

Droylsden Academy is a good school

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Borwick Hall

Around 60 students attended a 'Study Intervention Weekend' at Borwick Hall during the half-term holiday. The weekend combined intensive study sessions with the opportunity to take part in a number of outdoor activities, including canoeing, climbing, archery and 'crate stacking', relax and have fun! Thank you to the staff who supported the event and provided study sessions across the three core subjects of English, Maths and Science. Feedback from the students would suggest that they had a really enjoyable and, importantly, a really useful weekend.



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work



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Partnership Maths Challenge!

Manchester Road and St Marys Primary took part in a Maths competition at the Academy last week. Manchester Road entered one team, 'The Manchester Monsters', and St Marys entered two teams, 'St Marys Smarties' and 'St Marys Pi School'. Everyone really enjoyed the maths puzzles and challenges with the Manchester Monsters emerging victorious after a close fought contest. Thank you to Mr Tiley and our three Maths Ambassadors, Matthew Neglia, Adam Ali-Brown and Jackie Tran for organising and running the event.



Meanwhile, in Food and Nutrition.....

Year 7 finished their Food and Nutrition module last week and were given the challenge of 'Ready, Steady, Cook....'

The students were given a variety of ingredients that they could use and were set the challenge of preparing a nutritionally balanced and well-presented meal in just 60 minutes! The pressure was on but the results were amazing! Well done to all the students on the progress they have made on the course.



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And in Languages....

The MFL Department's latest cultural exploration of the Spanish speaking World involved an investigation into the sights and sounds of Puerto Rico! As with our journey to Colombia last term, there was a chance for a pupil in each class to win a prize for the highest score in the quiz, with the prize, this time, of a Puerto Rican flag. Congratulations to our four winners, Zak Albajouri, Shannon Corbett, Joseph Herod and Rosie McCormick. Next up, Argentina!



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And in Art....

Students have been studying a portraits project using influential people or animals as their subject. The two fantastic pieces of work here were produced by Kelvin Nwanze and Skye Linney respectively.



And in English.....

Year 8 have enjoyed getting into character as investigators. The students have been developing their writing skills for a 'real scenario' and can be seen here practising their lines in an interrogation of their peers!



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Leadership Celebration

Members of the Academy Leadership Team meet with students each week in recognition of their achievements, skills, personal qualities or contribution to Academy Life. This week, Ms Mezzone had a breakfast of Hot Chocolate and French Pastries with a group of students who are amongst those with the most PRIDE Points across their respective Year Groups and the Academy.



Riley Dunn-Noble	Rose Taylor	Riley O'Connor	Shannon Corbett	Ellie Smith-Braine
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Tameside College Student of the Year

We were really pleased to hear that Amy McBennett, a former student at Droylsden Academy, has been named as one of Tameside College's Students of the Year! Amy is studying to be a Hairdresser on a Level 3 Apprenticeship course. Congratulations Amy and best wishes for the future.

LIFESKILLS

You may remember that, over the last few months, Year 7, 8 and Year 9 students have taken part in 'Drop-Down Days' when they have attended a series of workshops and presentations on important issues and topics based around skills for life.

As part of the 'Lifeskills' programme, **Year 8 students** will now be looking at issues around knife crime and all Form Groups will attend a presentation at some point over the next month to look at the its consequences and how it can devastate lives. Parents and carers of all Year 8 student should have received a copy of the following letter:

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Knife Crime



At Droylsden Academy we aim to support students to embrace the challenges of adult life, equipping them with the knowledge and skills that will enable them to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and safety and that of others too.

Whilst we recognise that Parents and Carers are the prime educators for children on many of these matters, the school can complement and reinforce this role by building on what children learn at home as an important part of delivering a good education.

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With this in mind, throughout the month of March, Year 8 students will take part in a presentation aimed at delivering important messages around knife crime and how it can devastate lives.

