

Droylsden Academy is a good school

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Remembrance Day

Today, the Academy remembered and paid its respects to all those who have laid down their lives in the defence of our country and the freedoms that we, and billions of other people around the World, enjoy. Members of the Combined Cadet Force and our Year 11 Prefects attended a Service of Remembrance in the school grounds whilst lessons were paused around the Academy so that staff and students could join them in two minutes of silent reflection and thanks.

The Droylsden Community has close links with the Armed Services and has, of course, endured its losses and, as such, it was no surprise that our solemn and moving acts of remembrance were impeccably respected and observed by everyone.



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work



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Staying with the theme of 'Remembrance', thank you to **Maria Bundache** from Year 11 who wrote the following poem, 'The Unforgotten', and to the Year 8 Art Club who created pieces of 'Installation Art' in recognition of this important day.

The Unforgotten

Trenches, frozen, bitten by disease,
Friends, wounded, awaiting death.
Praying their suffering would ease,
As others took a final breath.

A crimson stained the land,
Their faces filled with pallor.
Following the one command:
"Fight with every drop of valour!"

Others, returned, though still with pain,
With minds that guilt devours.
And grass on battlefields grew, again,
With scarlet, delicate flowers.

Brothers, bound by a cruel fate,
With each their hopes and dreams.
Made to cause an agony so great,
And hear each other's screams.

At last, a truce they did obtain,
At Christmas, friends were made from foes.
Yet, the armistice was in vain,
First the havoc of one, then of two wars, arose.

Forever unforgotten, always in our minds,
Eternal gratitude for their undying merit.
The poppy, of their sacrifices reminds,
We hope for their immortal courage to inherit.

Yet war is never over, and crushes our hearts,
Perpetually taking lives, shamelessly.
Greed rules the world, and another one starts,
And one day, they'll realise they acted aimlessly.



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'Sparx'

As parents and carers will be aware, Sparx is an online Maths resource which students can log onto at any time to practice and reinforce or develop their understanding of a topic, revise and complete homework tasks. Students are awarded 'XP Points' every time they attempt a question and evidence clearly shows that regular use of Sparx boosts a child's GCSE Grade. Parents and Carers can receive Sparx updates by email and we hope that they will encourage their child to use this brilliant resource regularly at home.

The tables here show our all-time highest scorers with the most XP Points since the site opened at the Academy and this week's highest scorers with the most XP Points over the last seven days. Congratulations to **Ibrahim Ali Muhammad** who has attempted an amazing 96,053 questions in total and well done to everyone who uses the website regularly to improve their mathematical skills!



sparx

All Time High Scores

1st	Ibrahim Ali Muhammad (Y9)	96,053 XP
2nd	Aadam Shah (Y9)	18,755 XP
3rd	Alexia Witter (Y7)	10,855 XP

Runners Up: Alisha Maryam (8), Ebony Banks-Gannon (Y8), Morgan Woollas (Y10), Jamie Jairath-Fernandez (Y11)

This week's brightest sparx

Year 7	Reece Carter	2,416 XP
Year 8	Ruah Khairallah	1,233 XP
Year 9	Ibrahim Ali Muhammad	15,900 XP
Year 10	Morgan Woolas	1,580 XP
Year 11	Jamie Jairath-Fernandez	1,230 XP

Come on you Blues!

Thank you to the PE Department for taking a group of students to the EFL tie at the Etihad this week. The right result and a good night out!



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Footloose

Thank you to the cast for attending rehearsals over the half-term holiday in preparation for this year's Academy Production of 'Footloose'. Students and staff may have seen the trailers running on the screen around the building and with only 10 weeks to go, the pressure is on! There will be performances on the evenings of 24th, 25th and 26th January and tickets will be on sale from Student Services before we break up for Christmas. Good luck to the Cast and Crew and everyone involved!



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Performer of the Month

Congratulations to **Lois Smith** and **Felix Oboh** from Year 7 and **Yunisa Barrie** from Year 9 who have all been nominated by the Performing Arts Department as Performers of the Month.



Lois has been nominated by the Music Department as she is a hardworking and creative student. She has shown excellent performance skills in lessons and her Ukulele teacher has been equally impressed with her performance during instrumental lessons. Lois always tries hard and is also eager to learn new skills on different instruments. Well done Lois, you are a pleasure to teach!

Felix has been nominated by the Dance Department as he has demonstrated a real enthusiasm and talent for Street Dance and now African Dance, the two areas to be covered so far this year. Felix always has a positive attitude, works hard and volunteers brilliant answers in class. He is also a natural performer and has given some fantastic demonstrations to the rest of the class. Well done Felix and keep up the great work!

Yunisa has been nominated by the Drama Department as he has made a fantastic start to Year 9. He has made a great start in exploring Physical Theatre, where he has shown himself to be a good listener and an excellent group leader. He has also demonstrated high levels of creativity and used this these to deliver impressive performances. Yunisa has consistently produced a high standard of performance work and continues to be an excellent member of the ensemble. Well done, Yunisa!

Food and Nutrition

Year 11 were presented with a range of ingredients this week and now have to use their culinary skills, imagination and creativity to produce a hopefully mouth-watering and nutritious dish! We are intrigued as to what they will prepare...

