

Droylsden Academy is a good school

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

The Football Association England Schools Cup

The following reports were written by Abraham Joel and Jack Beckett respectively.

Sale Grammar 3-3 Droylsden Academy (Sale Grammar win 4-2 on penalties)

On Tuesday 1st October, the Year 9 Droylsden Academy Football Team played away against Sale Grammar School in the English Schools Cup, a competition open to the best schools from across the country. It was an awesome match and great to have fans from the Academy coming to support their school. The game was end to end and the final score was 2-2. Johnson Opawale scored a great goal for Droylsden with the second from Abraham Joel with an assist from Gad Amakye. Extra time was played as it was a cup game and another brilliant goal by Abraham Joel, again assisted by Gad Amakye, made the score 3-2 to Droylsden Academy! With only minutes to go, Sale Grammar School grabbed an equalizer making the score 3-3. Unfortunately, we couldn't score again so the boys ended up with a nerve racking finale.....the penalties!

Sadly, Droylsden Academy lost 4-2 in the heart stopping shoot out meaning that Sale Grammar won the match on penalties. Overall, it was an amazing game with a magnificent performance from the boys who are now really looking forward to their next match in the Tameside Schools Cup.

Abraham Joel



Droylsden Academy 4-2 Manchester Co-operative Academy

Last Wednesday, the Year 10 Droylsden Football Team played against the Co-op Academy in the English School's Cup, winning the match 4-2.

Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

In the first half, Droylsden were the dominant team; we created several chances throughout, with Festus Chale scoring 2 and Lemuel Asamoah-Tanner scoring 1. The first goal came from a through ball which split the midfield, before Festus dribbled through the defence and scored past the keeper. The second goal came from a corner; Jack Beckett crossed the ball in, which was met by the head of Festus, who comfortably cushioned it past the keeper for his second of the game. The third goal came when Lemuel received the ball on the half turn and outdid the defender before putting the ball in the top corner, giving their keeper no chance. However, after an aggressive few minutes, the Co-op Academy hit back scoring their first goal from an un-cleared corner ball. Their winger was then put through one-on-one with Dzhan Sali, the Academy keeper, and managed to slot the ball into the bottom corner bringing the first half to an end with the score at 3-2.

During the second half, we were again arguably the better side. A few minutes in, a shot from Lemuel was saved by the keeper, but was eventually bundled into the net by Festus, securing his hat trick. The game continued with several chances, which were kept out by fine saves from both keepers. Dzhan, in particular, made a range of vital saves, keeping us in the lead. Towards the end of the game, we attempted to keep possession and kill the game off until the final whistle.

As a whole, all members of the team performed well; the defence gave away few chances, the midfield constantly retained and regained possession of the ball, threading through some great passes, and the attack alternated positions and got in behind the opposition defence well. Collectively, we had defeated tough opposition and are now through to the next round of the cup!

Jack Beckett

GCSE Food and Nutrition

Mrs Arnold and Ms Ball are very proud of their two GCSE Food and Nutrition groups who have just completed their Practical Non Exam Assessments. Whilst we can't show you any photographs of the finished products, as it's against the Examination Board regulations, we can tell you they have all done very well! What a team!



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Meanwhile, in Photography.....

Year 9 students have been studying the use of light and shade to enhance the 'Vanitas' genre of still life Art, a style which uses symbols of death and transience such as skulls or crosses. The photograph here, by Amelia Shaw, shows how light and shade can transform an image.



Year 11 students have been studying 'light painting' as part of their GCSE course. The picture to the left, created by Lily Ward, is a wonderful example of how this media can be used to stunning effect.

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With the full analysis for this summer's GCSE results now completed, we are delighted to confirm our positive 'Progress 8' Score of +0.3, even higher than initially reported, and that, in terms of attainment, we showed the biggest improvement in results of any school in Tameside. Full details of our examination performance for 2019 can be found on the Academy website.

