



DROYLSDEN
Academy

Newsletter

Inspiring minds

December 2011/ Issue No. 29

Principal: Mr D Davies

Dear Parent/Carer

The traditional busy period of the year is upon us and for the Academy this is more so, due to our move into the new building. Like any big change, it is a mixture of excitement and anticipation, as well as a bit of anxiety in ensuring that everything is completed and prepared in time. The schedule for the move is as follows:

Students finish - 16th December (normal time)

Staff preparation—19th—22nd December

Staff return 9th January

Students return—12th & 13th January

This Friday, students will meet their new learning tutor who will issue their timetable. As far as possible the timetable is relatively unchanged. Over the holidays, students will also receive an induction booklet which should be read carefully as part of the preparation for returning in the new year. As well as the days of return, the booklet will also provide details for those students who need to come in early for additional revision sessions and examinations during the week commencing 9th January. Please remember that there will be no shuttle bus service after the 16th December.

Recent events at the Academy have included a successful Presentation Evening at Gorton Monastery in November.

This was a fabulous evening and a wonderful celebration of the many achievements of the class of 2011. We have also held our Open Evening for D6—the Academy's sixth form.

For our Year 11 students, the decision about what they do post 16 is a vital one. There are basically 4 options:

Employment (though this is not as straightforward in the current climate), Apprenticeships, Vocational Education, Academic Education (A levels). It is important that all Year 11 students get the right information, advice and guidance so that they make the right choice. On Friday we also held a Business Studies event for Year 11 students in the hall. This was extremely successful and students were able to gain an insight from employers. Finally, students are organizing a Talent Contest which, along with our Year 7 Christmas Carol Service, will be a wonderful way to end the term.

ALL year 7 will have a FREE "Booked Up" book to read and enjoy over the Christmas holidays. Students can collect their chosen book from Ms B Tennent in the LRC before the end of term. Thank you to all the students who bought items from our Scholastic Book Fair. Students have approx £80.00 commission to spend on NEW titled books made from the sale of books/ items sold at the fair. Look out for another book fair in the new year.

May I congratulate **Jessica Davies** on winning the Pride of Tameside young person's community engagement award. Also congratulations to **Rebecca Tunney** for being runner up for the special award for national recognition and achievement. Well done to you both and all the other students from the Academy that were nominated.

Other celebrations will take place this week as we reward those students who have worked hard and have demonstrated the appropriate manners and respect. A variety of trips—Year 7 off to the pantomime, Paint-balling, etc will take place to say well done to those students who have worked hard throughout the term.

In February (1st and 2nd —4 -7pm), students will have the opportunity to show their parents/carers their new Academy building. This will be an informal occasion where you will get the opportunity to have a tour of the building with your son/daughter. We will also hold an official opening on the 28th February which will be a formal celebration of the new Academy. Again, all these details will be in the induction booklet that will be posted out to you, along with our free calendar for the year ahead.

Finally, well done to all those students who have collected for Tameside Women's refuge, making Christmas parcels that will be distributed at the end of term.

May I take this opportunity of wishing all Parents/Carers, Students and Staff my very best wishes for the season and the new year ahead. I hope the Christmas period will be a time for you to be with family or the people you love and to share some quality time. As ever, my thanks for all your support throughout the year.

Best wishes

D J Davies
Principal
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Calendar

Christmas Holiday— Academy closes

Friday 16th December

Academy opens Thursday/Friday 12th/13th

January— see induction booklet for specific times.

Half term— Academy closes

Friday 16th February; reopens Monday 27th February

