

Droylsden Academy is a good school

OPEN EVENING

At this time each year we are usually busily planning our annual open evening. This is our opportunity to show off our school and the work of our pupils to prospective new students currently in year 6. This year, of course, we are unable to invite students and families into the building because of COVID restrictions and so instead we have produced a film, featuring students and staff, providing a virtual tour of our school and lots of valuable information about our ethos and values. The film will 'go live' on Thursday 24th September when it can be viewed by families interested in Droylsden Academy as a choice for their child's secondary education.

Thank you to our wonderful student volunteers who were involved in the filming and for acting as ambassadors for our school. I am delighted that these wonderful young people will help create the first impression of our school for those watching.

If you have friends, family, or know people who may be considering their child's secondary school choices please tell them about our virtual tour. More information can also be found on our website.

Thank you

Mr P. Wilson
Headteacher



DROYLSDEN
Academy

Open Evening 2020



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Art

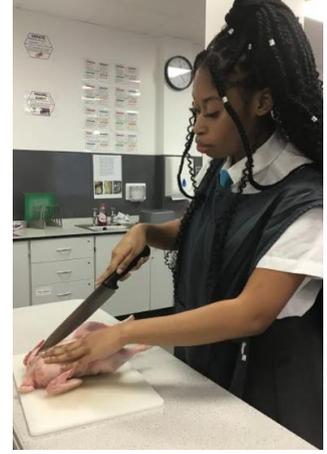
Year 11 GCSE Art students took part in a workshop this week on 'mark making'. The group then explored how they could use the technique to portray different human emotions on an image that they had been given. Some of their striking images have been put together to make the collage below.



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Food and Nutrition

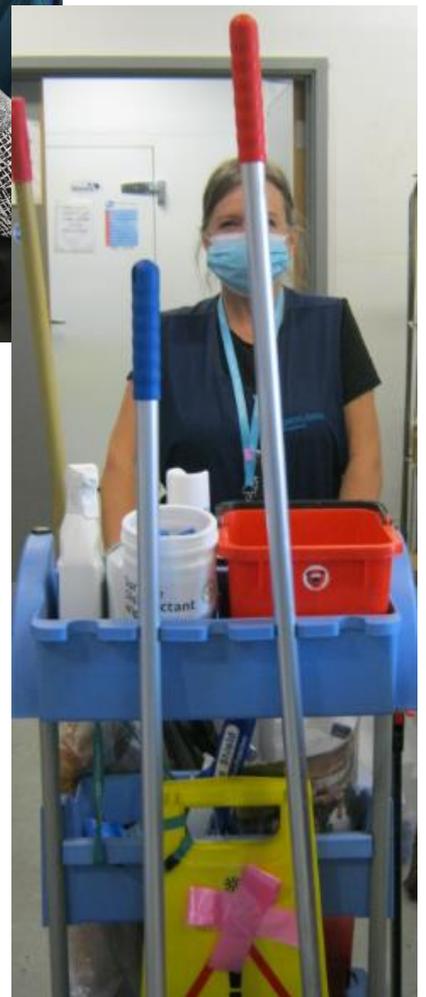
Year 11 GCSE students re-visit their skills on butchering and portioning chicken before going on to make some wonderful dishes for their assessment portfolio!



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As can be seen below, there are certain advantages to your children studying GCSE Food and Nutrition! The photos below show **Layton Thorne** and **Ellis Gregory**, both from Year 10, making the evening meal at home!

....And in the final photograph below, welcome to Mrs Farkas, the newest recruit to the Food and Nutrition Team!



Thank you for your appreciation!

The Cleaning staff were delighted to find the following note that had been left for them in one of the classrooms earlier this week:

'Dear Cleaning staff

We appreciate all your hard work during these tough times, and even before our current situation, so we would like to say thank you because Droylsden wouldn't run this well if you weren't here.'

A sentiment that is echoed by the rest of us too!