Whilst there were many really pleasing facets to this year's examination performance, the most pleasing is, perhaps, our Progress 8 score. This is the key measure used by OFSTED to judge how well students have done, and how well the school has performed, as it measures the progress that a year group has made from its starting point in Year 7. The Progress 8 score is designed so that fair judgements and comparisons can be made between all schools, irrespective of their context or intake. Typically, Progress 8 scores vary from -0.5 to +0.5; if a school has a negative score, the students have not made as much progress as expected, if a school has a score of 0 the students have performed in line with expectations and if a school has a positive score then the students have made more progress than was expected. The more negative the score, the 'worse' the school has done and the more positive the score, the 'better' the school has done. Clearly, we are delighted that through their hard work, commitment and positive approach to their learning, the Class of 2019 achieved a really pleasing 'solidly' positive Progress 8 score.

In terms of attainment we are delighted to confirm that:

- 3 out of every 4 grades awarded were at grade 4 or higher
- 8 out of 10 students achieved a grade 4 or higher in English
- 6 out of 10 students achieved a grade 5 or higher in English
- 7 out of 10 students achieved a grade 4 or higher in Maths
- 5 out of 10 students achieved a grade 5 or higher in Maths
- 7 out of 10 students achieved a grade 4 or higher in their best 2 Science subjects
- 5 out of 10 students achieved a grade 5 or higher in their best 2 Science subjects
- 9 out of 10 students who studied a foreign language achieved a grade 4 or higher
- 6 out of 10 students who studied a foreign language achieved a grade 5 or higher
- 4 out of 10 students who studied a foreign language achieved a grade 7 or higher
- 25% of our students achieved a grade 7 or higher in English
- 21% of our students achieved 3 or more grade 7 results

Congratulations, again, to the Class of 2019 and thank you to the staff for all your hard work in ensuring our student's success.



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THE IMPORTANCE OF A POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE HOME SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

Following an unpleasant and totally unacceptable incident in school this week we have, unfortunately, had to ban two parents from the Academy site. The Chair of Governors has asked that the following letter to all parents/carers be included in this week's Newsflash to remind us all of the importance of a positive, constructive and respectful relationship between parents and staff.

October 2019

Dear Parents and Carers



I cannot thank enough the vast majority of our parents and carers who are actively helping us to make our school and our community a good place to learn. Even when we occasionally do things in a way that does not meet with your full approval you can talk to us about those things in a constructive and kind way which helps us to resolve any issue for you.

However, there is **a tiny minority of parents who let the school, the town and their children down.** This handful of parents are aggressive, abusive and loud (often in front of their own and other people's children) when they come into our building and behave in a way that goes against our values of honesty and politeness and in ways which upset our students. **They have no regard for the opinion or protection of others and no regard for the hard work of our staff.** The louder they shout, the less we will listen as this is no way for adults to model responsible behaviour to their children: we are a school, after all. It is unfortunate that we have had to ban parents from the site and will have no hesitation in pressing charges against them, if they continue to be abusive or aggressive to our public servants in person or on social media.

The point is that such parents **may** have an important and accurate point to make but because of their behaviour (in the building and on social media) the point is lost and we cannot help. We try not to worry parents unless there is an issue which we need their help to resolve. Our relationship with parents and carers should be constructive and positive at all times. We can politely agree to disagree as it is our responsibility to lead and manage the school for the benefit of the whole community, not just the interests of one or two. If we get things wrong, as all schools do on occasion, we can work to get things right if parents are respectful and sensitive to the challenge of leading a large, urban school.

We will not tolerate such behaviour in our building and grounds or on social media and nor will the huge number of wonderful children, parents and carers who are working with us to get the very best for our students. Droylsden Academy is rapidly improving and, with the constructive help of all parents and carers, will really begin to provide very good opportunities for all of our children.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Dowd', written over a light blue circular stamp.

Mr L Dowd

Chair of Governors

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STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to Daniel Mason and Kaiden Barr, both from Year 8, who have been nominated as student of the week.



