

LETTER FROM MR WILSON: HIGH STANDARDS

Welcome to Newsflash, the first edition of our weekly Newsletter; we hope that you will find it interesting, useful and informative. Future copies will be emailed out to all parents and carers, every Friday, and posted on the Academy website. Please make sure that we have an up-to-date email address if you wish to receive a copy electronically. **To keep up with education at Droylsden Academy, we would really appreciate it if you could find the time to read the Newsflash each week. The last section will always list key dates for your diary.**

In addition to the weekly Newsflash, we will be producing a termly Newsletter that will include further details of the events and activities that have taken place over the term.

I hope that you have had an opportunity to read the letter from Mr Duncan about the Academy's new Senior Leadership Team, which was posted to all parents and carers recently. I am delighted at my appointment as Interim Principal and will do all I can to ensure that we have a happy and successful school where children enjoy their learning, aspire and achieve. The appointment of Mr Duncan, the ex-Headteacher at Mossley Hollins, as our new Executive Headteacher, is wonderful news for the Academy. Mr Duncan is an outstanding Headteacher, with a proven track record, and his ideas, drive and experience will be invaluable for all of us.

Mr Duncan's letter also reaffirmed our expectations of our students. If your child is to enjoy school and achieve, then it is crucial that we work together and that we have your absolute support, even on those issues where we may disagree, or which some parents may think are not that important. If you are the parent of a Year 11 student, please ensure that you read "**GCSE countdown**", a regular feature, which will give you further information on the support available for your child as they revise for their major examinations.

I hope that your child has enjoyed this term and, as we break up for the Easter holiday, I hope that you and your family have a happy and relaxing break. Year 11 students should use Easter wisely to revise thoroughly for the forthcoming GCSE examinations.

Best wishes

Mr P. Wilson
Interim Principal

GCSE COUNTDOWN

Seven weeks to go to the first exam! **Remember, there is no secret or shortcut to success for most of us; the harder you work, the better you do.**

Study sessions are available for Year 11 students over the Easter holiday as detailed here. Please encourage your child to attend and take advantage of this really important opportunity.

Date	Morning session	Afternoon session
Tuesday 7 th April	Geography (9.30 – 12.00) Photography (9.00 – 12.00)	Geography (12.30 – 2.00)
Wednesday 8 th April	English (9.00 – 12.30)	Biology (1.00 – 3.30) Core sets 2 and 3
Thursday 9 th April	Maths (10.00 – 12.00)	Maths (12.30 – 2.30)
Friday 10 th April	Performing Arts (9.00 – 12.30) BTEC Sport (9.00 – 12.30) FSMQ Maths (9.00 – 12.30)	Performing Arts (1.00 – 3.00) BTEC Sport (1.00 – 3.00)
Monday 13 th April	Spanish (9.00 – 12.30) French (9.30 – 12.30)	
Tuesday 14 th April	BTEC Sport (10.00 – 12.00)	BTEC Sport (12.30 – 3.00)
Wednesday 15 th April	Science (9.30 – 12.30) Core sets 2 and 3	Science (1.00 – 3.30) Core sets 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
Thursday 16 th April	History (9.00 – 12.30)	Drama (1.00 – 4.00)
Friday 17 th April	BTEC CDMP (9.00 – 12.00)	BTEC CDMP (12.30 – 3.30)

New information about “Period 6” will be launched after the Easter holiday when all Year 11 students will be given a timetable of extra lessons which will run at the end of each day.

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Congratulations to our Year 10 Young Enterprise team “ZZDesignz” who won the award for the best trade stand at this year’s regional Finals which took place last week.

Well done to the Year 9 students who raised £164.80 for “Help the Heroes” at their cake and merchandise stall.

Thanks to Ms Sanderson, Miss Macey, Mr Eade and Mr Rick for running the BTEC Sports day last Sunday and to all the students who attended this extra study session over a weekend.

A group of Year 10 students visited Salford University and attended a presentation and workshop on “A Level Mathematics and the real world”.

Well done to Aaron Bamgbose, Alicia Fenton, Naomi Lord, Jacob Allen and Alex Booth who recently dressed up in character for World Book Day and won the awards for their respective year groups.

