

LETTER FROM MR WILSON

Welcome to Edition 17 of Newsflash for this academic year.

Standards of uniform at the Academy are very good and I would like to thank parents and carers for their help in establishing this. Every morning all students enter through the front entrance at Reception and have their uniform checked. Any student not in full uniform is taken to one side by his or her Year Manager and the issue is resolved; usually a phone call home is made and parents bring in the right uniform or we can lend out items of clothing such as a blazer, a tie or shoes. We very rarely have to do this as students know that they will be checked and challenged when they arrive at school and then throughout the day.

Occasionally we have disagreements over uniform with some parents who will tell us that they see other students on the way to the Academy or on the way home who are not dressed correctly and that they feel their child is being treated differently. They may well have seen students dressed incorrectly out of school but when they enter the building in the morning and leave at the end of the day, they will be in full uniform. Whilst we hope that all students will wear their uniform in the community with pride, we do recognise that a minority will sometimes take off their tie, or put their blazer in their bag, or put their new trainers on, when they are out of the building and out of sight.

The same is true of jewellery and make-up, both of which are not permitted. Occasionally, students will try and bend the rules and put on makeup or jewellery after they have arrived at school and after they have been checked. Staff are asked to be vigilant and to monitor this throughout the day; any student found wearing make-up or jewellery will be challenged, the make-up will be removed and the jewellery confiscated until the end of the day. Whilst we ask all staff to apply these rules with 100% consistency, with 860 students in the building, some of them may occasionally “slip below the radar”. If this is the case, please do not think that these children are being treated differently and that your child is being picked on if he or she is asked to conform to our rules.

I have included a copy of our uniform and our expectations in this edition of Newsflash. We absolutely expect students to meet these requirements and, if challenged, to accept what is asked, without question. Clearly, we hope that we have the absolute support of parents and carers too.

Thank you for reading this edition of Newsflash and, as usual, I hope you have a good week end.

Best wishes

Mr P. Wilson
Headteacher

Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

GCSE COUNTDOWN

Year 11, there are only 14 school weeks left, just 70 days in school, until your first GCSE exam.

Well done to all the Year 11 Historians who attended the revision sessions on “The America West” and “Medicine Through Time” at the Etihad Stadium before the Christmas Break. The sessions were designed to develop knowledge and revision skills for the GCSE exams in June this year and all the students left with a pack of resources which will be a great help in the summer. Please don't wait until June to use them though! Keep revising Historians, only five months to go!

A number of Year 11 students have been taking part in Maths conferences this week. We hope that they found them useful and that the sessions will support their progress in this important core subject.

Students all now have timetables which include the evenings and subjects that they are required to attend for lesson 6. If a lesson 6 is on your child's timetable, then the lesson is compulsory and he or she must attend. Please look at your child's timetable over the weekend to check which days they will be staying late after school next week.

Year 11 GCSE Music coursework recordings will take place on Thursday 28th January.

There is an important workshop for Year 11 Geography students on Friday 29th January from 2.45pm to 5.15pm. The session will be led by the Chief Examiner for Geography and will be invaluable. Please encourage your child to attend.

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Joanna Millan, a Holocaust Survivor, visited the Academy this week to talk to Year 9 students about the 2nd World War and her experiences in Auschwitz, the Nazi Concentration Camp in Poland. The students have been studying the atrocities of the Holocaust in their Humanities lessons and were overwhelmed by her story; the moving and harrowing account of what her family and countless other Jews experienced also reminded us all of the terrible consequences of a doctrine based on superiority, prejudice and hatred. We will always remember Joanna's visit and cannot thank her enough for her time.



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Droylsden “gets on its bike” as part of an initiative involving Greater Manchester Transport and “Sustrans”. Further details can be found in this week’s edition of Newsflash.

The Academy holds a Parent Partnership Evening for Year 11 students to look at revision skills and how best to prepare for the important core subjects of English, Maths and Science.

PE students attend the Manchester Climbing Centre for their GCSE P.E. practical assessments.



DROYLSDEN ACADEMY GETS ON ITS BIKE!

The Academy has been chosen by Greater Manchester Transport and “Sustrans” to be an **Active School**. Sustrans, as the name suggests, are an organisation which promotes sustainable transport including cycling. As an active school we have been given 16 new bikes, new bike sheds and a cycle maintenance centre where students can learn to repair and maintain their own bikes. We hope that the new facilities, along with prizes and other incentives, will encourage more students to cycle to school each day. The programme was launched with all students during this week’s Assemblies and a new maintenance workshop, with repair stands and tool kits, will be open every Thursday evening after school. There will also be cycling and safety awareness courses and students on the Duke of Edinburgh scheme will be able to log their involvement against the award.