Daniel has been nominated by the Science Department as he always gives 100% in lessons. Daniel is always keen to answer questions and has the confidence to share his views with the class. Similarly, he is always polite and helpful, a delight to teach.

Kaiden has been nominated by the Maths Department as he has made a fantastic start to Year 8. He, too, always gives 100% in both class and with his homework. Kaiden is also very good at explaining his work to others and helping them if they are struggling with a question. Well done Kaiden, you model the Academy values of politeness, hard work and honesty in every lesson.

ASSESSMENT WEEKS

Assessment weeks for each year groups will take place later this term as detailed below:

Year 10	Week beginning Monday 4 th November.
Year 11	Week beginning Monday 18 th November. The Year 11 Pre-Public Examinations will take place over a two week period.
Year 9	Week beginning Monday 2 nd December.
Year 8	Week beginning Monday 9 th December.
Year 7	Week beginning Monday 16 th December.

The assessments will take place across the full range of subjects and the results will be used to inform planning and any possible changes to teaching sets. Please encourage your child to prepare thoroughly for these important assessments and examinations.

Parents will receive a new style of report following their child's assessments which will allow them to look at the progress he/she is making in each subject. We hope that parents/carers will find the new style of report useful and informative.

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GCSE COUNTDOWN

Year 11, there are only 24 school weeks left, just 120 days in school, until your first GCSE exam.

Year 11 Parent Teacher Consultation Evening will take place on **Thursday 17th October**. Further information will be sent out next week.

Remember to attend as many Open Days and Open Evenings at our local colleges as you can, so that you are really well informed and can make the right choices for your future. The remaining Open Days for our local colleges can be found below.

College	Open Days
Tameside College	Saturday 19 th October 10.00am – 2.00pm Monday 18 th November 6.00pm – 8.00pm
Clarendon Sixth Form College	Saturday 19 th October 10.00am – 2.00pm Monday 18 th November 6.00pm – 8.00pm
Ashton Sixth Form College	Tuesday 22 nd October (time to be confirmed)
The Manchester College	Thursday 5 th March (time to be confirmed)
Xavarian College	Sunday 13 th October 10.30am – 2.00pm
Oldham Sixth Form College	Monday 21 st October (time to be confirmed)

THE NEW DROYLSDEN ACADEMY HOUSE SYSTEM

We are delighted to report that, from January 2020, Droylsden Academy will have a House system. The House system will have four key objectives, as detailed below, and we hope that it will provide many opportunities for students to develop 'character' and achieve against our four character pillars of Learning, Participation, Service and Leadership.

The key objectives are as follows:

- We want to encourage competition and recognise the many student successes and achievements.
- In response to student voice, we want to link PRIDE points to a House system so that students' good learning habits are rewarded.
- We want each of the Houses to support a charitable cause to encourage students to both participate and serve.
- We want to create more opportunities for student to develop and demonstrate leadership.

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There will be four Houses, the names of which relate to Droylsden's historical past. Each of the Houses is named after one of the mills that powered the town's industry and enabled the town to grow flourish as people flocked to Droylsden seeking employment.

The mills also reflect the 'Hard Work' of those workers which, as you know, links in with one of the Academy's core values. The names of the Houses are:

Saxon	Albion	Victoria	Oakfield
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The House system will provide a number of new leadership roles for our students:

