

The night with Rudolph came to an end
 But I had so much fun and even made a new friend
 This night was a night to remember
 So happy, so happy, so happy in December!

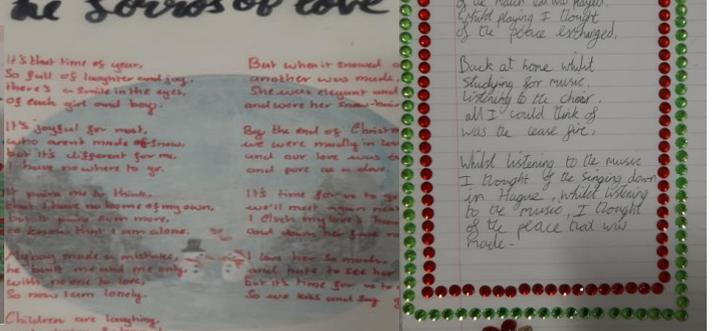
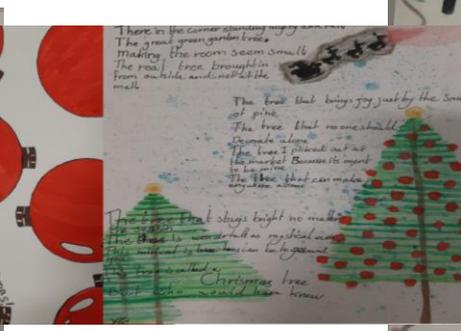
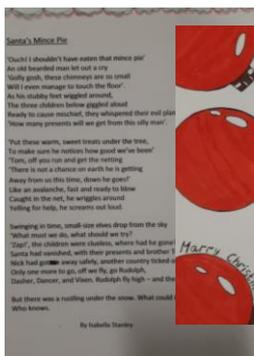
'Santa's Mince Pies' by Isabelle Stanley

'Ouch! I shouldn't have had that mince pie'
 An old bearded man let out a cry
 'Golly gosh these chimneys are so small
 Will I even manage to touch the floor?'
 As his stubby feet wiggled around
 The three children below giggled aloud
 Ready to cause mischief, they whispered their evil plan
 'How many presents will we get from this silly man?'

'Put these warm sweet treats under the tree
 To make sure he notices how good we've been'
 'Tom, off you run and get the netting
 There is not a chance he is getting
 Away from us this time, down he goes!
 Like an avalanche, fast and ready to blow
 Caught in the net he wriggles around
 Yelling for help, he screams out loud

Swinging in time, small elves drop from the sky
 What must we do, what should we try?
 Zap! The children were clueless, where had he gone
 Santa had vanished with their presents and brother Tom
 Nick had got away safely, another country ticked off
 Only one more to go, off we fly, go Rudolph
 Dasher, Dancer, Vixen and Rudolph fly high and the rest follow on

But there was a rustling under the snow, what could it be?
 Who knows?



'Peace' by William Houghton

It was after History,
 I was playing football
 All I could think of
 was Christmas in 1914

Whilst playing, I thought
 of the match that was played
 Whilst playing, I thought
 of the peace exchanged

Back at home,
 whilst studying for music,
 listening to the Choir
 All I could think of
 was the cease fire

Whilst listening to the music,
 I thought of the singing down
 in the Hague. Whilst listening
 to the music, I thought
 of the peace that was made

Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Under 12 Girls Football

Congratulations to the Girls A and B Football Teams on their success in the Tameside Under 12 Girls Football Competition. Although we didn't win the trophy, the A Team came runners-up in the Cup competition and the B Team came runners-up in the Plate competition. The girls played some great football and displayed remarkable resilience and fortitude on an evening of sub-zero temperatures! Thank you and well done also to **Caitlin Skelly** for managing the B Team and showing great leadership. The photo below was taken after the players had received their medals in Assembly.



Grace Connors, Kitty Parker, Jasmine Lockie, Lola Jones, Mylee Dunbar, Amelia Benson, Leah Davies, Caitlyn Shaw, Faith Kendal, Gracie Mae Holland, Anaya Littlewood, Esme Scudder, Alexia Witter, Ava Swarbrick and Emily Finnerty

Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Another busy week in Science!

At Einstein Club, the students have been making 'Elephant's Toothpaste' by mixing together Hydrogen Peroxide and a little soap solution. The Hydrogen Peroxide breaks down to release bubbles of Oxygen which then get trapped in the soap solution, rather than escaping into the atmosphere and..... hey presto, you have 'Elephant's Toothpaste'!



