



Annual Message from Mr Macrae Head of Wingate School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

September 2019 sees the end of another busy summer. New toilet facilities with more toilets were constructed which have hot water for hand washing and a new filtration system providing potable drinking water inside and out. We have installed a top-of-the-range water filtration system as a way to reduce the ecological footprint of the school. Children do not need to bring in disposable plastic water bottles, and a reusable drinks container can be ordered from the school office. A new wider staircase to the classrooms above was constructed. The Sixth Form has been re-branded as Wingate Sixth Form Study Centre and it has already been commented on how much smarter in appearance the Sixth Form Students are.

After our parental survey last April, we took note of your comments and have responded by introducing healthy hot food at lunchtimes – the children are enjoying the menu and are returning for second helpings! Designs for a new dining room are underway. After school sporting activities are to begin at the end of September as will a number of enrichment activities at lunchtimes. Please contact the school office if you wish to partake in any of these new initiatives.

New software packages have been added to the school: "Gooseberry Planet" is a wonderful new software designed specifically for school children to further improve the teaching and learning of Internet Safety from Year 1 students all the way to Year 11 in a fun and interactive way. Parents will learn more directly as the software is rolled out across the school. We also acquired "Unifrog", which is a fantastic careers based software. It is a great tool aimed at supporting Years 9 to 13 and is

designed to help the decision making process involved with their career and university choices. Based on their unique skills and interests, it guides them to help carefully plan for their future after Wingate.

The new IGCSE Exam numeric grading system has been adopted by some subjects and I am pleased to say it was a smooth transition. Our website in the Secondary section has a detailed explanation of our exam system. I am particularly delighted for our Year 13 students who's A Level results were outstanding. An exceptional group of young men and women achieved entry to top universities in the UK and Europe including Imperial, Warwick, Manchester, Glasgow and Leiden, Holland. The exam results and analysis can be found on our website in the Secondary and Sixth Form areas.

Housekeeping: our usual housekeeping requests: please inform us of any changes to email or contact details as soon as they change.

Updated Terms and Conditions and GDPR: both of which should be viewed on the school website; Admissions; via the following link <https://www.wingateschool.com/en/enrolmentform>

Photos: If any parents **do not** wish for their children's photos to be published on the website or Facebook page, please email the school office. Also, please note the signage around the school of parents taking photos and posting on social media. As per GDPR, Wingate take no responsibility for any photos posted online by parents or guardians.

Mobile phones: remain banned at Wingate School. Students using phones in school will be subject to the school Behaviour Policy. All school policies can be found on the school website.



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Attendance: for students to make full academic progress it is necessary to attend school – we strive for 95%+. Below 90% will most certainly adversely affect your child's academic progress. If your child is unwell please advise the school office, before 9.00 am via email to theoffice@wingateschool.com Students who arrive after 09.00 will not be allowed into school until 09.50.

Register System: parents will receive an automatically generated email if your child is absent from school and we have no prior notice or notice that morning.

Uniform: is considered an integral part of the school identity. Particularly in the Seniors we see students pushing the boundaries. Your continued support is crucial to maintain high standards, so please check the Seniors Uniform Policy in the Secondary section of our website.

Please note: When pupils have PE or using the pitch at lunchtime they can wear their PE kit. When they are not doing PE they should be in proper school uniform.

Dropping Off & Picking Up Children: Mrs Green has been policing the arrival and departure from school and would like to thank all parents who have acted sensibly and responsibly using the one-way system. A little consideration goes a long way to easing the daily log jam. For example: **not** stopping on either crossing but driving into the car park and then departing from the bottom roads. Please see a more detailed explanation below.

Communication: between school and parents is very important. Open Days this year begin with the first whole school Open Day on Friday 25 October 2019 13.30 to 16.00. A second for Seniors only on 21 February 2020 and Juniors and Infants on Friday 19 June 2020. However, an appointment can be made at any time but the first point of contact should always be the

class or subject teacher. Please contact the Office to make an appointment with the relevant member of staff.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Colin Macrae
Head of Wingate School

GENERAL INFORMATION

PLEASE DRIVE VERY SLOWLY IN CABO BLANCO AND OBSERVE THE SPEED LIMITS

The voluntary one-way traffic system has greatly improved the flow of cars to and from the school but it would be further improved if parents did not unload cars on what is essentially a through-road area of the lower car park. The amount of traffic could also be reduced if parents opted to make use of the subsidised school buses.

Some simple Rules:

Drive very slowly and carefully through the streets near the school.

Follow the one-way system when you approach and leave the school.

Please to not try to leave through Calle Mirador when parents are still arriving. This blocks the road.

Do not stop at school gates not even "for a few seconds".

Escort younger children across the road to the school gate.

Keep all entrances and exits free (especially the lower dirt road exit).

Do not park on yellow lines.

Reverse with great care and very slowly.

Please make allowances for other drivers, especially new parents who will not be aware of parking conventions.

