



Head of School Weekly Update

Welcome to the end of week update.

As always, I hope that you find this useful!

Speak Up and Speak Out at UTC Reading

We continue to focus on the Speak Up and Speak Out programme at UTC Reading and encourage students to tell us about their worries and concerns.

Thank you to the parents who requested some more information about what Speak Up and Speak Out is.

Speak Up Speak Out encourages all members of our community to have a voice, to celebrate their successes and raise their concerns. It is about educating our whole community about the world around us and equipping everyone with the knowledge and skills to be positive, active citizens.

Speak Up Speak out encompasses many different areas including:

- What we learn in personal and professional development sessions through the PSHE learning
- Our safeguarding team, processes and procedures, the whisper button and suggestion boxes
- Our student representation on our student executive board and through student voice sessions
- Our respectful behaviours manifesto created by and for the students
- Our zero tolerance approach to bullying and discrimination
- Staff training to support students in all of these areas

I hope that this provides some further clarity to our community and encourages more of us to Speak up and Speak out in the future.



PSHE

Safeguarding

Student
Ambassadors

Respectful
Behaviour

Anti-bullying

Staff Training

Key Dates

We finish for the end of term at 3pm today.

Spring term 2 starts again on Monday 19th February from 8.45am

The end of spring term two will be Thursday 28th March 2024.

Revision sessions over half term

We will be offering some revision sessions for Year 11 and 13 students to prepare for their pre-public examinations which begin on Monday 26th February.

Details of the sessions are below.

Timings of the session:

- **Morning session—9:00—12:00**
- **Lunch—12:00-12:30 (Please bring in your packed lunch and snacks, we are not able to provide any food)**
- **Afternoon session—12:30-15:00pm**

Subject Sessions			
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Friday
Science	Maths		
	GCSE Computer Science	Computer Science A level	Maths A Level
Engineering	Engineering		English A Level
Art and Design	Art and Design		

Berkshire Careers Opportunities

In partnership with our local Berkshire Careers Hub, we are very pleased to share their current opportunities website so that you can keep up to date with opportunities up and coming in the area. This includes opportunities such as work experiences, careers insight talks, apprenticeship opportunities, as well as information about jobs in the local area: <https://www.berkshireopportunities.co.uk/employers-and-educators/opportunities-for-you-to-share/>

Parent feedback form

I would like to again remind our community that we appreciate any feedback you would like to share with us.

We will be hosting further face to face parent events over the coming weeks, however, if you aren't able to attend, we would be very grateful to hear your feedback via [this form](#). We will also be running sessions for parents of children with SEND and will share information about this in due course.

Brighter Futures for Children Parent workshops

For parents/carers

Resilience workshop 22/02/2024 3– 5:30pm. Free in person. Venue: St Johns Primary School, 121-147 Orts Rd, Reading RG1 3JN .

“Prepare the child for the road, not the road for the child”. It's the ability to adapt well to adversity, trauma, threats or stress. It is difficult and distressing but parents can help children and young people to be more resilient in managing day to day challenges and more difficult situations. *To book or for more information email Wilma.Williams@brighterfuturesforchildren.org*

Understanding Autism & Anxiety Workshop – 27/02/2024 9.30 - 12.00pm. Free online session via MS Teams. For parents/carers of Reading pupils ages 6 -16.

A 2.5 hour workshop targeted towards parents/carers of children with a diagnosis of autism or those who may be awaiting a diagnosis. It looks at common drivers for anxiety in those with autism, especially in relation to coping with uncertainty and not knowing what might happen. The workshop gives parents a chance to share their experiences and to learn strategies and approaches to manage anxious feelings. To book or for more information email Wilma.Williams@brighterfuturesforchildren.org

PLEASE NOTE:

This is an interactive workshop and whilst we encourage attendees to participate in discussions this is of course optional. There will however be an expectation that cameras are on during the workshop and just to make you aware at the beginning we would like you to introduce yourself to the group and your child, giving a brief idea of what you would like to gain from the course.

To book or for more information email Wilma.Williams@brighterfuturesforchildren.org.

Senior Leadership Team

Executive Principal – Wayne Edwards

Head of School – Jennie Thomson (jennie.thomson@utcreading.org.uk)

Assistant Principal – Stephanie Mitchell (Stephanie.mitchell@utcreading.org.uk)

Assistant Principal – Lee Reynolds (lee.reynolds@utcreading.org.uk)

Assistant Principal – Richa Pareek (richa.pareek@utcreading.org.uk)

Executive Director of SEND – Georgina Craven (Georgina.craven@utcreading.org.uk)

Safeguarding Team

Designated Safeguarding Lead – Jennie Thomson

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads – Jackie Wynter, Wayne Edwards, Steph Mitchell, Charlotte Tennant, Julie Hooper

SEN Team

Trust Lead for SEN and Safeguarding – Linda Stevens

Executive Director of SEND – Georgina Craven

SEN Administrator – Siua Abnett

Curriculum Leadership Team

Director of Maths – Lewis Hart

Director of English – Thomas Trayers

Director of Science – Anderson Ramdeen

Acting Director of Science – Carly Gale

Director of Design, Engineering and Technology – Jamie Chandler

Director of Computing – Ian Scott

Wishing our whole community a happy and safe half term, and I look forward to seeing everyone on Monday 19th February.

Kind regards



Jennie Thomson

Head of School