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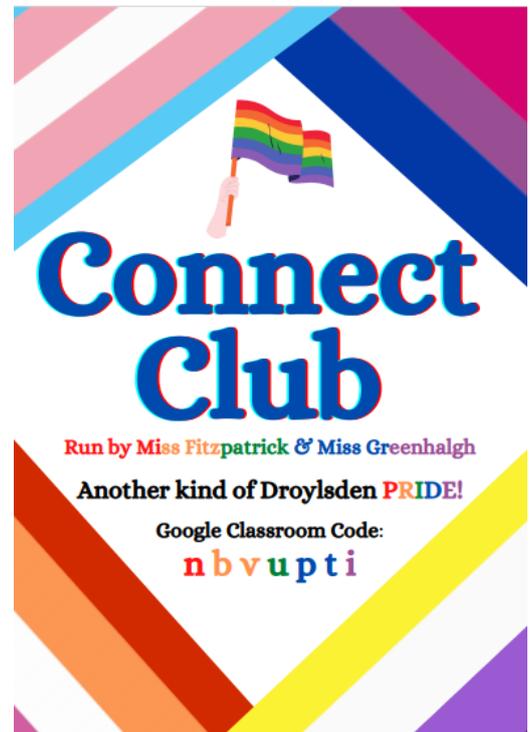
Further Maths

Remember, the online Further Maths Club is now up and running again for those students in 11XE Maths and others who joined the group whilst during lockdown. Mrs Lloyd is setting the lessons on a Wednesday and uploading them to the Google Classroom for completion by the following Wednesday. She will also be holding a "drop-in" session via Google Meet on a Friday afternoon from 4.15pm for 1 hour. Students can join the drop-in at any point to get help with the Further Maths work set or the harder GCSE topics. Any other students who would like to join the group should see their Maths teacher in the first instance.



The Connect Club

The Connect Club, which focuses on LGBTQIA issues, is up and running again through Google Classrooms. The first content will be added to the Platform next week and login details can be found on the attached poster. Please see Miss Fitzpatrick or Miss Greenhalgh for further information.



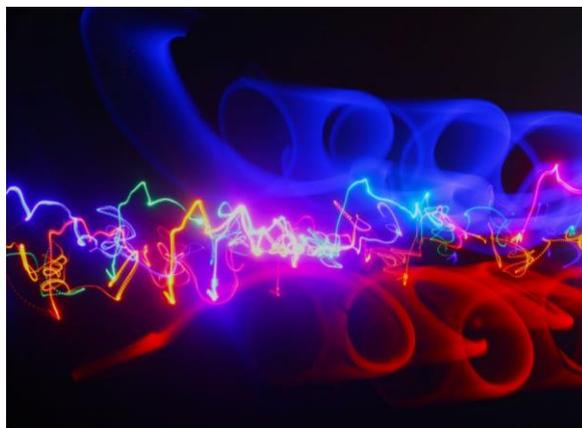
Lunchtime in the sunshine!



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And finally, back to Art again!

Year 10 students continue to experiment with their 'light painting'. This composition was created by **Bailey Harrison**.



GCSE COUNTDOWN

Year 11, there are only 27 school weeks left, just 135 days in school, until your first GCSE exam.

Remember the route to GCSE success is a marathon and not a sprint. Your GCSE grades will depend on your hard work and commitment throughout the year and not last minute revision the week or night before an exam.

By now you should all have an idea what you may want to do when you leave Droylsden at the end of this academic year. It is important, however, that you get as much information as you can about the different colleges you can apply to and the courses and qualifications on offer. Try and get along to as many 'Virtual' Open Days or Events as you can over this term so that you are really well informed and can make the right choices for your future.

HAVE YOUR SAY

How do you think the new term has gone so far?

Do you have any useful feedback for us?

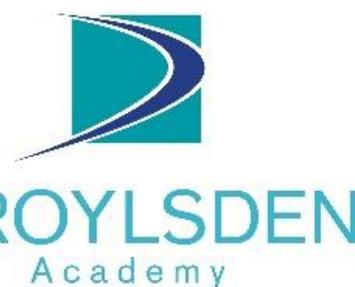
We'd really like to hear from Parents and Students about your experience of returning to school in a 'COVID safe learning environment'. What do you think we've done well and what we can do better?

Please email your comments to us at

haveyoursay@droylsdenacademy.com

and we'll include them in future editions of Newsflash.

Thank you



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YEAR SEVEN

Year 7 have had another wonderful week and continue to broaden their learning in a range of subjects. Some students have been trampolining, others have started reading 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief' and a group have been making pasta salad! Each Form has now nominated their Form Representative for the Year Council and soon we will be nominating the Year Representatives to serve on the Academy Council. Further details will follow in future editions of Newsflash.