Thanks to Mr Jackson, Miss Armstrong Lee, Ms Hickman and Miss Hutchinson for organising the Geography weekend away on the East Coast of Yorkshire. A great time was enjoyed by all.

Thank you to our Student Language Ambassadors who are using the weekly German Club to prepare activities for other students to use.

Our Performing Arts students took part in World Theatre Day at Manchester College, watching a performance of The Crucible and joining in with Music and Dance workshops.

Budding Year 6 Scientists from Manchester Road Primary visited the Academy last week for an afternoon of scientific experimentation!

The keenly contested Chess tournament between students and staff continues; winners to be announced in due course!

Year 7 students visited the Triathlon expo at Event City (further details can be found on the on-line Sports Blog on the Academy website).

Well done to Year 11 Art and Photography students who completed their 10 hour exam this week. The students now have until 8th May to complete their portfolio of work. Work hard! Good luck from the Art Department.

Year 7 students visited Skipton Castle as part of their Humanities course.



NEW LUNCHTIME ARRANGEMENTS AND OUR QUIET LEARNING ZONE

From the start of the summer term, there will be an expectation that students will relax and get some fresh air outside at lunchtime in the Academy grounds, rather than stay inside the building. Students will, of course, still eat their meal by sitting in the dining area, but will then be asked to go outside unless they are going to one of the activity areas. Activities available inside will include games in the Sports Hall, chess and other board games, a quiet reading area, our new Learning Zone, the Learning Support Centre, Film Club and Homework Club. It may be advisable for students to bring a coat if they do not want to join in any of the activities. For extreme wet weather an alternative will be provided, by permission.

YOUR VIEWS ARE IMPORTANT TO US

Thank you to those parents who completed the surveys at our recent Parent Teacher Evenings for Years 9 and 10. Whilst we are mindful that we still have many things to work on, we were delighted that 96% of parents agreed that their child enjoyed school and was happy at the Academy, 97% agreed that their child was safe and well looked after and 94% agreed that their child was making good progress.

REMINDERS AND MESSAGES: HOMEWORK PLANNERS ARE COMPULSORY FOR ALL STUDENTS

Students need their planner every day to be a great learner. Following the recent Planner “amnesty”, all students now have a Planner. All students are aware that they must have their Planner with them and that they will be checked as they arrive in the morning. Students are also aware that there will be a sanction if they do not have their Planner with them. Please check your child’s Planner regularly and ensure your child uses it. Entry to school will require the planner.

Science resources are available for students in Years 10 and 11 on science.droylsdenacademy.com. Please encourage your child to use these on-line resources. They will be particularly useful for Year 10 students who are taking the C1 Chemistry mock exam on Monday 18th May.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Academy will re-open for the start of the Summer Term on Tuesday 21st April at the usual time.

Year 8 Parent Teacher Evening will be on Thursday 7th May. Further details will be posted out to Parents and Carers in the first week back after Easter.

Year 10 GCSE Controlled Assessment in Catering will take place from 21st to 23rd April.

GCSE Geography residential at Beverley, North Yorkshire, from 24th to 26th April.

Year 11 Maths intervention residential from 30th April to 1st May.

Year 11 Grade A/A* residential weekend from 1st to 2nd May.

Year 8 Humanities trip to Chester on 5th May.

ARTS' AND SPORTS' ROUND UP

Football

Year 7: Droylsden 6 v 4 All Saints

On the score sheet: Dylan Fraine, Tyrese Gilbert and Finlay Phillips

Droylsden 4 v 0 Mossley Hollins

On the score sheet: Dylan Fraine, Ethan Jones,

Year 8: Droylsden 4 v 2 All Saints

On the score sheet: Gary Ambatobe, Dylan Eaton and Ismail Yisa

Year 9: Droylsden 7 v 1 Mossley Hollins

On the score sheet: Joe Pavitt, James Worsley, Charlie King, Prince Moore and Billy Deniz

Year 10: Droylsden 1 v 4 All Saints

On the score sheet: Ryan Drummond

Year 11: Droylsden 4 v 1 All Saints

On the score sheet: Lewis Parfitt, Reece Horan, Irvine Tapeira and Nathan Stewart

For match reports and other news from the P.E. Department please visit the weekly on-line Sports Blog on the Academy website.