three year course. Year 10 worked hard to complete the examinable course content and had the advantage of beginning their exam preparation in March. For Year 11 it took hard work and determination to complete both course work tasks, in particular their Child Studies. I wish them every success in the future; they now constitute my final Child Development class at Worle!

Next year Child Development will be run by my very able successor, Mrs Reames, who hopes to have plenty of students wanting to take this subject at option time.

Finally a big THANK YOU to both parents and students for allowing me to have the time of my life in doing a job I have loved!

### *Anne writes of Gill...*

It is an absolute pleasure and an honour to be asked to write a farewell for Gill McLorinan, a teacher I admire greatly. For me Worle School will not be the same without Gill, so in many ways I am glad that we are leaving at the same time. I have known Gill (commonly referred to as Mrs Mac since few could get her name right!) since she first arrived at Worle 20 years ago. Gill quickly made an impact on the Music department and formed a brilliant team with the exuberant Howard Sayer, shortly to be joined by Emma Burlinson who I know will miss Gill enormously in the future. Gill soon made it clear that she had exceptional pastoral talents and it is here that her true vocation lay. At one point Gill and I were both interviewed for the same Deputy Head of House job and I have to say that the best person definitely got the job! Gill has pursued this line of work with dedication and copious amounts of patience, bringing true empathy to the role. For many years I have been part of Gill's merry band of tutors and could not have asked for a more exceptional leader. Gill always brought the voice of reason to situations and would call a spade a spade, never asking staff to do something that she herself was not willing to do. Teaching for Gill is most assuredly a true vocation as seen in part by the huge effort she has put into the music department over the years. However, at the heart of this is Gill's belief that "Every child REALLY does matter"!

I applaud a teacher who has become a true legend at Worle School!



### *Gill McLorinan*

*Head of Upper School*

Teaching is a funny old job! In the past, when I have told people what I do, the first thing they often say is "How can you work with teenagers?!" What they don't understand is, that whilst there are students who drive you insane, who make you frustrated, who make you angry or sad, there is always something to admire and enjoy in every one. Young people are funny and talented, quirky and bonkers,

compassionate and kind, passionate and strong willed and watching them grow into mature (and not so mature!) young adults is a joy and a privilege!

I have always believed that the most important thing we do in education is prepare children for life as an adult, so, whilst academic qualifications are immensely important, qualities of kindness, respect, empathy and a desire to care for others, are greatly needed, too. I first started teaching in 1981, am still in touch with many of the students I have taught and it is wonderful to see and hear of the great things they go on to do when they leave school – the differences they have made in their communities and, in some cases, the world.

I end my teaching career of nearly forty years, nineteen of them spent at Worle, with wonderful memories of great musical experiences; Youth Choir tours to places such as Venice, Prague, Krakov, Bruges and The French Alps, concerts in venues such as Clifton Cathedral and the Festival Hall. But, most of all, my memories are of people – wonderful students and the best colleagues and friends I could ask for.

A school is a community and the people are everything. I have been tremendously blessed in my career and, although I leave teaching with great sadness, I will still be doing a small amount in school, working with Y10s and 11s so you haven't quite seen the last of me!

### *Gill writes of Anne...*

It has been my great joy and privilege to have worked with Anne for many years at Worle School. She was a key member of the Discovery House team in years gone by and we have worked together within the different pastoral teams for many years. She is a wonderful colleague; an incredibly supportive team player, a super- efficient teacher and an amazing organiser of large scale events – who can forget 'It's a Knockout' organised for the whole of Y7 on a number of. If you ask Anne to do anything, she will have prepared it, ready to go, yesterday!

One thing I have always admired about Anne her is her insight into the needs of her students. She can recognise immediately the shirker, the worker, the trier, and she has a sensitivity for the one who is really in need. All lovely qualities which have made her such a caring, effective tutor. As a parent, I would have been delighted if my own children had been supported by her in their school careers.

Anne's love for teaching, her sensitivity for those who need help, her pleasant and helpful manner, her enthusiasm, her excellent teaching capabilities and her commitment to passing on the highest standards to her students, are just some of her many fine qualities. There are many, many students who now have a real, practical understanding of child development and who will hopefully use this knowledge within their own families. As a proud parent herself this is a wonderful legacy for Anne to leave with her students.

I wish Anne every happiness as she moves on to the next adventure in life – she will be greatly missed by students and staff alike!



## WESTON HOSPICECARE MENDIP CHALLENGE 2019

*Tina Burrows, Head of DT.*

Sunday 2nd of June saw many people of all ages undertake the 'Challenge'. This year was also the Hospice's 30th anniversary making the event all the more special.

Early in the morning the 30 milers met, bright eyed, bushy tailed and ready to go, at the Weston Cricket Club. They were then bussed over to Wells to start their challenge. A bit later in the morning the 20 milers met and were bussed to the Cider Barn in Draycott to begin their challenge and then a little later again the 10 milers met and were bussed to Kingswood, near Shipham to begin their challenge.

The weather proved to be quite a challenge throughout the day; at the start it was really warm, which turned to rain and then finished with a warm afternoon and evening. This kept everyone on their toes, with ponchos and coats going on and off numerous times! The sound of squelching trainers and shoes making the experience even more amusing.



The route followed the Mendip Way with the odd detour to the many check points which were manned by wonderful ladies and gents with large tables of chocolate, sweets, crisps and water, plus a Portaloos; a welcome sight every 5 or so miles.

