



DROYLSDEN
Academy



Newsletter

Inspiring minds

January 2012/ Issue No. 30

Principal: Mr D Davies

Dear Parent/Carer

Although we are well into January, may I take this opportunity of wishing parents/carers a Happy New Year. As you will be aware the Christmas period has been an extremely busy time for the Academy with the move into our new building. For the first time, we are now one Academy community on a single site. To have all the students and staff together has been delightful and we now have a real sense of being one community and working together. The building is wonderful; students and staff should feel very fortunate that they are able to work and learn in such an environment. An outstanding building, however doesn't automatically mean an outstanding Academy; it is the people inside that make this happen. The four key areas for us all are:

- **Pride in our Place of Work**
- **High Standards**
- **Mutual Respect**
- **High Quality Learning**

All students who have returned to the new Academy have made an impressive start—both in terms of their uniform and the standards that they have set. Well done. May I also thank you for your support during the extended closure over the Christmas period; it is greatly appreciated. Please remember that, due to the late opening, our half term will be a week later than usual, commencing on Monday 20th February. Another date for you to note is the 1st and 2nd February—we will host our **'Show the family your new Academy'**, between 4pm and 7pm. This will be an informal occasion where you will have the opportunity to tour our new building with your child.

Our priorities for the New Year are firstly to settle in to the new routines in our new building. The design of the building will mean that staff and students will work differently from how they may have done so previously. Learning in the new building is transparent and will require more collaboration. We will continue to improve Teaching and Learning, with a greater emphasis on **Creativity, Differentiation, Speaking & Listening** and **Assessment for Learning**. Of course, this is also a vital time for Year 11; some have achieved a great deal following early entries, others need to review where they lost marks and make a concentrated effort to improve specifically in these areas. Revision classes are now well under way and all students should take full advantage of these opportunities. Year 10 have also been involved in GCSE Science exams in January; staff have commented on their excellent attitude. Well done.

On Monday the 30th January Mr Stocco is starting a new after school activity, called **Club Italia**. This is a good opportunity to discover the culture, landscape, culinary habits, and more, of Italy. Open to students of all ability and age in room Idea 31 from 2.45pm till 3.45pm. As part of the new build, we have a specific drop off and collect zone for parents/carers, accessed via the Lewis Road entrance to the site. You should use this facility and not the disabled car park at the front of the Academy. Likewise, a dedicated bus service is available for students. The Y55 bus drops students off inside the Academy grounds in the dedicated bus circle, from which they can also catch the bus at the end of the day. To use the bus service students must obtain a pass and also have an "igo pass". Full details for both passes can be found on the Transport for Greater Manchester website www.tfgm.com and the Academy website.

Library/LRC news:

- Scholastic C2C magazine "THE GREAT BIG JANUARY SALE! UP TO 70% OFF SELECTED BOOKS!"
- Spring Readathon starts Monday 13th February until 2nd March
- WORLD BOOK DAY! Thursday 1st March 2012

So, as you can see, we start the year with much to do. Don't forget that you can receive my Newsletter electronically by sending your email contact to bfish@droylsdenacademy.com. We now have nearly 400 parents/carers who receive the Newsletter electronically. Whatever your resolutions are (or if they've been broken already!), may the New Year be a positive beginning to whatever you want to achieve.

Best wishes

D J Davies
Principal
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Calendar

Year 9 Parent/Carers/Pathways Evening Thursday 9th February

Half term holiday—the Academy closes on Friday 17th February and reopens on Monday 27th February—normal time

