



The Byte

THE NEWSLETTER OF WATFORD UTC

Summer 2019 Issue

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PRINCIPAL'S INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents and Students,

As we come to the end of this academic year, it is with great pride that I can look back at the many achievements of the students and staff. Our Learning Family has worked hard, while retaining our values, to ensure that students have had a wide variety of opportunities that have contributed to them broadening their horizons and abilities. This newsletter gives you a flavour of what the WUTC has been engaged in – enclosed you will see an array of impressive and high quality activities our students have experienced.

I leave my role of Principal confident in the knowledge that 'be the best version of yourself' is firmly entrenched in the minds of our students.

It has been a privilege to see how students "can-do" approach has developed. This mindset is so important and is the best springboard for curiosity and creativity. Our country and its employers need our young people to be strong and resilient so they can embrace whatever the future may hold.

I leave you with an extract from 'At the end of the year', a poem written by one of my favourite authors – John O'Donohue:

"We remember this year for all we learned,
For all we loved and lost
And for the quiet way it brought us
Nearer to our invisible destination."

Many thanks for a wonderful five years, I will miss you all hugely.

Emma Loveland

COMPUTACENTRE



Our year 12 IT students have been working with CompuaCentre this year. They have had a variety of masterclasses where they have been tasked with improving accessibility and data management of various made up companies. Students had to stay in line with a budget and were given the opportunity to use real databasing software. Students also worked on their presentation skills, by feeding back their ideas to the management of the companies.



BUSINESS EVENT: ROARING TWENTIES

Our Year 12 Business students ran their annual event on Friday 21st June. The Roaring Twenties Jamboree was an afternoon of gin, fizz, fun and canapes for all of our guests. Students dressed up in the style of the '20s and guests drank mocktails named after famous icons from the era. Year 10 Hospitality students served mocktails whilst dressed as Charlie Chaplin.

The Watford UTC band also performed while our guests enjoyed a variety of gin, fizz and canapes, all prepared by the Business team. Year 11 students also performed a dance routine in the style of 20s swing dancing. Overall, the event raised £400 for the students' two chosen charities Demand and Unicef. We would also like to thank our event sponsors, Cucina, The Grove, Fortnum and Mason and Manchester United.



FULL CIRCLE TRIP



On Wednesday , 3rd July, staff and year 10 students travelled in to London for our annual Full Circle Trip. The first stop was Green Park to meet up with our Well Being team. Students and staff participated in a variety of activities such as rounders, quick cricket and ultimate frisbee . We then went to the Royal Academy to visit the Summer Exhibition. Students were challenged with capturing their favourite piece of art, along with finding the most expensive piece and the most popular piece. Overall, a fun and cultured day was had by all and the trip was a huge success!

TUBE CHALLENGE

Whilst our year 10 students were on the Full Circle Trip, our year 12 students were given the day to attempt the Tube Challenge. A challenge that requires strategy and dedication, students attempted to visit as man London Underground stations as they could throughout the day. Students where tasked with taking a photo of every station they passed through and had to tweet under the hashtags 'watfordutc' and 'tubechallenge'. Our highest record of the day went to Ross, who managed to visit 100 stations which is a fantastic achievement. Well done Ross!



YEAR 11 LEAVERS

We said goodbye to our Year 11 students on Friday 11th June. Students and parents attended our leavers assembly, where graduate jumpers and certificates were handed out . Students also listened to goodbye messages from teachers and had nibbles afterwards. We say goodbye to some of our students, however, we also look forward to seeing many of our students back for their Year 12 studies in September!



STAFF PROFILE

Name: Jacopo Scalise PhD

"I guess I always wanted to be a teacher, but I also loved maths so much that I decided to take a long trip into its realm before working in education: I have spent 5 years in maths research, I have taught for 2 years in Italy and then I finally landed at the Watford UTC through the Researchers in Schools program. Here, my main responsibilities are to teach maths and to be very loud about my love for my subject. Knowing that my students will probably grow up in a world of maths haters gives me an extra push to make my enthusiasm contagious! My other passions are music, cooking and films."



WOSCARS 2019

Wednesday 4th July saw our fifth annual WOSCARS event. Organised by Year 10 students Nuha and Daniel, parents and carers were invited to celebrate students' achievements throughout the year. Year 10 and Year 12 students and staff gathered in the sports hall to watch the unveiling of the award winners. Students were awarded for their outstanding work over the academic year. Other awards included our formal awards; collaborator, entrepreneur, high-flyer, compassion and role model.

We also handed out our fun awards, voted for by students themselves. These include, tranquility, creativity, satorial elegance, athleticism and positive outlook. Our school band also performed numerous songs and deputy lead student Nitushn performed a solo piece. After the award ceremony, guests enjoyed pizza, chocolate fountains and mocktails. One of our Year 12 students, Rose, also showed off her talents by decorating guests with some creative henna designs. Overall a very successful and enjoyable night, well done to all of our winners!



Deputy Lead Student Nitushn performing his solo piece



Event organisers Nuha and Daniel closing the ceremony



Emma with award winner, Nuha (Year 10)



Emma with award winner, Ellie (Year 10)



Lorraine with award winner, Jack (Year 10)



Lisa with award winner, Viktor (Year 10)



Andree with award winner, Mlde (Year 12)



YEAR 13 GRADUATION

On Thursday 20th June we said goodbye and good luck to our Year 13 students. Students and staff attended a goodbye assembly, where they were handed out certificates and well wishes by Emma. They also listened to goodbye messages from their teachers while reminiscing about memories during their time here. This year group have been very unique and will be missed very much!

We would like to wish all of our Year 13 Graduates the very best for the future, whether you are going to University, completing an Apprenticeship or going in to full time work. We know that you will do us proud and continue to strive for success and achieve great things. Please make sure you stay in touch, let us know how you are getting on and make sure you come back for our Alumni event in December.

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UNICEF CHALLENGE

Year 10 students took part in an afternoon of Well Being fun as part of our UNICEF Challenge. Students were split in to house teams and took part in a round robin tournament of numerous activities such as, tug of war, tag rugby and relay obstacle races. The afternoon provided competitive fun for students and even staff, who were keen to get involved as well!

Our winning team of the afternoon was Alex, Josh and Nathan - who managed to overcome the other groups despite there being just three of them! Overall, we raised £100 for the UNICEF charity.

MONEY MATTERS

Our year 12 students took part in a Money Matters masterclass run by various staff members. Students took part in a variety of 15 minute sessions to help them prepare for financial matters they might face in the real world. Students learned about the effects of gambling, how to budget, reading payslips, the importance of savings and the repercussions of debt. The afternoon was enjoyable, informative and really beneficial for our students.

MET CELEBRATION

On Wednesday 3rd July, some of our year 10 and 12 students attended the MET Celebration awards at Bushey Academy. Students were welcomed by the CEO of the MET and were rewarded for their excellence, compassion, determination and aspiration. Our Watford UTC winners were Nuha, Daniel, Aaron, Ellie and Harrison (Year 10), Liam, Ross, Kirsty, Ojaswani and Rose (Year 12).



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Designed and produced by
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Some of our 'Unobvious Beauty' photography competition entries:



Above; Sarria Hussain, Year 12

Below; Ojaswani Rawat, Year 12



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