The normal school timetable will be partly suspended and the session will be facilitated by the Safety Guide Foundation who are a local charity who deliver workshops and presentations to young people across Tameside. More information about the work this charity do is available at:

<https://www.safetyguide.co.uk/>

The workshop will take place during period 5 and 6 on Mondays. Your child will attend one of the sessions only. Students should bring all their usual equipment and books as normal.

I am sure that you see the value of this important aspect of your child's education and encourage you to discuss their learning with them.

Yours faithfully

Mr S. Jackson

Director of Character and Life Skills

In addition to the Year 8 work around knife crime, **Year 10 students** will also be attending a 'Drop-Down Day' next week, on Monday 2nd March, to look at a number of issues related to becoming an adult ranging from Financial Literacy to Relationships and Sex and Health Education. Parents and carers of all Year 10 student should have received a copy of the following letter:

Dear Parent/Carers



Re: 'Becoming an Adult': Financial Literacy, Relationships, Sex and Health Education

At Droylsden Academy we aim to support students to embrace the challenges of adult life, equipping them with the knowledge and skills that will enable them to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and relationships.

From September 2020 it will be mandatory for all secondary schools to deliver the Government's statutory guidance in relation to Relationships and Sex Education and, for all state-funded schools, statutory guidance relating to Health Education.

Whilst we recognise that Parents and Carers are the prime educators for children on many of these matters, the school can complement and reinforce this role by building on what children learn at home as an important part of delivering a good education.

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With this in mind, on **Monday 2nd March**, Year 10 will take part in a 'Becoming an Adult Drop Down Day' aimed at delivering important aspects of Relationships, Sex and Health Education as well as other aspects of adult life, including financial literacy.

On the 'Drop Down Day' the normal school timetable will be suspended and instead your child will take part in six different workshops which will be facilitated by a combination of professional and expert external agencies and Droylsden Academy teaching staff. The external agencies involved are:

- Tough Cookies: A social enterprise that delivers a range of education and community services on behalf of the NHS, Local Authority Public Health services and other partners. Tough Cookies deliver initiatives and projects that work to improve public health and wellbeing
- Homestart: A local community network of trained volunteers and expert support helping families with young children through their challenging times
- Chartered Insurance Institute: A professional body dedicated to building public trust in the insurance and financial planning profession

The six workshops will address the following:

Relationships, Sex and Relationships Education and Health Education

- Facts about the full range of contraceptive choices, efficacy and options available
- Facts around pregnancy including miscarriage
- That there are choices in relation to pregnancy
- Sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS
- Healthy relationships, intimacy consent (including sexual harassment, pressure and victim-blaming)
- The impact of alcohol on sexual risk-taking and share information about how to get help
- Choices around parenthood, including the options and choices around breast-feeding

Financial Literacy

- Considering personal long-term goals
- Understanding the value of everyday expenses
- Evaluating goals according to a range of incomes
- Understanding the key features of a payslip
- Explaining different types of income deduction
- Calculating gross and net income
- Understanding how the Government uses tax and National Insurance Contributions to fund public services.

The Academy's policy on Relationships, Sex and Health Education can be viewed on the Academy website via this link: <http://www.droylsdenacademy.com/key-policies/3528.html>

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We invite parental involvement and seek your views but ask, in the first instance, you read the policy document.

I hope that you see the value of this important aspect of your child's education and encourage you to discuss their learning with them. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at the Academy.

Yours faithfully

Mr S. Jackson
Director of Character and Life Skills



GCSE COUNTDOWN

Year 11, there are only 11 school weeks left, just 55 days in school, until your first GCSE exam.

Clearly, it is absolutely crucial that Year 11 students attend every day between now and their examinations so that they do not miss any of their exam preparation.