Ready, steady, cook!



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Exceptional Character

Congratulations to **Emily Finerty, Daniel Bilewicz, Rachel King, Tanisha Guishard** and **Stevie Parker** who have all been nominated by their Year Leaders for demonstrating exceptional character. Mrs Arnold met with the group this week to congratulate them and tell them how proud we are of their achievements.



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Amazing Homework!

Steven Scudder demonstrated some excellent creativity this week and certainly went the extra mile in producing a T-Shirt about 'Othello', the Shakespeare play that Year 9 are currently studying in class.

A fantastic effort Steven, Mr Clays-Jones is very impressed as were the rest of the English Department who have used your T-Shirt in their lessons too!

Photography

Thank you to **Amy McGuire, Roman Nicholson, Chris Wright, Lora Petrova** and **Harrison Hilton** for submitting the following edits from their GCSE portfolios for publication in this week's Newsflash.



STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to **Rosie Sawyer** from Year 7 and **Jephthah Adams** and **Joe Naylor**, both from Year 11, on their nominations as Student of the Week.

Rosie has been nominated by the Science Department as she is an enthusiastic and hardworking member of the class. She is quick to ask and answer questions and she always has a positive attitude in every lesson. Rosie is also a polite and considerate student who models the Academy values at all times. Well done Rosie!

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Jephthah has been nominated for his amazing contributions in English/Maths Catch-up. He gets involved in every lesson and always gives 100%. Jephthah is making great progress and his smile can light up the classroom.



Joe Naylor has been nominated by the Maths Department for his exceptional work in Maths and Further Maths. Ms Lloyd and Ms Sheridan, his Maths teachers, are really impressed by his resilience, positive 'can do' attitude and his ability to think 'out of the box', an important skill for all gifted mathematicians. Joe is on track to get a brilliant grade in the summer and deserves all the success he gets.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

We are pleased to report that the Academy will be offering Year 9 students the opportunity to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award again this year. As you may be aware, the Duke of Edinburgh Award is an internationally recognised programme that encourages students to develop new skills, contribute to the wider community and develop their self-esteem and self-confidence. The Award is highly valued by employers, colleges and universities.



There are four parts to the programme that students must complete in order to achieve the Award. Firstly, they must choose to develop a new skill; this could be anything from learning to play a musical instrument to playing a sport or learning to cook. Secondly, they must volunteer and support their local community in some way; this could be through volunteering to help a local community group, organising an event to raise money for charity or helping to clear up a local area. Thirdly, they must take part in a physical activity, something which helps them to lead a more active and healthier lifestyle. Finally, students must take part in a two-day expedition involving walking, orienteering and an overnight camp. More information about the Award can be found at <https://www.dofe.org/>.

Year 9 students will find out more about the Award during Form Time and, if they are interested in taking part, they should attend a short session with Mrs McCallum and Mr Goodier, who lead the programme, in M15 at 2.35pm on Friday 11th November.

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There will also be an online meeting for parents/carers of Year 9 students on the evening of Tuesday 15th November at 5.00pm where they can find out more about the Award and ask any questions they may have. Parents/cares should access the meeting through their child's Academy Google Account using the Code and PIN below:

Googlemets code: ixh-xxwx-ben

PIN: 403 519 887#

If you have any questions before then, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs McCallum at:

rmccallum@droylsdenacademy.com



There will also be an opportunity for Year 10 students to sign up for the Silver award and further information will be available in due course.

GCSE COUNTDOWN

Year 11, there are only 21 school weeks left, just 105 days in school, until your first GCSE exam.

Key Dates

Your first set of Pre-Public Examinations will take place from 21st November to 2nd December.

Your second set of Pre-Public Examinations will take place from 6th to 17th February.

A second Year 11 Parent/Carer Evening will take place on Thursday 9th March.

As detailed above, your Pre-Public Examinations start on Monday 21st November and it is essential that you prepare and revise thoroughly for them. Your Pre-Public Examination timetable can be found below:

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Date	Session	Exam
Mon 21 st Nov	am	English Language
	pm	Business Studies
Tue 22 nd Nov	am	Maths Paper 1
	pm	Geography
Wed 23 rd Nov	am	Triple Science: Physics Combined Science: Physics Paper 1 Design and Technology Music
	pm	-
Thurs 24 th Nov	am	Maths Paper 2 Digital information Technology Drama
	pm	-
Mon 28 th Nov	am	Maths Paper 3
	pm	Computer Science
Tues 29 th Nov	am	History French (Listening and Reading) Foundation and Higher
	pm	Spanish (Listening and Reading) Foundation and Higher
Weds 30 th Nov	am	Triple Science: Chemistry Combined Science: Biology Paper 2 Spanish (Writing) Foundation and Higher French (Writing) Foundation and Higher
	pm	Religious Studies
Thurs 1 st Dec	am	Art
	pm	Art
Friday 2 nd Dec	am	English Literature Photography
	pm	GCSE PE



