



28 January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

So much to celebrate this week, as we see our students growing in confidence and developing their skills more and more as the term goes on. One particular highlight was our whole school assembly. Debbie, our Educational Consultant, led this with the students as the follow-up to the work that we have been doing with them on defining our Undershaw Values. The students have been so motivated to contribute to this and to see them demonstrating the confidence to raise their hand and share their thoughts and opinions with such clarity was fantastic! A joy to watch.

The Undershaw House system has also been strong this week, with House Assemblies launching an inter-house seated volleyball competition, which will take place next week. Students were excited to pick their team to represent their House, with the chance to be awarded double Housepoints for the winners. It was great to see students engaging so well with this challenge and we can't wait for the competition next week.

Butler House staff and students were also treated to a pizza delivery today and an afternoon off lessons to watch a movie as a reward for being the House Cup winner last term. Congratulations to Butler House! It was so lovely to treat them to something special for all their hard work. Who will be the Spring Term winners we ask ourselves?

Facebook

I am very pleased to announce that Undershaw is now on Facebook!

<https://m.facebook.com/undershaweducation/>

Please search *Undershaw Education Trust* from your home page and you will find us. If you are a Facebook user, we hope you will enjoy seeing regular updates on the page. Your main communication will remain as it is however, and nothing will be put on Facebook that you won't have already received from us via email or the newsletter. We're excited to have this medium to engage with our stakeholders online and hope you will feel proud of the school and our face to the world.

Please note that we do not have the messenger facility so please continue to contact the school through the usual channels. In the meantime, please 'like' the page and share it with your network. Thank you for your support.

Project-Based Learning Session – To infinity and beyond!

On Friday, 11 February, we will be sharing the Yr 7 and Yr 8 project-based learning work from this half term, and all parents of Yr 7 and Yr 8 students are welcome to attend. Please note this event will be held at the Arts & Media Centre in Tower Road at 2.15pm. We look forward to seeing you there to share the fantastic work that students have been doing this half term.

Eliminating the impossible

Industry Insight Talks – Careers Call

We are planning a series of Industry Insight Talks which will be open to all students across the school, with the inaugural talk by Chris Westbury, Chief Operating Officer UK and Ireland at COINS. Undershaw is proud of our community, and we would like to showcase the talents within our network. We know from our students that their ambition is far-reaching, and they express interests daily in discovering what it takes to embark upon various careers. This helps shape their pathways and our Post 16 provision is targeted towards their individual aspirations. The types of careers our students are interested in hearing about include animal care, IT, catering, science, healthcare, performing arts, media, teaching coaching, or the forces/emergency services. If you, or someone you know, would like to be involved by talking about their career, please contact Leilah Sheridan (leilah.sheridan@undershaw.education). We are excited about this series of talks and know it will offer so much opportunity to our students.

Post 16 Open Evening

As mentioned last week, we shall be holding a Post 16 Open Evening on Tuesday, 8 February at 6.00pm. All families are welcome, but we would particularly encourage **all** Yr 10 and 11 parents to attend this event where we shall be showcasing our Post 16 offering – transition to further education and college, supported internships, employability pathways and apprenticeship schemes. Please contact Leilah leilah.sheridan@undershaw.education to register your interest, and we look forward to seeing you there.

“Positives of the week!”

This week a parent contacted us to let us know that having her child here at Undershaw has led her to say, “it’s given me faith in teachers and education!”

The compliments following the Open Morning also continue to flood in, and this week we received a lovely email from a parent saying, “I have fallen in love with the school after this morning.”

After reading some writing that a student had produced in a lesson the parent emailed the class team to say; “She has been on such a journey and it is heartwarming to see how her being in the right school, can allow her to shine in all the ways we all thought possible of her.”

The Green Hub Team Garden

www.greenhub.org.uk/teens

We have been asked to share the contact details of The Green Hub Teen Garden that offers therapeutic horticulture to young people who would benefit from time out with others in a similar situation, in a relaxed and friendly environment.



Empowering Workshops for Young People

Our Teen Talk Programme 2022

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|--|--|
| <p>Does it really matter what I eat?</p> <p>The Impact of food on your mindset</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ The fundamentals of a healthy diet■ How food affects your mood and energy■ How food affects how you feel <p>Wednesday, 26th January, 7pm to 8.30pm</p> | <p>Learning made easier, faster... and better!</p> <p>Part 1 - Your body, mind and learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Dealing with exam stress & anxiety■ Food, mood, energy, sleep and studying■ Self belief, mindset and posture <p>Saturday, 26th February, 3pm to 5pm</p> |
| <p>All talks will be in and around the Godalming area Venues TBC</p>  | <p>Part 2 - The best way for YOU to learn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Powerful study strategies & techniques■ Managing revision distractions■ Your optimum body & physiology <p>Saturday, 12th March, 3pm to 5pm</p> <p>25% off if you book a DOUBLE session!</p> |

To book your place:
www.greenhub.org.uk/events

We ask you to make a donation to cover the cost of your ticket.
You - or your parents - can donate £5, £25 or £45 per ticket - it all depends on what you (or they) can afford.
If you book **BOTH** parts of the **Learning** series, you can get a 25% discount...
... use the Promo Code **DOUBLE** at checkout.

Discovery Day and the Undershaw Diploma

We continue to see our students thrive in our Discover Day activities which this term include first aid, cooking skills, performing arts, football and animal care to name but a few. We are so very lucky to have a team of staff who can provide a wide range of experiences for our young people, building their skills of team work, speaking, listening, staying positive and aiming high, amongst others.



Upcoming Dates

Finally, another reminder of upcoming dates. Please note these are not exhaustive and updates will be communicated.

| Date | Time | Event | Organiser |
|---------------------------|--|---|------------|
| Thurs, 3 Feb | 9am | Parent Pod at Tower Road | Emma |
| Tues, 8 Feb | 6pm | Post 16 Open Evening | Leilah |
| Weds, 9 Feb | Year 11 and Post 16 Reports go to parents | | Vic |
| Fri, 11 Feb | End of ½ term – normal finish time of 3.05pm | | |
| Mon, 14 -Fri, 18 Feb | February half-term | | |
| Mon, 21 Feb | 8.30am | Pupils return – first day of Spring Term 2nd ½ | |
| Thurs, 24 Feb | 6pm (On Teams) | Exam Parent Information Evening for Year 11 parents | Vic |
| Mon, 28 th Feb | Mock Exams for 3 weeks | | |
| Thurs, 3 Mar | World Book Day – further details to follow | | |
| Wed, 16 Mar | 9.30-11.00am | Open Morning for prospective families | Admissions |
| Fri, 18 Mar | Red Nose Day – further details to follow | | |
| Mon, 21 Mar | TBA | Parent Pod | Emma |
| Fri, 1 Apr | Last day of term – finish time of 12 noon | | |
| Tues, 19 Apr | Staff INSET | | |
| Wed, 20 Apr | 8.30am | Pupils return – school re-opens | |

As always, thank you for your continued support, and please do get in contact should you have anything that you would like to discuss. Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards

Emma West
Acting Headteacher