



WINGATE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2018

Annual Message from Mr Macrae Head of Wingate School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The start of 2018 school year began with rather a large 'hiccup'! I thank all of you for your patience and support. However, a week later than planned – off we go.

Land purchased to the North of the school has been further developed with the road finished, a new entrance and car park for staff and buses. This should greatly alleviate the congestion to the south of the school. The whole area has been opened up and will in the future, become the main entrance to the school. The garden and astro turf area have further seating for students to relax at break and lunch. We welcomed 7 new teachers and support staff as the school continues to grow with over 490 students.

I am very proud that Wingate students again outperformed their UK peers in most IGCSE, AS and A2 subjects. Particularly at AS, these are outstanding results from an outstanding year. Four students achieved 100% in one or more of their individual science exam modules. Two students achieved 100% in their IGCSE English Literature exams. Results analysis can be seen in the Secondary and Sixth Form sections of the school website. Results can be rather confusing with a mixture of numbers and the traditional letters but on our website in the Secondary section, "Wingate Exams Explained" may help.

You will also notice more changes to our website www.wingateschool.com. It has become much more mobile friendly especially the opening page. Please use the website first

if you are looking for information. The Admissions process is now completely online as we keep improving our communication with new and existing parents. A live "chat" site will be available shortly for the Admission process.

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> any queries regarding data protection should be sent to Mr Fazackerley at protecciondedatos@wingateschool.com

Photographs: 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. Note: please bear in mind that the school office will need to be advised that your child should not take part in the official class photos - as other parents may publish these photos after purchase. Also, please note the signage around the school for parents taking photos and posting on social media. As per GDPR, Wingate takes 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.

School Policies: All school policies can be found on the school website.

Attendance: for students to make full academic progress it is necessary to obtain a 95% attendance. 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

New Register System: we have introduced a much improved electronic register system for all classes. One feature will be an automatically generated email which you will receive if your child is absent from school and we have no prior notice or notice that morning. This will take place after a month of ironing out any snags.

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. I congratulate our Sixth Form on adopting a Dress Code and a much smarter appearance around the school.

Dropping Off & Picking Up Children: even with reduced congestion we ask that all parents use the one-way system in force and try to respect that all parents want to drop their children safely and go. We suggest that parents park facing the exit areas avoiding 3 point turns when they need to leave the car park. A little consideration would go a very long way to ease the daily long 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 will be different this year with the first whole school Open Day on Friday 15 February 2019 12.30 to 16.30. A second for Juniors and Infants on Friday 21 June. However, an appointment can be made at any time - with the first point of contact always being the **class or subject teacher**. Appointments should be made via the school office.

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.

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

Park facing the exits - avoiding 3 point turns when you leave.

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.

School Bus Service: The school is committed to supplementing the cost of the school bus service to ensure that the costs are kept to a minimum.

If you are interested in using the bus service please contact the school office for further details.

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. The buses 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.

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

School Invoicing: It is now possible to receive tax relief on school fees under certain circumstances. We suggest you speak to your tax accountant to clarify if and how you are eligible. This relief can be claimed on fees, buses, books etc. Please check that the school office has the correct name and details on file for your invoice.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

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

School Choir: Our school choir was a huge success last year and details will follow in the next few weeks for plans for this year – Siam Mall is already booked for December! We are also inviting parents to join the children for one or two songs so watch this space.

Estrellas Theatre School of Performing Arts

Saturday: commenced on Saturday the 8th of September at Wingate School. They were excited to see all their Estrellas children after the summer break as well as welcoming new children to their classes who. Estrellas is one big family, where emphasis is on children learning in a fun and caring environment.

They offer the the three disciplines of the performing arts; dancing, singing and acting, all taught in English by native teachers, for children from 3 to 17 years.

Additionally there are extra classes on offer including:-

Hip Hop (beginners and advanced)

Tap (beginners and advanced)

Tumbling (4-8 years)

LAMDA acting (London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art)

Singing classes

With the acting and singing classes students have the opportunity to sit an exam and obtain a LAMDA certificate at the end of the term which awards points for University entrance in the UK. **All extra classes are open to non Estrellas students.** To book your free trial class please call us on 647 844 794 or email us at mo@estrellastheatreschool.com

The benefits of a theatre based activity for children include the following:

- A natural and fun way to learn the English language
- Develop the artistic side of children
- Act and become a team player
- To grow and improve self esteem, imagination and empathy
- Improve concentration, communication and problem solving
- Increase the level of fitness, social awareness and aesthetic presentation.
- Learn to enjoy, relax and cultivate trust

Should the school office be able to help with any of the above information please do not hesitate to contact us.

Mrs J. Thompson
School Bursar