

**Information Bulletin
for Parents and Carers
18 March 2022**



**St. Wilfrid's
R.C. College**

Excellence through Faith, Learning and Support

Faith:

The theme for assemblies and daily collective worship next week is **confessing our sins**.

Year 8 Retreat

It has been an absolute privilege for our staff to share our first retreat in over two years with many of our wonderful Year 8 students. The YMT staff commented on their exemplary attitudes and behaviour - they really were fantastic and a joy to be with. On the retreat, we were reminded that Jesus sees us for all that we are and loves us completely, equipping us with our gifts and talents - one of the greatest of which is simply 'kindness'. As our young people return to school and home, we encourage them to share hope, light and love in our community.

Learning:

Reading at St Wilfrid's

We are excited to announce the opening of our new school library and reading app, SORA. To ensure that all children grow to be confident, competent readers, it is an expectation that students read for a minimum of one hour per week. This can be a text from home or it may be a text that your child has borrowed from our school library. As a parent or carer, you play a vital role in supporting your child's reading development and our partnership between home and school is essential for success with this life skill. For more information, please visit our school website: <https://www.st-wilfrids.org/our-school/letters-for-parents/>

Support:

School Crossing Patrol

The School Crossing Patrol which operates at King George Road/Harton Lane Roundabout will not be in operation on the morning of Monday 28 March. The patrol will be back in the afternoon. Please make alternative arrangements to get to school if necessary.

South Tyneside Mental Health Parent and Carer Peer Network Group

We are pleased to share with you the details of South Tyneside's next virtual Mental Health Parent and Carer Peer Network Group.

This will take place on Thursday 24 March 2022 4-5.30pm.

During this session we will be focusing the discussion around children's anxiety as this is what parents and carers told us was important to them. Therefore, if your child's worrying is affecting their daily lives, then please do join us for this session. A member of the Healthy Minds Team will be there to give some tips and strategies on how you can help your child; and we will have some of the session open to chat through our own experiences.

[This link will enable you to access the Teams link](#) to join the meeting directly, however, if that is not possible, then please contact michelle.olsen@southtyneside.gov.uk.

Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families: Parent/Carer Workshop to Inform Mental Health and Wellbeing Support

The School Support Service (SSS) is a remote service offering a variety of support to parents/carers, pupils, and school staff to improve mental health and wellbeing in schools.

The Anna Freud Centre wants to improve the experience of using the service and increase the impact of support and would love to hear your views.

They are looking for parents and carers from partner schools and colleges - of which St Wilfrid's is one - to attend a 1-hour online workshop to discuss how the service works and the opportunities for us to improve it for parents, carers and young people.

The workshop will be held on Zoom on Thursday 31st March from 12.30 - 13.30.

To attend please complete the Zoom registration:

<https://annafreud.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEsduvqDkvGteEczfbwPO42fdTTkpy-NVV>

They really appreciate any time you can give to the project, as we/they know your views will help them to create a service which genuinely supports young people, teachers, and parents.

If you cannot attend the workshop above, but would like to share your views, please let them know. We would be happy to arrange a short call with you at a better time.

Key dates / upcoming events:

- Next week is **week 1** of our timetable.
- 23 March Year 9 Options Evening for Parents (in school).
- 29 March Year 9 Parents Evening (virtual). The school day will end at 2.10pm for all students.
- 8 April students finish school at 12:30pm for the Easter break.
- 25 April students return to school following the Easter break.

Sixth Form Notices:

On Friday 25th March, the Orwell Society and George Orwell's son, Richard Blair, are joining some of our sixth form students to deliver a workshop exploring the life of Eileen O'Shaughnessy. Eileen was born in South Shields and later married George Orwell, editing his world-renowned novels such as Animal Farm and 1984.

Upcoming events: HE+ Cambridge University Residential 4th and 5th April