Google Classroom and Gmail

Every student should now have been given their email address and password by their Form Tutors and they should all have signed into their accounts in Computing.

If you need any help signing into Google Classroom, then the link below will show you what to do:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLedr3UVfNWEK5pHszM-NsR9ymhcktjYAa>

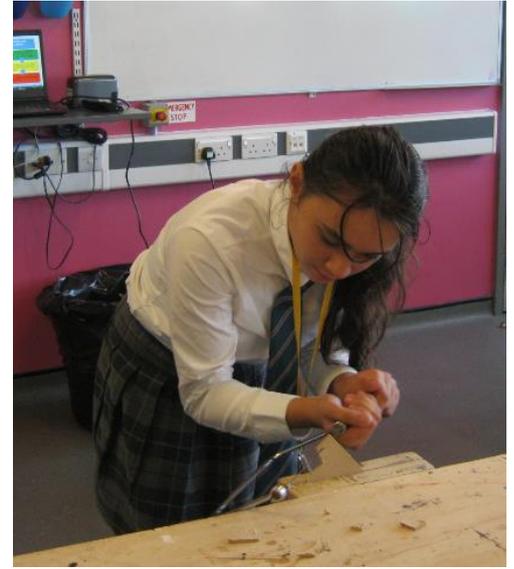
If you or your child has an issue with their email address or password please ask them to check it with their Form Tutor. If there is still a problem, then contact me, Mrs Pancholi, and I will try to help resolve the issue. If there is a problem with a class code, then please email the class teacher directly.

If your child is absent in relation to COVID, i.e. if they are self-isolating or they are awaiting test results, class teachers will be setting work through Google Classrooms so that your child does not fall behind

Mrs Pancholi
Year Leader



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STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to **Kallen Ferguson** and **Sebastian Bainbridge-Coombs**, from Year 10, and **Jenan Alkhatib** and **Hollie McGuire** from Year 11, who have all been nominated as student of the week.

Hollie has been nominated by the Science Department as she works exceptionally hard in class, always does her homework to an excellent standard and consistently achieves one of the highest marks in the class for her weekly assessment. Hollie is also an exceptionally polite young lady who is a pleasure to teach.

Sebastian has also been nominated by the Science Department as he started the Triple Science course with an excellent attitude, working exceptionally hard in lessons and on his revision homework. This is paying off with Sebastian achieving a Grade 9, the top grade, in his first weekly assessment. Well done Sebastian and keep it up.

Kallen has been nominated by the English Department as he has made an amazing start to Year 10 and really understands the importance of studying hard for his GCSEs. He's also given the group plenty of laughs when he plays the role of Gerald in our class reading of 'An Inspector Calls'!

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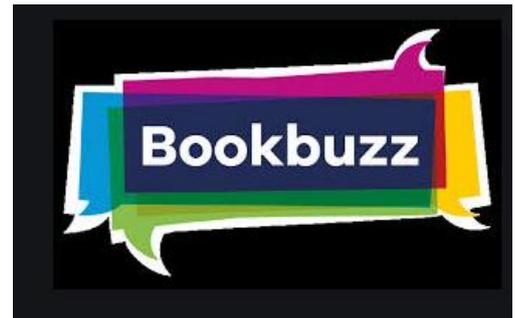


Jenan has been nominated by the Maths Department as she has come back into school renewed and ready to learn. She has been working extremely hard in her lessons and has stepped up to the challenge of Year 11. With this level of determination she is certainly going to enjoy the year and do well in her exams. Well done Jenan.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Year 7 'Book Buzz'

The Academy is taking part in BookTrust's Bookbuzz programme, which aims to get children reading. Your child will choose their own book to keep out of the 16 Bookbuzz titles available. Bookbuzz is run by BookTrust, the UK's largest children's reading charity that transforms lives by getting children and families reading. Each year BookTrust reaches 3.9 million children across the UK with books, resources and support to help deliver a love of reading.



To find out more about BookTrust, visit booktrust.org.uk. We know that some children will be facing extra challenges this year after the coronavirus outbreak. We hope that Bookbuzz will encourage your child to read more frequently, which will help improve their wellbeing, spark interesting conversations and inspire creativity.



