



The Weekly Word

No. 106 Friday 13th March 2020

A note from the Principal

I have sent out to you today an update on the Trust's position regarding the Covid-19 issue. Can I once again thank all parents for your sensible and proportional response to the outbreak of the virus. We do have an extremely small number of students and staff self-isolating as a precaution but there are no reported positive diagnoses from within our school community. Please continue to contact us if you have any concerns about your child's attendance at school. The wellbeing of all in our school is of paramount importance to us as is their entitlement to an unbroken education. We will update you once a week unless there are further announcements from our Government.



Keep up to date with the latest information about what's going on in school.
Please follow us on [twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) or visit the [academy website](#)

[Link to calendar](#)

Outstanding Sixth Form

Soon to be lots of very excited students in Year 11 as the first batch of offer letters go out for Sixth Form places September 2020!

We are thrilled that so many students are continuing their studies with us and many wanting to join us from other schools. I'm sure they will have a fantastic experience in our OFSTED 'Outstanding' Sixth Form. Deadline for applications 27th March 2020.

<https://wykhampark-aspirations.org/sixth-form/apply-now/>



Dates for your diary:

- Thurs 26th March - Year 12 & 13 Parents' Evening

Reminder!

NASA 2020



Louise's experience on the NASA trip.

February 11th-21st, myself (Louise), Rosie, Maddie and James all joined several other schools such as Budmouth and

Space Studio West London on a trip to NASA in Florida and Texas. We

stayed in Texas for 5 days, where we had talks from the leaders of the trip about the background information about all of the difference launches and rockets that have previously been used to go to space and orbit and land on the moon, such as the Mercury missions and Apollo missions. We also looked around Rice University and even had a lecture from



Professor David Alexander about exoplanets. We did our own presentations on space as a whole and a section related to exoplanets and shared them to the rest of the group. We went to the Johnson space centre and also the rocket park in Houston, as well as seeing a real life Saturn V rocket that was never launched. We had the opportunity to see the mock-up facility where they tested and developed new technology for the rockets, and held simulations for the astronauts when they start their training. We went to many dinners with people within the space industry like the Lockheed Martin engineers, and we did the same when we relocated to Florida.

NASA 2020

Once we were in Florida, we saw a real shuttle launch and saw a memorial for people who had died during the missions. We went on a tour around the site of the Kennedy space centre, where we saw a launch pad and the vehicle assembly building which is the tallest single story building where they assemble the manufactured parts of a rocket. Whilst on the tour, we got the chance to visit the VR suite where there was a robot to control, which could see the exact surroundings you were in but from a different perspective, then we went inside the tourist section of the Kennedy space centre.

The trip really was a once in a lifetime opportunity and I am so grateful that I got the chance to experience this first-hand. It gave me an insight into the



variety of jobs that are actually available, as I found out about the use for social sciences in space and not just the physical sciences. It made me realise how much is always going on around our universe that we don't necessarily know about, and made a huge impact in my understanding of how advanced the technology we have now is. It was eye opening hearing about the tragedies in the industry as I think it's important to know that in whatever you do, you may not get it right the first time, and it may do some big damage. We've all had a positive change in our confidence from going on the trip, from meeting so many new people and hearing about their work stories and creating our own multimedia presentations.

World Book Day



On Thursday 5th March we celebrated World Book Day, staff dressed up as literary characters inspired by their love of

books. We started the day with a DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) session in P1, with staff and students spending the hour reading for pleasure.

Students have been given World Book Tokens which they can spend in book shops and supermarkets to get a free World Book Day book.



Science Experiment



Students at Futures Institute have been finding out how easily germs such as coronavirus spread if not caught in a tissue or one's elbow. You can read the full report in the Banbury Guardian Newspaper online [here](#).



Year 12 Visit McLaren Construction



The Year 12s are working on a project designing their own suggestion for a development in Banbury. They have come up

with some amazing ideas from a Duck Café to a community centre.

As part of the project they have studied the Castle Quay development.

They had a presentation from the manager of the new leisure development LOCK 29 and last Friday 12 of the students were hosted by McLaren on a behind the scenes tour. They saw the clean and welcoming office space and met Craig Benham the project director.

They were kitted out with PPE and visited the site to see the challenges of flooding, gas pipes and the amazing construction of the new hotel.

Craig explained that all McLaren sites take great care with their cleanliness and always have a white crane. He was really helpful with explaining all the careers and offered the assistance of his team to the students in completing their own designs.

McLaren will come and judge the students at our final on 2nd April.



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