Members of the Einstein Club also enjoyed a festive meeting this week where they used their scientific skills, knowledge and understanding to make Christmas decorations!



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Meanwhile, members of STEM Club (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) made some beautiful Christmas Wreaths!



Back in the classroom, Year 8 students are currently studying magnetism and have been drawing magnetic fields by moving a plotting compass around a magnet.....



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

.....and Year 11 have been investigating Hooke's Law where the extension of a spring is directly proportional to the force or load attached to it until it reaches its limit of proportionality or elasticity! No doubt, that will take a few parents back!



Outdoor Education

This week, students following the Outdoor Education Pathway of the Academy Electives Programme enjoyed an interesting, informative and, sometimes, gory presentation by Major Webb on the spiders, snakes, scorpions and other creepy crawlies he has encountered whilst on camps around the World.

Although not for the squeamish, we are looking forward to Part 2 after the Christmas Holiday!



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Performer of the Month

Congratulations to **Thomas Loco** from Year 7, **Marvin Chukwuma** from Year 9 and **Logan Latchford** and **Harry Chambers** from Year 10 on their nominations by the Performing Arts Department as Performers of the Month.

Thomas has been nominated for his performance in Dance where he has excelled both in lessons and in the rehearsals for January's Academy production. Thomas always gives 100% in everything he does and consistently demonstrates a positive and conscientious attitude towards learning. He is also always willing to help others and has directed his group in choreographing an up-beat and creative 'Street Dance' routine. Well done Thomas and keep up the good work!

Marvin has been nominated for his performance in Drama where he has worked exceptionally hard in lessons this term. He has made excellent progress whilst studying Brecht and is becoming a confident young performer. Recently, Marvin completed his practical assessment for this first term and really stole the show as the 'Announcer', bringing the text to life with his performance, skills and understanding of Brechtian techniques. Well done, Marvin!



Logan and Harry have been nominated for their performances in Music. Musically, they come as a package and Miss Burgess felt that it wouldn't be fair to nominate one of them without the other!

Those regular Newsflash readers will recognise Logan and Harry from the article in last week's edition about their group 'Shryk' and their performance at this week's Christmas Concert.



Logan has made remarkable progress on guitar this year. He only picked up the instrument in the Spring Term of Year 9, yet recently performed a Grade 4 piece in his exam! His commitment to practice is outstanding! Meanwhile, Harry is developing as a natural performer who you can generally hear beating (literally!) the drums in the Music practice room almost every lunch and break time. Miss Burgess is very proud of the boys' commitment and progress and is looking forward to their performance, along with **Jasmine Beckwith**, the third member of 'Shryk', at the Christmas Concert.

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This week's brightest sparx

This week's brightest Sparx!

Congratulations to **Reece Carter**, **Tadhg Loftus**, **Kiki Aginbogun**, **Morgan Woollas** and **Angelinah Mugadza** who are this week's brightest Sparx having attempted the most questions on the interactive Maths website.

Year 7	Reece Carter	5,100 XP
Year 8	Tadhg Loftus	1,259 XP
Year 9	Kiki Akingbogun	5,833 XP
Year 10	Morgan Woollas	1,443 XP
Year 11	Angelinah Mugadza	2,819 XP



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 for their child by email and we hope that they will encourage their child to use this brilliant resource regularly at home.

Photography

Thank you to **Laura Lilley**, **Molly Nash** and **Daniel Arora** from Year 11 for submitting a selection of photos following their recent visit to the 'Lightopia' Exhibition at Heaton Park.



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work



Thank you also to **Alfie Weir** from Year 10 who has created this fantastic self-portrait in the style of 'Helmo'.

'Helmo', a duo made up of Thomas Couderc and Clement Vauchez, are highly talented French photographers who are renowned for their experimental and innovative approach to photography.



'MasterChef!'

Congratulations to **Tyler Wolstencroft**, **Bethany Mawocha** and **Nassim Rivoire** on reaching the final of this year's 'MasterChef' competition which will be held, once again, at the 'Tameside One' Restaurant in Ashton. All three students excelled, with Tyler and Bethany preparing a dish of Peri Peri Chicken with Wedges and Coleslaw and Nassim preparing a dish of Lasagne and Garlic Bread. Congratulations to Tyler, Bethany and Nassim and good luck in the final!



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Times Tables Mentors!