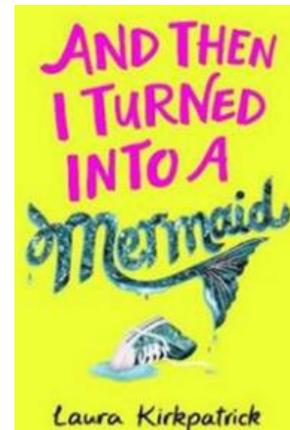
Over the next few weeks, Year 7 students will be introduced to the 16 available titles by their English teachers and they will then make their selection. The books will be delivered to school before Christmas. There is no cost to the student as the books have already been paid for by the Academy. Some of the titles will be featured in the Book of the Week slot in the Newsflash during the rest of September and October so parents/carers can see what students could be selecting.

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Book of the Week

The Book of the Week is 'And Then I Turned Into A Mermaid' by Laura Kirkpatrick, one of the titles available from this year's Bookbuzz selection.

Molly Seabrook really just wants to be normal. And popular if possible. But when, at midnight on her thirteenth birthday, her mum and older sisters take her on a mysterious trip to the beach and reveal that she's half-mermaid, Molly knows with absolute certainty that normal is never going to happen! Being a mermaid might sound pretty cool, but when you just want to fit in, transforming every time you go near a swimming pool is a pretty big challenge. Dealing with school and the popular crowd is hard enough without having to deal with a tail as well, especially when you're forbidden from telling anyone, even your best friend. Because if your family's secret was discovered, it would be disastrous for everyone.



This is a brilliantly insightful and super fun story about growing up, navigating friendships and first crushes, and figuring out how you fit in. Tail or no tail, Molly is undoubtedly a character that every teen girl can immediately relate to. From an embarrassing parent, confusing sisters and family dramas to friendships on the brink and boy-related confusions, this book covers all the emotions but with a great sense of humour.

CAREERS

Virtual Apprenticeship Week GM On Demand!

In August, Bridge GM hosted a number of 'Virtual' Apprenticeship events and webinars for students interested in moving on to an Apprenticeship. The events aimed to cover everything you need to know about Apprenticeships, from money management, where the jobs will be, the Apprenticeship journey and reskilling through Apprenticeships. The coverage in the week included 16 events and nearly 9 hours of content featuring 32 Apprentices, 23 Employers and 9 Learning Providers.

Following on from the summer, there are now 13 videos available to support these events and webinars for those students who may interested in launching their career with an Apprenticeship.

You can watch the videos on the GMACS website at:

<https://gmacs.co.uk/news/virtual-apprenticeship-week-12th-21st-august>

College 'Virtual Open Days'

Look out for details of all Virtual College Open Days which will be taking place this term so that you can find out about the different courses and qualifications on offer. Information about the Open Days at Connell 6th Form College can be found on the next page.

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REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

Academy Uniform

We would like to remind all parents and carers that, in line with our Uniform Policy, there should be no bows on school shoes or on school socks. Thank you for supporting us in maintaining high standards of uniform and presentation.

Face Masks

Please remember to wash your child's face mask regularly and remind your child to bring it to school every day.

As face masks are now a specified part of school equipment, any student who arrives without their mask will be issued a correction (detention) and will be supplied with a surgical disposable mask that they can wear for the day.



A 'Cashless School'

The Academy is moving towards becoming a 'cashless school' which will help reduce the contamination and transmission risks of using cash and also avoid issues around students losing their money. We would ask that, wherever possible, payments for school meals and any future activities or events are made through Schools Gateway.

Payments can be made through the Gateway on line or at 'Pay Point' centres which can be found in many local shops. We would ask that all parents now use this system to top their child's account with lunch money if their child purchases school dinners.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

We will be celebrating European Language Day on Friday 25th September.

Year 11 students studying GCSE Food and Nutrition will be taking their practical assessments in week beginning Monday 5th October.

Year 8 and 9 HPV 'Catch-up' injections for those students who have missed them will take place in week beginning Monday 12th October.

Year 9 students will take part in a 'drop down' day on Sex and Relationships Education on Friday 25th October.

The Academy will close for the Half Term Holiday on Friday 25th October.