QUIET LEARNING ZONES

There are a number of places where students can read, revise and study over lunch time. The Quiet Learning Zone in the Atrium is available for students from all year groups, the space in TEST is available for KS4 students and the space in MAKE is available for KS3 students. In addition, KS4 students can use the ICT facilities in T11.

Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

HEADTEACHER'S CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to the following students who were invited to attend this week's celebration of achievement:

Connor Dopson Anthony Scrivener Harrison O'Brien Lauren Pollard
Rachel Myerscough Shannon Lilley Ryan Taylor

Congratulations also to Ollie Moxon, Lewis Yarwood and Owen Shemmeld who received a Community Award for their actions in helping an old lady who had fallen outside the Academy.

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

All students

Teal coloured blazer with embroidered Academy logo

Academy tie

Plain black shoes with no motifs, stripes or logos and no heel (no trainers). Canvas shoes are not permitted.

Students can wear the charcoal grey Academy pullover with the teal coloured trim if they wish, but this is optional. Head scarves or turbans, if worn, should be black or charcoal grey with school trim

Girls

Charcoal grey pleated skirt **or** charcoal grey bootleg style school trousers

White long or short sleeved blouse

Grey or black socks or black tights

Boys

White long or short sleeved shirt

Charcoal grey school trousers

Grey or black socks

Appearance

No make-up is permitted in the Academy. Students who come to school with make-up on will be asked to remove it.

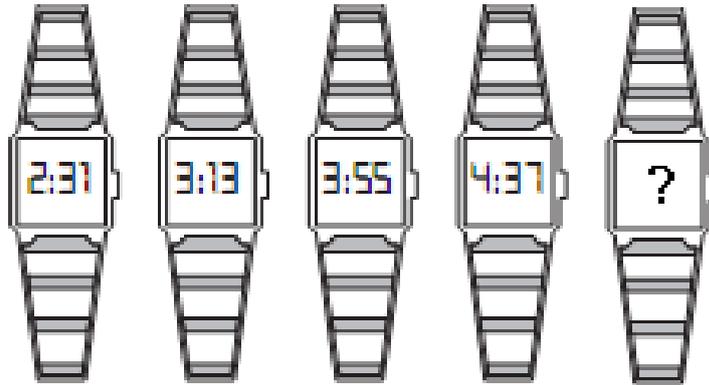
No jewellery or any visible body piercing is permitted. Students are not allowed to cover up piercings with plasters.

Extreme hair styles are not allowed in the Academy; this includes shaved heads or patterns shaved into the scalp. Hair should be a natural colour.

Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

MATHS PUZZLE

What time should the last watch show?



REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

Please check your child's Planner and the "Show my Homework" website regularly.

Please phone the Academy on each day of absence should your child be too ill to attend.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 9 examination week will take place during the week beginning Monday 8th February. **All school exams are important and the results of the Year 9 exams will help to inform possible option choices and Year 10 GCSE groups and sets.** Please encourage your child to start preparing and revising now.

ARTS' AND SPORTS' ROUND UP

The Expressive Arts Department are currently arranging the following theatre trips and events:

Friday 22nd January	A-Bomb on Broadway (The Home Theatre)
Thursday 4th February	Cats (The Opera House)
Wednesday 24th February	Goodnight Mr Tom (The Opera House)
Wednesday 16th March	Merry Wives (The Lowry)
Thursday 31st March	Chicago (The Palace)

There will also be a residential for Year 10 and 11 Performing Arts and Drama students in Anglesey over the weekend of Friday 26th February to Sunday 28th February.

Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

COMMUNITY COMPETITION

Infinity Initiatives is a local not for profit organisation that works with and supports individuals and families. The organisation aims to help people make simple and achievable plans to help them succeed and meet their potential. As part of their work, Infinity Initiatives tackle a range of difficult issues including:

- Homelessness
- Financial difficulties
- Substance misuse
- Reducing re-offending and anti-social behaviour
- Health and wellbeing

The organisation need a logo and is offering a cash prize of £100 to the person who creates the winning design. The competition is open to all ages, so mums and dads, brothers and sisters can join in too.

Your logo must include the infinity symbol, must be simple and must be an original design which has not been copied from anywhere else.

Completed designs need to be handed in to Ms Williams no later than Friday 26th February, 2016.

Good luck!