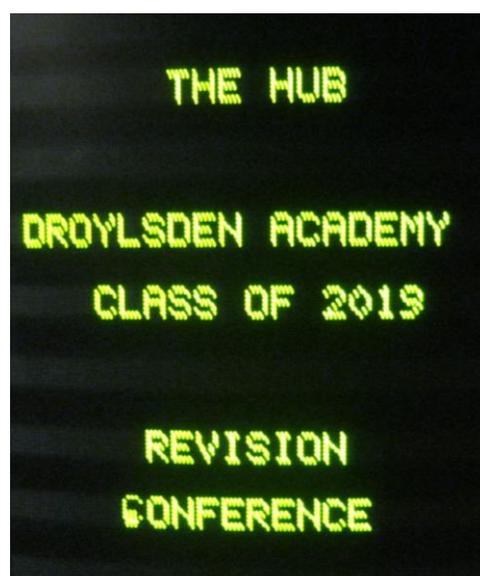


Droylsden Academy is a good school

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Year 11 GCSE Conference

Year 11 students attend a GCSE Conference at the Village Hotel in Ashton to help them prepare for their forthcoming examinations. The students attended a keynote speech from Mr Wilson and then took part in a number of workshops on topics including 'Education Pays', 'Planning for Success', 'Looking after Yourself', 'State of Mind', 'Revision and Recall' and 'Examination Technique'. The workshop on State of Mind was led by a Charity Group of the same name and focused on the importance of managing stress and mental health during the intensity of the exam season. Feedback from the students would suggest that they found it an enjoyable, interesting and very informative day. Thank you to everyone who prepared and led the workshops.



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Duke of Edinburgh Award

Following the launch of the Bronze Award with Year 9 in Assembly, Miss Hamilton has received 68 completed applications from students interested in taking part. Mrs McCallum and Miss Hamilton will now be meeting with these students to discuss the next steps.

The Silver Award will be launched to Year 10 and 11 next week with all those students who have already completed the Bronze Award eligible to enrol on the programme.



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Combined Cadet Force

As you will be aware from last week's edition of Newsflash, the Academy's bid to the Cadet Expansion Programme (CEP), a government joint initiative between the MOD and the Department of Education, to establish a Combined Cadet Force Unit at Droylsden Academy has been successful and that we have been given approval and funding to set up our own unit.



Initial plans are already under way to ensure that the CCF is up and running in time for students to parade in September and we are waiting to confirm meetings with The Royal Signals (33 Signal Squadron) and Royal Engineers (75 Engineers Regiment) to confirm which regiment we will link to and whose cap badge we will adopt.

We will be seeking to appoint a School Staff Instructor (SSI) to be based at the Academy one day each week (Wednesday) with a sole focus on the CCF. This position is salaried (funded by the MOD) and ideally suited to ex forces, although this not a pre-requisite. Further information, including the job advert and job description will appear on the Academy website and in Newsflash in due course.



Combined Cadet Force

GCSE PE

Students studying GCSE PE have had the opportunity to take part in Athletics training sessions at the North West Centre of Excellence based at the Etihad Campus. Students have completed three sessions and have been videoed performing different track and field events for their practical assessment portfolio.



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GCSE COUNTDOWN

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

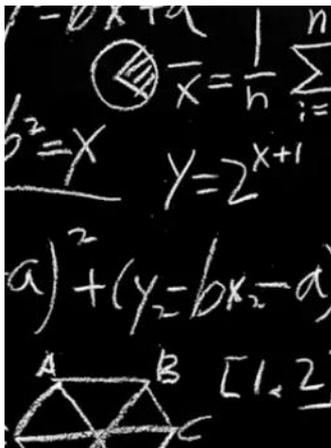
Thank you for taking part in the GCSE Conference this week. We are really pleased that you found it a very useful and worthwhile day. We hope that the advice and guidance you were given, and the tips and techniques that you covered, will help in your forthcoming Pre-Public Examinations which will start on Monday. The timetable for your Pre-Public Examinations can be found below.