Senior House Captains

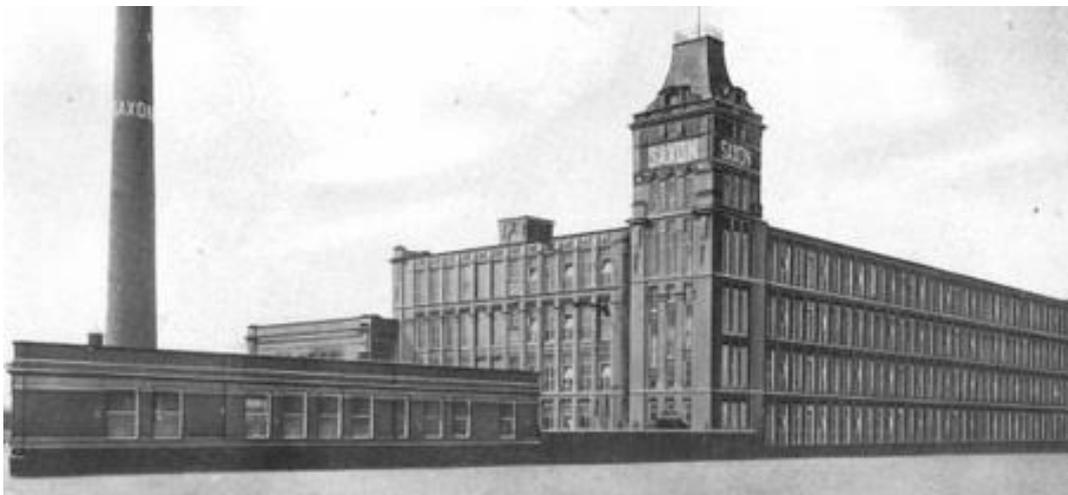
This role is only open to students in Year 10. Each House will need one Senior House Captain and one Deputy House Captain. Interested Year 10 students are requested to write a letter of application which must be handed to Mrs Isherwood by 26th October.

Junior House Captains

This role is only open to students from Years 7 to 9. Each House needs one Junior Captain. As above, interested students should write a letter of application which must be handed to Mrs Isherwood by 26th October.

Students can also get involved in the launch of the House system by submitting a design for the crest or logo of their House. This competition is open to every student in the Academy and entries must, again, be submitted to Mrs Isherwood no later than 26th October. Students will need a concept behind their design explaining how it reflects the history of the House and the link to the future.

If you would like to know more about the House system or if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Ms Isherwood or Mr Jackson.

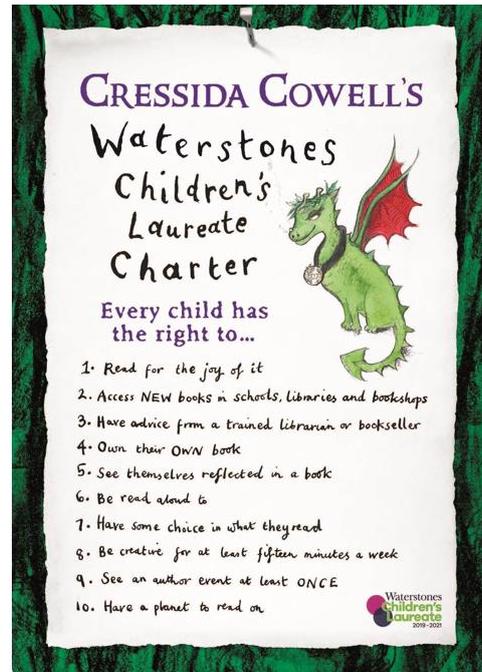


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LIBRARIES WEEK

To celebrate Libraries Week, Mrs Godrich wants to encourage all our students to read for pleasure. According to research carried out by the National Literacy Trust, a good school library can have a huge impact on student development, in supporting literacy, creativity, flair, imagination, knowledge and understanding!

Many children struggle to choose a good book for themselves so look out for the posters around the Academy next week which should help you to make good choices. Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will also have Assemblies delivered by the Tameside Neighbourhood Librarians which will tell them more about the 'BorrowBox app', which allows library members to borrow and read a wide range of e-books and audiobooks on multiple devices.



Each Form Room will be also getting a copy of Cressida Cowell's Reading Charter, which was launched when she was named as Children's Laureate earlier this year.

Mrs Godrich, Librarian and Literacy Adviser, and Mrs Jackson, Literacy and Oracy Co-ordinator, are determined to make this the best year ever in terms of reading for pleasure so watch out for more activities and initiatives in the coming months!

