

Droylsden Academy is a good school

MESSAGE FROM MR WILSON

It is with profound sadness that we report on the tragic death of Taylor Schofield, a Year 7 student from the Academy. Most of you will be aware, from the local news and media and from talking to your own children, of the accident that happened last weekend in Beswick and of the terrible consequences. Our hearts and thoughts are with Taylor's family and friends at this terrible time.

Although Taylor had only been at the Academy since September, he made a great impression on us all. He was a bright, likeable and popular student, with over 60 PRIDE points for effort and hard work, and he will be missed by his friends and teachers alike. Those who knew Taylor well have been deeply affected by his death and have found it hard to come to terms with the tragic events of last weekend.

It is times like these that communities come together and we hope that the support, care and understanding provided by our pastoral team have helped. The emotional well-being of our students is, of course, our top priority and our hearts go out, in particular, to Sophie, Taylor's sister, who is in Year 10.

We will, in the fullness of time, and with the permission of the family, set up an appropriate and lasting tribute or memorial to Taylor's life and, in the meantime, we will continue to reflect on the friendship and happiness that he brought to our school.

Finally, I am sure I speak for us all when I say that our thoughts and prayers are, of course, with Taylor's family. As parents ourselves, we cannot begin to understand the pain and sadness that they must now feel. We are told that the passing of time does help and we can only hope that eventually they will be able to look back on Taylor's life with pride and happiness.



Musical success

Congratulations to Imogen Wright and Xiu Huang on their recent successes in their ABRSM examinations on the piano. Examinations run by the prestigious Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music are held in very high regard and are recognised world-wide. The examinations are very demanding and students can be awarded a Pass, Merit or Distinction at each grade. Imogen achieved a Distinction at Grade 1 and Xiu achieved a Merit at Grade 3, following on from the Merit she achieved at Grade 2 last year. Congratulations also to Anastecia Asamoah who received a Distinction when she took her Grade 1 exam last year. Ms Greta Gasser our peripatetic Piano Teacher comes into the Academy to work with a number of students and is extremely proud of their commitment, dedication and success.



**The Associated Board
of the Royal Schools of Music**

This is to certify that
XIU HUANG

is awarded the ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 3)
GRADE 3 PIANO



**The Associated Board
of the Royal Schools of Music**

This is to certify that
IMOGEN WRIGHT

is awarded the ABRSM Level 1 Award in Graded Examination in Music Performance (Grade 1)
GRADE 1 PIANO

Future Chefs Regional Finals

Congratulations also go to Daniel Climance who competed in the regional final of 'Future Chef' at Worsley College this week. The judges, the Head chefs from the Hilton Deansgate and the Hotel Football in Manchester, were really impressed with the dishes Daniel prepared and gave him some great feedback along with some tips for the future. Unfortunately Daniel didn't get through to the next round but he had a great day and really enjoyed the experience.



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Academic Excellence

This week we received some wonderful news about Ethan Prince, an ex-Headboy of the Academy, who has been offered a place at Oxford University to read Biochemistry. This is an amazing opportunity and just reward for Ethan's hard work, positive attitude and commitment to his studies.

Ethan left the Academy just eighteen months ago having achieved a string of top grades across his GCSE subjects, 3 subjects at Grade 9, 4 at A* and 2 at Grade A. He has many fond memories of his time at Droylsden and sent the following email to Mr Wilson.

'Today I have received an offer to study Biochemistry at Oxford University and it made me reflect on how I achieved this, and I realised without my many teachers at Droylsden Academy, I wouldn't have had a firm ground to stand on in regards to my education. I doubt if without my teachers I would've even had the confidence in myself and in my ability to even think of applying to Oxford in the first place, so I would just like to take this moment to sincerely thank every single teacher and member of staff who guided me through the journey of high school. I'd try to list every teacher who has impacted on my life but I'd find myself writing enough for the current Year 11 cohort to analyse for their English Literature, but I want to mention Mrs. Shareef as she was my first teacher and made me feel like I could achieve anything if I put my mind to it. I also particularly want to mention my teachers in Year 11 for consistently ensuring that I recognised my own potential and encouraged me to strive for success.'

Ethan is currently studying Maths, Physics, Chemistry and Biology at Ashton Sixth Form College and, with continued hard work, is predicted to achieve 2 A* and 2 A Grades. He visited Oxford last summer and spent a week at the University Summer School. Following his formal application through UCAS, Ethan was invited back to the University for a challenging two day interview where he met other undergraduate applicants from all over the World. Ethan is the first member of his family to go to University and they must be immensely proud of his achievement and success. We are incredibly proud of you too Ethan and look forward to following your future career.



