

INTRODUCTION FROM MR WILSON

Welcome to this week's edition of Newsflash.

Unfortunately, the inappropriate use of social media is having a huge impact on all schools including ours. Too often, Facebook and other similar sites are used to spread rumours and gossip which then spill over into schools causing disagreements and arguments. Increasingly, our staff are spending time picking up the pieces and resolving issues which have absolutely nothing to do with school and which distract them from their core purpose of ensuring that children learn and achieve.

Students must also realise that comments made, often in the heat of the moment or without thinking through the possible consequences, are out there for everyone to see and judge them on at the press of a button. These comments cannot be taken back or rubbed out and many, many students wish they could turn back the clock when they are confronted with what they have written. Many employers now check social media sites as part of their vetting and selection processes and comments made on social media, sometimes years ago, increasingly impact on opportunities open to people.

Please monitor your child's use of social media and ensure that they use it responsibly. Please check your child's phone whenever possible; you probably pay the bill and so have the right to! Wherever possible, please check the messages they send out and, just as importantly, the messages they receive. Some parents have been absolutely horrified at what they have found on their child's phone and relieved that they have stepped in and intervened.

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

Best wishes

Mr P. Wilson
Headteacher

GCSE COUNTDOWN

GCSE examinations start in earnest next week as detailed in the timetable over the page.

All the staff of the Academy would like to wish our Year 11 students the very best of luck in their examinations over the next few weeks. The staff hope that your hard work and commitment pay off and that you will be pleased with your results in August.

Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Attendance at school over these last few weeks is absolutely essential so that each student is fully prepared for every examination. Any absence may mean that a student misses that vital piece of information or advice that could lead to a higher grade. Any student should only be off from school if the absence is **absolutely** unavoidable.

Examination timetable for week beginning Monday 15th May.

Please note that there are no examinations scheduled for Monday 15th May or Wednesday 17th May.

| Date | Session | Examination |
|----------------------------|-----------|--|
| Tues 16 th May | Morning | French Listening Paper (Foundation and Higher Tiers) French Reading Paper (Foundation and Higher Tiers) |
| | Afternoon | Core Science: Biology (Foundation and Higher Tiers) |
| Thurs 18 th May | Morning | Core Science: Chemistry (Foundation and Higher Tiers) |
| | Afternoon | Urdu Listening Paper (Foundation and Higher Tiers) Urdu Reading Paper (Foundation and Higher Tiers) |
| Fri 19 th May | Morning | Spanish Listening Paper (Foundation and Higher Tiers) Spanish Reading Paper (Foundation and Higher Tiers) |
| | Afternoon | PE: Theory of Physical Education Portuguese Written Paper |

Top Revision Tips!

1. Start revision early.
2. Do small chunks of revision.... and do this often.
3. Make a plan and then stick to it.
4. Get plenty of sleep and rest inbetween revising.
5. Exercise when you get the opportunity, preferably outside so that you get some fresh air too.
6. Eat healthily! A banana will sustain you for longer than a biscuit!

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

The theme for Assemblies this week is Equality.

Year 10 PE students continue practising for their assessment at the Manchester Climbing Centre.

The Maths Department host the Year 9 'Maths Battle'. Further information will be available in next week's edition of Newsflash.

Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Year 7 students take part in a Computer Science Masterclass with a focus on programming. Students were introduced to Python, a programming language used to create YouTube, Google, Spotify, Instagram and much more. Although the masterclass was tough, the students were fully engaged and really enjoyed creating the programs.



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HEADTEACHER'S CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENT

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

| | | | |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Adeena Rehman | Joshua Clarke | Connor Gerrard | Ellie Rushby |
| James Gatenby | Daisy Smithson | Alex Moth | Devon Mulvey |



Adeena and Joshua are Year 7 students. Adeena is a polite and hard working student who plays an active role as a member of the Academy Council. Joshua also models the Academy values at all times and continues to work hard. Both Adeena and Joshua are valued members of their respective forms and the Academy.

Connor and Ellie are both in Year 8. Connor has made huge strides forward this year and is starting to make great progress. Last week he earned more PRIDE Points than any other student in the year group. Ellie is a model student whose attitude, conduct and attendance are impeccable. It is wonderful to see the great progress that Ellie is making.