THE HIGHEST OF STANDARDS

Whilst the overwhelming majority of students arrive at the Academy in perfect uniform, there have, unfortunately, been some concerns over standards of appearance this week. We have worked hard over recent years at ensuring that Droylsden students set the highest of standards and there will be daily checks across the Academy over the next week to ensure that everyone meets our expectations. Parents and Carers can play their part by ensuring their child comes to school in the correct uniform and ready to work. As always we are really grateful for your support.

As a reminder:

Girls.....

No short trousers.

No frilly socks.

No pearl headbands or clips (clips and bands must be plain black).

No tight trousers.

Make up can only be worn in moderation.

Girls in Years 7 to 9 must not roll up their tartan skirts to shorten the length.

Girls in Years 10 and 11 must not have skirts with splits up the back or side.

Socks must be worn below the knees and no leggings instead of tights.

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Boys.....

Shirts tucked in.

Coats not be carried around your neck.

Plain black belt with a plain buckle.

All students.....

No piercings, without exception, not even if they're covered up.

You must wear the correct tie for your respective year group.

Trainers can only be worn if we receive medical evidence from your G.P. or an appropriate health professional stating why this is necessary. The note must also have a review or end date.

Coats must not be worn in the building.

JOB VACANCY

Catering Assistant

Pay Scale: Grade B, Points 3 – 4 (£9.61 to £9.81 per hour)

Contract: Term Time Only

Hours: 17.5 per week

Closing Date: 23th October 2019 at 12 noon

Start Date: As soon as possible

We are looking for a reliable, punctual and hardworking Catering Assistant to join our Catering Team. You will work with the team in preparing and serving healthy and nutritious food to our students and staff.

The working hours for this position are 10.30am to 2.00pm each day, Monday to Friday.

Further information can be found on our website at:

<http://www.droylsdenacademy.com/work-at-droylsden-academy/3527.html>

Applicants should complete a Droylsden Academy Application Form and Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form which can be downloaded from the Academy website.

Completed applications should be returned electronically to:

hr@droylsdenacademy.com

or posted to:

Human Resources, Droylsden Academy, Manor Road, Droylsden, Manchester. M43 6QD

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 11 Parent Teacher Consultation Evening will take place on **Thursday 17th October**.

The Academy will break up for the half-term holiday on Friday 25th October.

REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

Parent Governor Election



Dear Parents/Carers

There is a vacancy for a Parent Governor on our school's Governing Body and I am writing to invite nominations to fill the vacancy.

The Parent Governor plays an important role as a member 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 a Parent Governor is four years. Details of the role of the Governing Body and Governor can be found on the Academy website. An induction and ongoing training and development is available to all Governors.

If you would like to stand for election, please arrange for the nomination form at the back of this edition of Newsflash to be completed and returned to the school Reception no later than Friday 18th October 2019.

Nominations must be from parents/carers with children at the school on the day that nominations close. Parents/carers putting their names forward are requested to provide some brief biographical details (limited to 200 words) suitable for inclusion in the ballot paper.

A Parent Governor must be a parent of a student at the Academy at the time of election/appointment. The eligibility criteria to serve as a Governor are also posted on the Academy website. Anyone standing for election must certify that he/she is not disqualified for any reason.

If more than one nomination is received an election will be held by secret ballot. If that is necessary, voting papers will be sent to all parents together with details of the ballot procedure.

Yours faithfully

Mr N Elgar

Clerk to the Governing Body

Nomination Form for the Election of Parent Governor



Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Parent of (student's name):

Year:

Pen Portrait (maximum 200 words)

I wish to submit my nomination for the election of Parent Governor.

I confirm: (i) that I am willing to stand as a candidate for election as a Parent Governor; and, (ii) that I am not disqualified from holding office for any of the reasons set out in the Eligibility Criteria.

Signature:

Date:

Completed nomination forms must be returned to the Academy (Reception) by 18th October 2019.

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