Partner Primary School Maths Battle!

This week we held our first Primary School Maths Battle of the year with Fairfield, Greenside, Manchester Road, Moorside and St Marys competing for this prestigious award! The main theme of the competition was 'Shapes' with the children answering questions on a range of topics from angles to area and volume. All the children did exceptionally well and we hope that they enjoyed the

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quizzes, problem solving tasks and memory games. The results were very close with Fairfield eventually finishing as the overall winners and Greenside as the runners-up. Thank you to the Year 7 students who helped organise and run the event, we hope that you enjoyed the afternoon too!

Also in the news this week

The GCSE Music Ensemble record musical pieces for their practical assessment.

Droylsden students compete in the Tameside Table Tennis Championships.

Year 11 students studying GCSE PE receive expert coaching and tuition at the regional Athletics Arena at the Etihad Campus.

The Academy holds a Parent Teacher Evening for Parents and Carers of Year 9 students. We hope that the parents and carers who attended the evening had a useful and informative evening. Thank you to Tracey Nwanze, Aulon Behrami and Harrison Roden for staffing reception and signing parents in on the evening.



GCSE COUNTDOWN

Year 11, there are only 16 school weeks left, just 80 days in school, until your first GCSE exam.

All parents/carers should have received a letter about the forthcoming revision conference which will take place on **Tuesday 29th January** at the Village Hotel, Ashton. This is a very important day which will cover everything students need to know for their exams this summer. **Please ensure that all students return their reply slip to Student Services so that they can attend the conference.**

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As of this week the Academy will, with other schools across Tameside, join Operation Encompass a partnership initiative with Greater Manchester Police. Operation Encompass is a scheme that will ensure that we can better support any child where a domestic incident has been reported to Police from their home.

Following a domestic incident, the Police will inform a nominated member of staff at the school and notify us that an incident has taken place. This will ensure that we are made aware early enough to support children and young people in a way that means they feel safe, supported and listened to.

Each school has a member of staff called the designated Safeguarding Lead who is trained to recognise when a child needs support.

The initiative is being rolled out across all Tameside schools. It is a multi-agency project that includes the Police, local schools and the Council. It has been successfully implemented in other parts of the country and has helped schools and parents to help children deal with the impact that domestic abuse in the home can have on them.

You can find out more about Operation Encompass here:

<http://www.operationencompass.org/>

The initiative will be launched on 21st January 2019. In the meantime, if you would like to speak to someone further about Operation Encompass, or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We are committed to working in partnership with local relevant organisations to safeguard and protect children in Tameside and to provide the best possible care and support for our students.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to Elizabeth Joel from Year 10 who has been nominated as Student of the Week.

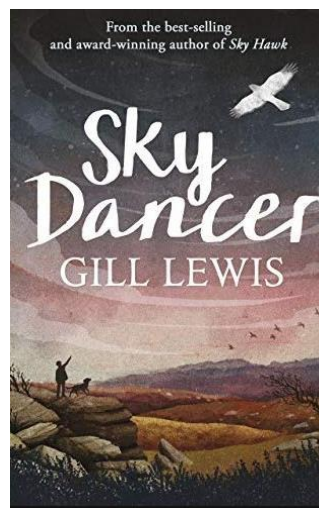


Elizabeth has been nominated by the English Department as she has demonstrated great personal resilience and determination this term. After receiving her excellent Pre Public Examination results, Elizabeth still wanted to find out how she could improve further and achieve even higher grades. As such, she has sought out extra intervention and demonstrated a wonderful attitude towards her studies which will guarantee her success in 2020!

BOOK OF THE WEEK

The Book of the Week is 'Sky Dancer' by Gill Lewis, one of the titles available for Year 7 students through the 'Book Buzz' scheme. The following review was written by Aastha Patadia.

'This book was all about how a boy named Joe protects his home-land and all the creatures living in it. The book starts with the quote "I'm a coward," which made me really interested as most books don't start in that way. It progressed to introduce new characters and new problems which Joe had to face through. He tries to help other people while he himself is having more troubles in life. I really enjoyed this book because once you start reading it's like your eyes are glued to the pages, you can't stop reading the book. He made decisions he never thought he would have to think about. At some points I just wanted to cry! This book was the best book I ever read as it showed that it doesn't matter if you think differently, what matters is that you stand up for your beliefs.'



