

## CAREERS UPDATE

### Autumn Term 2021

Dear Parents/Carers/Staff and Pupils,

We are delighted to announce that our Autumn term is packed with stimulating and valuable careers workshops for our learners in KS3.

In the second half of the term our KS3 students will all be taking part in a bespoke Life Skills programme, offered by the **Talent Foundry**, which is specially designed for our children's needs. The first workshop will deliver **Staying Positive and Building Resilience**. This workshop is designed to help students develop the skills needed to overcome setbacks by exploring how they could respond in different situations, using scenarios and introducing the 4A's approach – Avoid, Alter, Adapt and Accept. The second workshop, **Growth Mind-set Toolkit** is designed to help young people develop the skills and mind-set to support them as they move from education into the world of work and beyond. Thirdly, **Listening and Presenting** will follow on and explore different types of communication and how to effectively adapt their personal communication style. Lastly, they will complete **Leadership skills** which encourages students to explore the concept of leadership, its different styles and the importance of teamwork when being a leader. It also teaches students to be inclusive of others when demonstrating leadership skills.

In the Spring term, we have invited the **Jon Egging Trust's** inspiring Blue Skies to join us again and engage with our learners. Their package aims at helping young people achieve their full potential. Students will be inspired, challenged and equipped to overcome obstacles to enable them to succeed and become the very best that they can be. This outreach programme will be offered in the form of five motivating workshops to our aspiring students, offered over five weeks.

We are also very proud of the fact that we have been a leading middle school in the Dorset area with regard to our Gatsby Benchmark compass for the past year and have achieved 100% for the first 5 of the Gatsby Benchmarks. We will complete our termly benchmark in the second half of the Autumn term, and are looking forward to positive results. Our Dorset Council Enterprise coordinator has praised us accordingly:

*"I have been working with West Moors Middle School over the last year to help them develop a robust careers programme for their young people and seeing the progress has been a delight. Dr Craddock and her team are committed to inspiring their students and have been very proactive in introducing new activities to help their students understand the world of work and to start thinking about their next steps. My regional lead from the Careers and Enterprise Company recently joined a virtual meeting with the school's Careers Leader and was very impressed with their drive and positivity."*

Robert Firth, Enterprise Coordinator, Careers and Enterprise Company

If you have a career that you enjoy and feel comfortable in sharing with our learners, please contact us via email or telephone and let us know. We would greatly appreciate you sharing your skills and expertise with our children through an organised talk or even a virtual meeting.

Please remember that we are always available should you find the need to ask for advice on careers. We will always do our best to support our school community in the guidance that children need.

For any further information regarding careers guidance and prospects, please feel free to contact [ccope@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:ccope@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk)

Yours in Careers and Enterprises,

Mrs. Catherine Cope  
Careers and Enterprises Lead