Your examination timetable can be found below.

Mon 4th Feb	French speaking exams will take place by appointment throughout the day. The practical Dance examination will take place during Periods 4 and 5. The Computer Science exam will take place during Period 5.
Tue 5th Feb	Spanish speaking exams will take place by appointment throughout the day.
Wed 6th Feb	Maths Paper 1 (Non Calculator) will start at 9.00am. The Photography exam will take place during Periods 3, 4 and 5 (Groups B/D). The Music Technology exam will take place during Periods 4 and 5.
Thur 7th Feb	English Literature will start at 9.00am. The Written examinations for both French and Spanish will start at 11.30am. Triple Science (Biology) will start at 1.30pm.
Fri 8th Feb	Maths Paper 2 (Calculator) will start at 9.00am. The Photography exam will take place during Periods 3, 4 and 5 (Group C). The Listening and Reading examinations for both French and Spanish will start at 1.35pm.

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Mon 11th Feb	Triple Science (Chemistry) and Combined Science (Chemistry) will start at 9.00am. Music will start at 11.40am. Geography Paper 1 will start at 1.35pm.
Tue 12th Feb	Maths Paper 3 (Calculator) will start at 9.00am. Geography Paper 2 will start at 11.05am. The Music Technology written exam will take place during Periods 4 and 5.
Wed 13th Feb	History (Health and the Normans) will start at 9.00am. PE (written) will start at 9.00am (arrangements are in place if you study both PE and History). Statistics will start at 11.15am. The PE Practical Exam will start at 1.35pm.
Thur 14th Feb	The Art exam will last all day. The Drama exam will take place during Periods 4 and 5.
Frid 15th Feb	English Language will start at 1.35pm.



Don't forget the Maths Breakfast Club every Thursday morning. Attendance is by invitation only as it provides bespoke tuition on certain topics based on the specific needs of different students. If you have received a letter inviting your child to attend, then please ensure they arrive at school for 8.00am each Thursday morning. It is really important that they attend as many sessions as possible between now and their GCSE exams. Hot Chocolate and pastries will be provided for all students as part of the session.



LGBT HISTORY MONTH

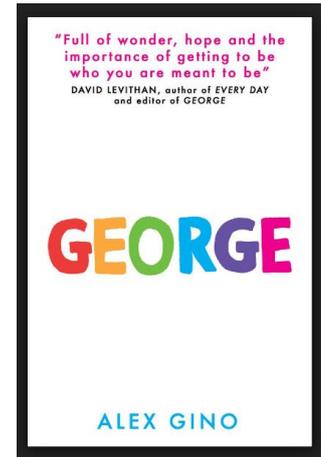
February is LGBT History Month, which is a month-long annual observance of LGBT history, and the history of the gay rights and related civil rights movements. To celebrate LGBT History Month and diversity and acceptance across society, there will be a display in the library which tells the history of the LGBT movement and the contributions made to the whole of society by prominent figures within the LGBT community. Mrs Godrich has curated a collection of LGBT titles in an attempt to inform and enlighten our students about issues which affect the LGBT community. These titles are both fiction and non-fiction and cover a variety of genres. Each featured book on the reading list has an LGBT character or storyline. The Library has also been turned into a rainbow to celebrate the diversity within our own Academy community and is a designated safe haven for any student needing time to be themselves.

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BOOK OF THE WEEK

This week's book, 'George' by Alex Gino, is taken from the LGBT reading list detailed in the previous article.