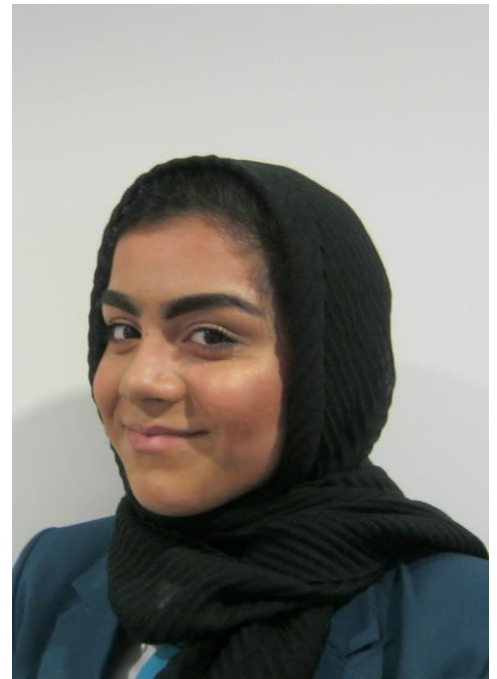
James and Daisy are both Year 9 students. James is a 'Zero Hero' with no absences, no late marks and no Behaviour Points. He works fantastically hard in all lessons and is a pleasure to teach. Daisy is a popular member of the year group and is very talented at Performing Arts. She took one of the lead roles in this year's production of 'Billy Elliot' and is looking forward to auditioning for 'Beauty and the Beast'. Away from the stage, Daisy has achieved 105 PRIDE Points and has received no Behaviour Points.

Alex and Devon are both in Year 10. Alex is a really positive member of the year group. He has 100% attendance, always works hard and has achieved almost 100 PRIDE Points. Devon is always pleasant, polite and helpful, a wonderful member of Year 10. She always works hard, has 99% attendance, no late marks and no Behaviour points and is always in perfect uniform.

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STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to Taylor Stelfox from Year 7, Nathan Boam from Year 10 and Manhoor Butt from Year 11 who have all been nominated for this week's awards!



Taylor has been nominated by the English Department. Taylor has fantastic debating skills and his recent involvement in 'Debate Mate' provided him with a great opportunity and experience. Taylor has a really good understanding of the debate format and he made some really perceptive and challenging points in support of the motion 'This house believes the UK is a fair and just country'.

Nathan has been nominated by the Maths Department. Nathan only joined the Academy last term but has really settled in quickly and is already a great role model for his peers. He is keen to attempt every task given to him in lessons and relishes the opportunity to work on more challenging tasks. Mr Swingler, Nathan's Maths teacher, is sure that this will continue through to Year 11 and that Nathan will achieve the grade he deserves.

Manhoor has been nominated by the Science Department. Ms Sandiford, Manhoor's Science teacher, has been really impressed with Manhoor's attitude and effort in lessons recently. Her target grade is a grade C and she is pushing hard to achieve a grade B. However, recently, she has worked so hard that she has been achieving work of an A grade standard on the past papers that she has completed. She has used everything she learnt at the Borwick Hall revision weekend to fantastic effect and the progress she has made over the last few weeks has been phenomenal.

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VACANCY FOR A PARENT GOVERNOR

Parent Governor

There is a vacancy for a Parent Governor on the Academy's Governing Body.

Parent Governors play an important role as members of the Governing Body, which is responsible for directing the conduct of the school and for promoting high standards of educational achievement. The term of office for Parent Governors is four years. Details of the role of the Governing Body and Governor can be found on the Academy website. Induction and ongoing training and development are available to all Governors.

If you would like to stand for election, please read the information on the Academy website and arrange for the nomination form to be completed online no later than **Monday 15 May 2017**.

Mr Nils Elgar
Clerk to the Governing Body



FIDGET SPINNERS

Unfortunately, the current craze with 'Fidget Spinners' is causing distractions in lessons to both the students using them and to those around them. As such, the decision has been made that Fidget Spinners will no longer be allowed in the Academy and any student seen with one will have it confiscated. Any confiscated Fidget Spinners will need to be collected by parents or carers. Please reinforce this message with your child at home. Thank you for your support.

REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

Year 7 Parent Teacher Evening is on Thursday 18th May. All parents and carers should have received a letter with further information about the evening. Please contact Student Services if you have not received this letter or if you would like help in booking your appointments.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 7 exams will take place in the week beginning Monday 22nd May.

The Academy will close for the half term holiday on Thursday 25th May. **Please remember that all Year 11 students must attend the Academy on Friday 26th May to sit their GCSE English Literature examination.**

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