Please return to your car as soon as you have seen your child into school to ease the parking problems for parents still arriving.



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School Bus Service:

If you are interested in using the subsidised bus service please contact the school office for further details. If you are interested in the bus service and we do not yet include your area please advise the school office and we will do our best to modify the routes if possible.

SAVE having the extra driving stress of the morning and evening school run

SAVE on fuel and costs of car wear and tear

GAIN on child supervision time – each bus comes complete with a bus supervisor

REDUCE congestion in Cabo Blanco and by the school. They are well controlled and safe and cover all coastal areas from Golf del Sur to Los Gigantes. The full bus routes can be found on the website.

HELP THE ENVIRONMENT by using the subsidised bus service.

Communication with parents: will be via email so we would be grateful if parents could check emails on a regular basis.

Hot Meals: The meals consist of a 3 course meal with bread (this will be wholemeal 3 times a week). Starter, main course and a healthy dessert (fruit or yoghurt). For the infants this dessert will be used as a mid-morning snack. None of the food will be fried as it has been designed by a professional nutritionist to be a perfectly balanced diet for active children. Only oven-baked and boiled cooking methods will be used.

The cost of the meals will be 150€ per month (10 school months) but we are offering a 30€ monthly discount to all our pupils as a gesture of goodwill for the entire first year making it 120€/month for the whole academic year 2019/2020.

As part of the service, for the younger ones, the food monitors will keep an eye on what the children eat and how much, and provide feedback to parents where necessary to ensure they are always totally up-to-date with their child's daily nutrition.

We cater for all allergies and these meals will be designed individually by the nutritionist to ensure that they are safe and a perfectly well-balanced diet. These will be at no extra cost.

So far it has been a great success, and children are really enjoying the meals. It seems that the professional caterers have got the balance just right between healthy and tasty.

Not only does this save you time making packed lunches, it also gives you the peace of mind that they have had their healthy main meal of the day provided for.

For more information and to sign up for these meal, please visit the school office.

Enrichment Programme: Wingate School will launch the new Enrichment Programme on 23rd September 2019. We have hired a top sports coach to create a programme designed to add another level to our students' education. Last year we asked our parents what they wanted and we listened. We will be offering a Multi-Sports activity which includes dodgeball, touch rugby, cricket, rounders etc. Multi-Sports engages more students as activities can differ with students also getting a choice. Fun, active and different each week to maintain interest and improve teammanship! We will also be offering tennis, with an experienced professional tennis coach as well as soccer. The Enrichment Programme will start small and slowly grow as the enthusiasm and the requirements of the children grow and as we wait for the completion of our new sports pitch.

As part of this Enrichment programme, we are also starting a new fun lunchtime activity scheme, to add to our current midday activities. These will start with music and multi-media based activities.

We are in the process of trying to set up a multimedia suite with a green screen, professional lighting and high quality digital



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camera so that the children can learn how to use a camera, shoot videos and edit them. Please visit the school office for more information.

The lunchtime activities are free and the after school activities with external professionals are heavily subsidised for Wingate pupils at only 4€ a session!!

Please hurry; some of these activities are filling fast. The more children taking part, the more activities we will be able to provide.

If you have a hobby you would like to share at lunchtimes, or are a professional who would like to offer a new experience to Wingate children in the after school activities, please let us know! We are actively looking for a guitar teacher and drummer, but are interested in anything that could enrich the knowledge and skills of our students. (We take the safety of our students very seriously; all certificates and police checks have to be completed beforehand. We can show you how to do this).

School Choir: will begin on Wednesday 2nd October and take place on Wednesday lunchtimes in the hall. (We may sometimes have extra practices on Friday lunchtimes if needed before a concert.)

This term we have 2 events – Sunday 10th November, the choir have been asked to sing at Westhaven Bay, Costa del Silencio, as part of a huge Remembrance service there (approx. 10.30am for an hour)

Sunday 15th December – Siam Mall Christmas concert 6pm – approx. one hour.

The children will bring home a letter on 2nd October for your consent to both these events. Regular attendance and good behaviour are expected, as always – even of the younger children! We would really like

more Senior children to join us this year – such a good help to the younger, and sometimes not so confident singers! Children from Y2 age and above are welcome to join.

Homework Club: As part of the Enrichment programme we are offering a homework club from 4-5pm. Your children will be supervised during this period, so that their siblings can do an activity and you don't have to come twice to pick them up. Open to everyone.

Private Piano Lessons: Open to all students from Year 2 - €15.00 for 30 minutes – please contact the school office.

Estrellas Theatre School of Performing Arts

Saturday: commenced on Saturday the 14th of September at Wingate School. We are excited to see all our Estrellas children after the summer break as well as welcoming new children to our classes who would like to try out one of our fun theatre classes. At Estrellas, we are one big family, where emphasis is on children learning in a fun and caring environment.

To book your free trial class please call us on 647 844 794 or email us at mo@estrellastheatreschool.com