Year 10, your Pre-Public Examinations will start on Monday 9th March. Clearly, it is crucial that students revise and prepare thoroughly for these important exams. The timetable for the Year 10 Pre-Public Examinations can be found below:

Mon 9th March	9.00am: Combined Science/Triple Science Biology Paper 1 11.00am: Art 1.30pm: Photography (Option Group 10C)
Tue 10th March	9.00am: Maths (Non Calculator) 11.10am: French/Spanish (Listening & Reading) 1.40pm: GCSE Dance (Written)/Computer Science
Wed 11th March	9.00am: English Language 1.40pm: Geography
Thur 12th March	9.00am: History 12.05pm: Photography (Option Group 10C)

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Fri 13th March	9.00am: Combined Science/Triple Science Physics Paper 1 12.05pm: Photography (Option Group 10B)
Mon 16th March	9.00am: Combined Science/Triple Science Chemistry Paper 1 12.05pm: English Literature 1.40pm: Business Studies/Food & Nutrition
Tue 17th March	9.00am: Religious Studies/Engineering 11.14am: Sport 1.40pm: Statistics
Wed 18th March	9.00am: French/Spanish (Writing)
Thur 19th March	No written examinations today
Fri 20th March	12.05pm: Photography (Option Group 10B)

French and Spanish speaking exams will be held on Thursday 19th and Friday 20th March. Students will be given individual appointment times in due course.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

The 'Greedy Readers'

Before the half term break, the Academy Greedy Readers Group celebrated a belated International Harry Potter Night with their own Tri-Wizard Tournament! Mrs Godrich set some fiendish tasks including solving the Riddle of the Sphinx, Giving Dobby his Sock and the Character Treasure hunt as well as a fiendish wordsearch and a terrifically difficult Potter Quiz.

The members of the club were split into 3 teams of three and all of them managed the tasks so they all shared the prize of some Bertie Bott's Every Flavour Beans!

Well done to Molly Nash who provided some lovely Harry Potter Cupcakes which were enjoyed with a glass of Butterbeer.



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'A Journey Through Time!'

The Year 11 BTEC Music group will be producing, hosting and performing in a musical extravaganza 'A Journey Through Time' on 25th March. The event will take you on a musical journey with some iconic songs from the last few decades! The group are putting the evening together as part of their coursework and your support would be appreciated! Further details can be found on the flyer below or, alternatively, please contact Miss Burgess on aburgess@droylsdenacademy.com if you would like any further information. We are sure everyone will have a great evening!

YEAR 11 BTEC MUSIC PRESENT.....

WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH

A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME

1980S **1970S** **1960S**

1950S **1990S** **2000S** **2010S**

" THE BAD NEWS IS TIME FLIES BUT THE GOOD NEWS IS MEMORIES BRING IT BACK!"

DOORS OPEN - 6.45pm

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM STUDENT SERVICES

7PM

ADULT: £3
CONCESSIONS: £2
UNDER 5: FREE

FOR MORE INFO VISIT OUR INSTAGRAM -
@droylsdenacademyconcert

Lost Property

Once again, we have accumulated vast amounts of Lost Property, including coats and 3 bags full of clothing and un-named PE Kit from the changing rooms. If your child has lost anything, please encourage them to visit Student Services to see if it is here. Anything unclaimed at the end of the term will be donated to a local Charity Shop.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 10 students will be taking part in a 'Lifeskills Drop-Down Day' on Monday 2nd March when they will be attending workshops on Relationships, Sex and Health Education and Financial Literacy.

World 'Pi Day' will be held on Friday 13th March with the Mathematics Department organising a range of activities in celebration of this iconic number!

The Musical Production 'A Journey Through Time' will be performed by Y11 BTEC Music students on the evening of Wednesday 25th March.

Year 11 Parent Teacher Consultation Evening will be held on Thursday 26th March. Further information will be sent out nearer the time.

The first of the two residential Geography Fieldtrips to the East Coast of Yorkshire will take place over the weekend of 27th to 29th March.

There will be a Staff and Student Quiz Night on Tuesday 31st March.

The Academy will break up for the Easter Holiday on Friday 3rd April.

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