Whichever distance was being walked or run I think I can safely say that being outside the front of Broadoak School with Weston Cricket Club in sight was a vision to behold ... the finish line...

Everyone who completed any of the three distances should be so proud of themselves. Not only for undertaking an event for such a fabulous cause but also for raising the awareness of the wonderful work that Weston Hospicecare do.

WCSA was represented by over 20 members of staff over the three distances with nearly 100 from the PLT altogether. Despite the blisters, sprains, scratches, nettle stings, wet socks, or soggy clothes, it was definitely a day to remember and ... we CAN do it all over again next year!





Looking after the environment is something that everyone has an interest in. Programmes such as Blue Planet and Blue Planet II have done an amazing job in highlighting the effect of plastics that find their way into the ocean.

I read that 88% of people who saw the final episode of Blue Planet II have changed their lifestyle as a result. What an amazing impact!

Recycling and the environment are topics that students are particularly passionate about at WCSA and we are grateful to them for their ideas, involvement and enthusiasm. One person will not make a difference, but if everyone and every business took some simple actions the impact would be huge.

*At WCSA we wish to both educate and set an example to others on the importance of recycling and other sustainability issues.*



We monitor volumes and recycling of all general waste (collected by Suez) which then either gets turned into a new product or energy. There are now recycling bins in the restaurant. External recycling bins to follow soon.

We give consideration of sustainability for purchases – e.g. using local suppliers and contractors when possible, purchasing recycled goods (e.g. benches made from plastic containers).

There are school trips that are linked to the environment, such as Beach Litter Picking and visiting We The Curious.



*This seat has been made from 1,401 two pint milk containers!*

We are trying to make it easier for students, staff and visitors to travel to WCSA using environmentally friendly ways by implementing various initiatives. WCSA was the winner in October 2018 for the "Most Improved Medium Sized Workplace" in the Travelwest Travel Awards and has recently gained a Modeshift Stars bronze award. We came third nationally in the Sustrans Big Pedal 2019 event.





*Parental support regarding uniform, and uniform matters, is truly appreciated...*

## THE BASICS

- A Worle Community School Academy blazer, to be worn at all times, only to be removed with permission from a member of staff. Blazer sleeves should be worn at full length, and not rolled or folded up
- A white, collared school shirt with sleeve (long or short) with the top button done up. Shirts must be tucked into trousers or skirts
- Plain, black full-length trousers, worn on the waist, or plain, black, knee length skirt
- A Worle Community School Academy tie to be worn knotted at the collar and navel/waist length
- Plain, black, V-neck knitted jumper worn under the blazer: sweatshirts or round necked jumpers are not permitted
- Hoodies or denim jackets cannot be worn at any time in school

## SHOES AND SOCKS

- Plain, black, flat, leather or leather-look polishable closed shoes are to be worn at all times
- Socks must be black or white

- At the time of writing, there are fourteen students in the school with a medical condition that requires a 'soft shoe' (trainer). Anybody else wearing trainers will be asked to swap them in Student Services for a pair of plain, black polishable shoes

## JEWELLERY

- A maximum of two small stud earrings are allowed to be worn per ear
- All facial piercings are banned: nose, eyebrow, tongue, lip or face studs, rings, bars, chains, ear plugs, tunnels and stretchers are not allowed to be worn and will be confiscated

*It is important to remember to come fully-equipped with a pencil case!*





# TERM DATES 2019/20

SEPTEMBER 2019						
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OCTOBER 2019						
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NOVEMBER 2019						
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JUNE 2020						
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JULY 2020						
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- Term Days
- Holidays
- INSET Days
  - Monday 2 September 2019
  - Friday 18 October 2019
  - Monday 20 July 2020
  - Tuesday 21 July 2020
  - Wednesday 22 July 2020

<b>TERM 1</b>	<p><b>Starts Monday 2 September 2019</b>  <b>Ends Thursday 17 October 2019</b>          Monday 2 September is an INSET day. School will be closed to students with the exception of Year 7 who will come in for the morning from 8.40am - 11.30am (only).  <b>All students to return to school on Tuesday 3 September 2019</b></p>
<b>TERM 2</b>	<p><b>Starts Monday 4 November 2019</b>  <b>Ends Friday 20 December 2019</b></p>

<b>TERM 3</b>	<p><b>Starts Monday 6 January 2020</b>  <b>Ends Friday 14 February 2020</b></p>
<b>TERM 4</b>	<p><b>Starts Monday 24 February 2020</b>  <b>Ends Friday 3 April 2020</b></p>
<b>TERM 5</b>	<p><b>Starts Monday 20 April 2020</b>  <b>Ends Friday 22 May 2020</b></p>
<b>TERM 6</b>	<p><b>Starts Monday 1 June 2020</b>  <b>Ends Friday 17 July 2020</b></p>

## GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS (GDPR)

The General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) came into force on May 25th 2018.

Worle Community School Academy (WCSA) and The Priory Learning Trust (TPLT) take the collective responsibility for the secure holding and management of the personal data of Parents/Carers and Students held by us very seriously.

Under data protection law and the new regulations, individuals have a right to be informed about how the school/Trust uses any

personal data that we hold about them. We comply with this right by providing 'privacy notices' (sometimes called 'fair processing notices') to individuals where we are processing their personal data. The TPLT Privacy Notices for Parents/Carers and Students are available to view on the school website under the Key Information tab at the top of the home page. They include the contact details of the Trust Data Protection Officer should you have any questions or queries in this regard.