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Restaurant Dream Team



BE ON A SHOW

Lion TV is now casting talented young chefs and aspiring restaurant bosses **age 10-14** to compete in a **BRAND NEW CBBC** series:

THE RESTAURANT DREAM TEAM (W/T)

Fred Sirieix and Allegra McEvedy are on the hunt to find a **DREAM TEAM** who will be able to run their very own restaurant.

We are looking for children who be working on the restaurant floor, coming up with a restaurant theme, welcoming and serving guests, as well as dealing with customer complaints. We are also looking for children who will be creating their own menu and cooking to a high standard, under pressure, whilst remaining calm.

Do you have the charisma and confidence to charm a whole host of hungry diners and run a team? Are you bursting with foodie ideas? Or do you think you can cook better than most adults?

If so, we would love to hear from you if you think you have what it takes to become part of the winning Restaurant Dream Team! Please email us for an application form and have your parents or guardians send back to us:

restaurantdreamteam@liontv.co.uk

YOU MUST HAVE PERMISSION FROM YOUR PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS TO APPLY.

APPLY ASAP
Application Deadline: Friday 8th Feb 2019

Do you have a passion for food and cooking? Are you good at coming up with cool designs and ideas? Are you charming and good with people? Are you in School Years 5, 6, 7, 8 or 9? Then you and some friends could have what it takes to become our Restaurant Dream Team!

Our top celebrity restaurant expert and chef are on a mission to find a group of friends capable of running their own restaurant. They're looking for teams of six – three in the kitchen and three on the restaurant floor – who can design their own pop up restaurant, create a themed menu, then cook and serve dinner to a room full of guests under professional conditions. Teams go head to head in a restaurant that's been split down the middle with only one progressing to the next round.

If you think you and your friends are up to the task then we would love to hear from you! Please email us for an application form, complete it with your parents or guardians and send it back to us as soon as possible.

restaurantdreamteam@liontv.co.uk

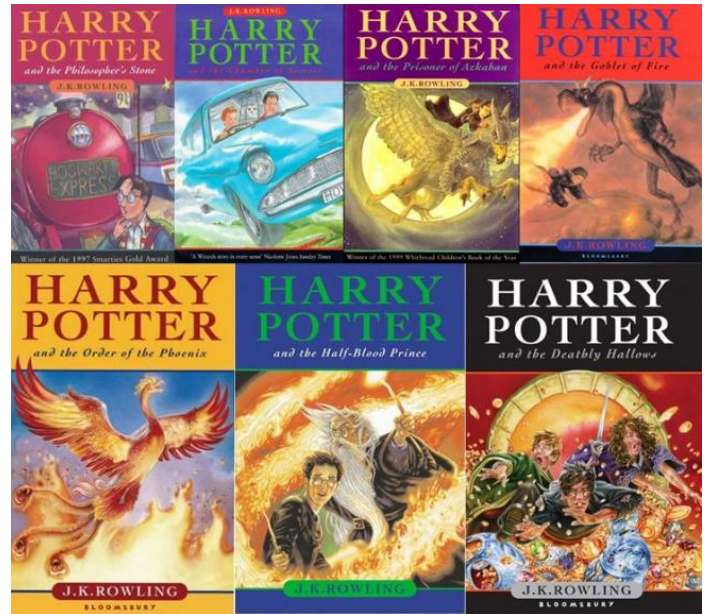
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Harry Potter Mastermind!

To celebrate International Harry Potter Night and World Book Day Mrs Godrich is hosting a Grand Harry Potter Quiz on Thursday 7th March at 6.00pm in the Atrium in front of an invited audience. The quiz will be based on the popular BBC Quiz Show 'Mastermind' and will see Potter fans of all ages pitting their Potter knowledge against one another. Staff and students alike are free to sign up to take part. Participants and the audience will be encouraged to come along in fancy dress and there will be a prize for the best costume as well as competing for the Harry Potter Mastermind Trophy.



If you want to take part, please come along and see Mrs Godrich in the library for more details and to sign up. All questions will be sourced from the seven Harry Potter books and not from the films.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Tameside Table Tennis Championships will take place on each Monday evening over this half term.

The GCSE conference for Year 11 students which will take place on Tuesday 29th January at the Village Hotel, Ashton.

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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