



Wychwood School
OXFORD

June 2022

Dear Parents

We are very much looking forward to welcoming your daughter to Wychwood in September. We run a General Knowledge quiz for all girls in the Remove to UTs at the beginning of the academic year and so I enclose a copy of the quiz and some child-friendly information about research skills. I would be most grateful if you could give her every support in dealing with it and I hope you will find that the quiz is a productive way of occupying some of those rainy summer days that we so often have in the UK. Your daughter will need time to research the answers, she may need some help with any questions that prove problematic and she will certainly need help in learning the results of her research. This should be little and often please! All girls in the Remove to UTs will sit the General Knowledge quiz on the first day of the Michaelmas term. However, the quiz is **not** intended as an academic assessment or indicator **in any way**, so please do not allow your children to worry over it.

The aims of the quiz are threefold: firstly, we are aiming to give the girls the broadest possible education – as Albert Einstein said, ‘Education is what remains after one has forgotten everything one learned in school’. Secondly, it is important that the girls find strategies to learn rather than memorise bodies of information in preparation for when they have to face public examinations. Finally, we want to train the girls to carry out discriminating research and enable them to make accurate judgements on the quality of the information available to them, especially when using the World Wide Web.

I also hope that some of the questions may prove both interesting and amusing and serve as a stimulus to further thought and discussion around the family dinner table. Have a wonderful holiday.

Yours sincerely

Andrea Johnson



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RESEARCH GUIDE

HOW DO YOU FIND OUT WHAT YOU WANT TO KNOW?

1. Use a PERSON, especially one who knows a lot about the subject you need to find out about – ASK!
2. Use a BOOK – reference books have an INDEX – look up key words in the index and, if it isn't there, try another key word.
3. ENCYCLOPEDIAS are reference books in ALPHABETICAL ORDER (almost like a giant index).
4. There are many SPECIALIST DICTIONARIES like CHAMBERS BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY (people) and the OXFORD DICTIONARIES OF QUOTATIONS (what people have said – quotes) etc.
5. There are very useful books written about people called 'Who's Who' and 'Who was Who' and 'Debrett's'.
6. Use the BIBLIOGRAPHY of the book you have read to find out where to look next.
7. Use the ACADEMIC REFERENCES at the end of any article you have read to find out where to look next.
8. Read the NEWSPAPERS – that includes newspaper websites where you can search for key words
9. Listen to the RADIO NEWS – that includes the stations' websites where you can search for key words.



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10. Watch the TELEVISION NEWS - that includes the television stations' websites where you can search for key words.
11. Many sports and professions have SPECIALIST MAGAZINES – Google their web sites.
12. Many sports, professions and areas of interest have SPECIALIST BOOKS - use Hansard for parliament, Mrs Beeton for cookery, Crockford's for the Church of England, the Bible for many, many quotes, Wisden for cricket etc.
13. Use Google or other internet search engine – put in key words with + signs between them OR enter whole phrases.
14. Use TRIVIA BOOKS like Schott's miscellany
15. THE GUINNESS BOOK OF WORLD RECORDS gives you record information and you can search their web site.
16. For information about countries ring up the EMBASSY or CONSULATE.
17. THINK!