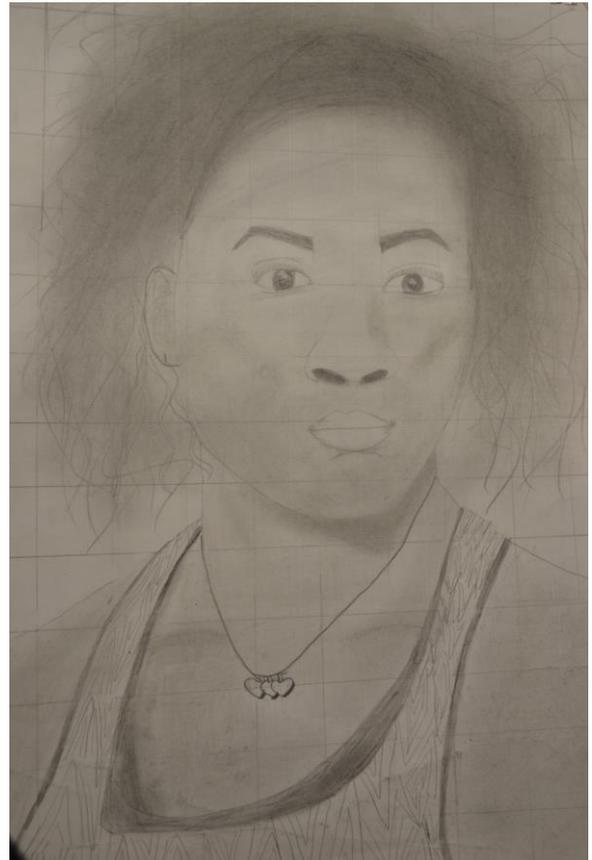
When people look at George, they think they see a boy. But she knows she's not a boy. She knows she's a girl. George thinks she'll have to keep this a secret for ever. Then her teacher announces that their class play is going to be Charlotte's Web. George really, really, REALLY wants to play Charlotte. But the teacher says she can't even try out for the part...because she's a boy. With the help of her best friend Kelly, George comes up with a plan. Not just so she can be Charlotte - but so everyone can see who she truly is, This is a beautifully uplifting read which impresses on the reader that, to be completely happy, you have to be yourself - whoever that might be.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to Amelia Shaw from Year 8, Charlotte Hepworth from Year 9 and Bradley Akid from Year 11 who have all been nominated as students of the week.

Amelia has been nominated by the Art Department as she is really working well in her lessons and making good progress. The picture here shows a pencil portrait recently completed by Amelia on her Art course.



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Charlotte has been nominated by the Science Department as she always prepares thoroughly for her weekly assessment and always performs well. Charlotte works hard and always to the best of her ability in every single lesson, she always gets involved by asking and answering questions and is a real role model to the rest of her Science group!

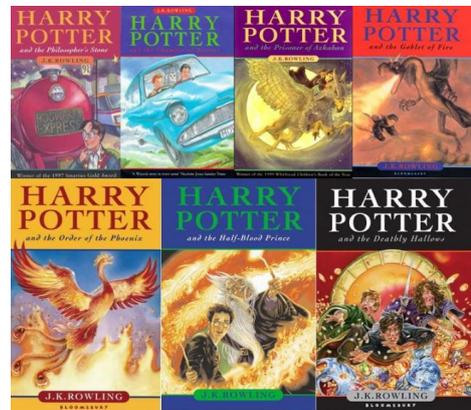
Bradley has also been nominated by the Science Department as he too is working really hard and preparing thoroughly for his weekly GCSE Science test. This is really paying off and he has achieved a 5/4 and a 4/4 in his last two weekly assessments, both of which met or exceeded his GCSE target grade. Keep it up Brad!



REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

Harry Potter Mastermind!

The deadline for the Harry Potter Quiz is fast approaching so if you want to be in with a chance of winning the Harry Potter Grand Mastermind Challenge then pop up to the Library and sign up. More details regarding the event itself will be announced in due course, so if you want to come and watch the Harry Potter fans pitch their knowledge against each other, then watch for the Newsflash owl!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 11 Pre Public Examinations will take place in the week beginning Monday 4th February.

Booster injections for Year 9 students will be given in the week beginning Monday 4th February.

The Character Awards Evening for students in Years 7 and 8 will take place on Thursday 7th February.

The Academy will break up for the half term holiday on Friday 15th February.

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