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NEWS FROM THE CATERING TEAM

Our Hot Meals Menu runs on a 3 week cycle. Next week will be the Menu for Week 1.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Meat Option	Salmon Fishcakes, Potatoes & Peas	Sausage, Mash, Peas or Beans	Roast Beef Dinner	Meatballs, Potatoes & Veg	Fish, Chips & Peas
Vegetarian Option	Mixed Pepper Pasta Bake	Chickpea Curry & Rice	Veggie Roast Dinner	Frittata, Potatoes & Veg	Veggie Mince Pie, Chips & Peas
Lighter Bites	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling

We also have a 'Grab & Go' Menu. The Menu for next week is:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Fish Fingers on a Bun	Giant Hotdog	A large slice of Pizza	Spicy Beef in a Wrap	Pepperoni & Cheese Quesadilla

Finally, we also have a Menu for the meals we serve from the Pod. The Menu for next week is:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chicken, Rice & Curry Sauce	BBQ Pasta Bake	Chilli Beef Pin Wheel & Salad	Mac & Cheese	Fried Chicken, Chips & Corn



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HOTEL GOTHAM

Congratulations to 'The Gotham Hotel', our partner hotel, which has been named as the best 'Luxury City Centre Hotel' in Northern Europe at the recent Awards held in Antalya, Turkey.

Regular readers of Newsflash will know that we are linked to the Gotham through the 'Schools and Hotels Partnership', an initiative aimed at raising awareness of careers and opportunities in the Hospitality Industry. Students from the Academy have been lucky enough to visit the Gotham for a guided tour and to experience 'fine dining', whilst staff from the hotel have also visited school to give talks and presentations.

Ms Ball, who co-ordinates our involvement in the programme will be meeting with staff from the hotel next week to discuss events and activities for the coming year.



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Term Dates for the Academic Years 2022 to 2023 and 2023 to 2024

Academic Year 2022 to 2023

Following the announcement that the Coronation of King Charles will take place on Saturday 6th May, and that there will be a national Bank Holiday on Monday 8th May, the term dates and closures for this academic year have been updated as below:

Autumn Term

The Academy opens for students on Monday 5th September.

We close for the Half Term Holiday on Friday 21st October and re-open on Monday 31st October.

We will be closed for a training day on Friday 25th November.

We close for the Christmas Holiday on Friday 16th December.

Spring Term

The Academy opens for students on Wednesday 4th January.

We close for the Half Term Holiday on Friday 17th February and re-open on Monday 27th February.

We close for the Easter Holiday on Friday 31st March.

Summer Term

The Academy opens for students on Monday 17th April.

We will be closed for May Day Bank Holiday on Monday 1st May.

We will be closed for the Bank Holiday granted in celebration of the Coronation of King Charles on Monday 8th May.

We close for the Half Term Holiday on Friday 26th May and re-open on Monday 5th June.

We close for the Summer Holiday on Thursday 20th July.

Academic Year 2023 to 2024

Autumn Term

The Academy opens for students on Wednesday 6th September.

We close for the Half Term Holiday on Friday 20th October and re-open on Monday 30th October.

We will be closed for a training day on Friday 24th November.

We close for the Christmas Holiday on Friday 15th December.

Spring Term

The Academy opens for students on Wednesday 3rd January.

We close for the Half Term Holiday on Friday 9th February and re-open on Monday 19th February.

We close for the Easter Holiday on Thursday 29th March.

Summer Term

The Academy opens for students on Monday 15th April.

We will be closed for May Day Bank Holiday on Monday 6th May.

We close for the Half Term Holiday on Friday 24th May and re-open on Monday 3rd June.

We close for the Summer Holiday on Tuesday 23rd July.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 7 'Settling in Evening' will be held for Parents and Carers of students in Year 7 on Thursday 17th November.

The Academy will be closed for a Training Day on Friday 25th November.

Year 11 Recognition Evening for the 'Class of 22' will be held on Thursday 8th December.

The Academy Christmas Lunch will take place on Wednesday 14th December.

The Academy Christmas Carol Concert will be held on the evening of Wednesday 14th December.

EVER THOUGHT ABOUT A CAREER IN TEACHING?



TAME RIVER
EDUCATIONAL TRUST
TEACHING & CURRICULUM
INSTITUTE



If so, why not '**Train to Teach**' with us here at **The Tame River Teaching & Curriculum Institute** through School Direct in partnership with the everyonelearning@ Hawthorns Kingfisher , Tame River Teaching and Curriculum Institute.

We are currently recruiting for **Biology, Chemistry, Physics, English, Geography, History, Maths, PE with Ebacc, Art, RE, Computer Science and MFL.**

School Direct allows Trusts and schools to request training places directly, select the ITE (Initial Teacher Education) provider of teacher training they want to work with and agree the content and focus of the training, in line with national standards for teachers.

Our new Trust, Tame River Educational Trust, plays host to training and placements in very strong schools (Mossley Hollins High School, Ofsted Outstanding, and Droylsden Academy, Ofsted Good) and we are working in partnership with other schools in Tameside. Bursaries are available!

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For further information please contact e.duggan@tret.org.uk

<https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/explore-my-options>

Apply here <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-teacher-training> Course Provider Code 2A1

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