Thank you to our Year 9 Maths Ambassadors who have been supporting a group of Year 7 students at improving their Times Tables by leading them through a series of games, challenges and activities. The half term culminated in a 'Times Tables Rock Stars' competition with First Prize going to **Ben Jones** from Year 7 and his Mentor, **Mohammad Matrood**, and Second Prize going to **Kyrah Pinnock** and her mentor, **Alyssa Evans**. Well done to everyone who took part, great fun and great progress!



The Tuesday Library Reading Club

This week, the Tuesday Library Reading Club took part in an 'Escape Room' activity with clues and questions based on 'A Christmas Carol', by Charles Dickens. To complete the activity, two teams of students had to take part in a series of challenges, armed only with their intellect and a generous helping of team spirit, and find the secret key!



The first mystery involved pairing characters from the book with their descriptions. Matching the names to the descriptions correctly, and in order, enabled you to move on to the second mystery and crack a coded message! At this point, Group Two, made up of **Taali Allikmaa**, **Marvin Chukwuma**, **Rayah Norris**, **Emma Petrova**, **Kalem Power** and **Archie Wagstaff** were in the lead and confident of victory!



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

However, Group One, made up of **Abass Alenezi, Stephanie Sargaco, Freddie Jones, Eden Rutter** and **Brogan Williams**, had other ideas and with magnificent performances in the third mystery, Anagrams, and the fourth mystery, Puzzle Hunt, along with the strategic use of a 'Free Pass', a fantastic come back and a famous victory were in touching distance until..... the prize was snatched away by Taali's impressive speed in deciphering the final escape word 'Generosity'!

Well done to everyone who took part and keep your eyes peeled for the next 'Escape Room' activity coming your way next term!



The Origami Club

The Origami Club has been making origami 'bats' this week! The group practised their folding skills and then, working collaboratively, used their understanding of shapes and angles to make bats that could actually fly. The students then took things to a new 'height' by flying their bats down into the Maths Open Zone from the first floor! Origami Club takes place in the Maths Open Zone every Tuesday at 2.45pm and any Year 8 or 9 students who would like to join up after the Christmas break are very welcome.



Thank you!

A big thank you from Ms Marlowe to those students from 7YE who completed additional homework by illustrating their favourite quotes from 'The Other Side of Truth', the novel that the group are studying in class!



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to **Ksenia Cotov** from Year 7, **Dillon Craig** from Year 8, **Robin Justice** from Year 9 and **Elisha Holland** from Year 11 who have all been nominated as Student of the Week.



Ksenia has been nominated again for Philosopher of the Week, by Miss Worsley, for her consistent and hardworking approach to her classwork and homework. In addition, Ksenia has displayed a great understanding of 'Great British Values' in her learning, particularly through her respect and acceptance of those of different faiths. This has been evidenced in her most recent homework where she has written beautifully about the life of a Sikh. Well done Ksenia, you are an asset to the class!

Dillon has been nominated by the Maths Department as he has been working really hard all term and always gives 100% during lessons. He has taken ownership of his own learning consistently, he completes his homework to a high standard and always takes a proactive role in class. Well done Dillon and keep up the good work!

Robin has been nominated by the English Department as they have engaged thoughtfully with the Othello scheme throughout this half term and been a role model to their peers. Robin's reading analysis shows a clear awareness of Shakespeare's intentions, the antagonistic nature of Iago and Othello's relationship and reversal of fortune. Ms Marlowe has also been really impressed with some of the insightful comments that Robin has made in class about orientalism, prejudice and racial stereotyping prevalent within the 16th century. Similarly, it has been simply wonderful to see Robin volunteering to read and perform in class too. Please keep up this exceptional work ethic in January.

Elisha has been nominated by the Science Department for her hard work and resilience during the Year 11 Pre-Public Examinations. Elisha always works hard and prepares thoroughly for assessments and examinations and deserves to do well. She is also a wonderful student who models the Academy values consistently and is a joy to teach.

Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

THANK YOU TO MS HESLOP AND THE CATERING TEAM

Thank you to the Catering Team for feeding us throughout the year and for all your hard work in the lead up to Christmas, it is really appreciated. Not only did Tina and the catering staff serve up an amazing Christmas Dinner for the Academy this Wednesday, but, over the last week, they also served a Christmas lunch for Year 5 students from four of our Partner Primary Schools, Moorside Primary Academy, Greenside Primary Academy, Manchester Road Academy and St Mary's C of E Primary. We hope that you have a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year!



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REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

DROYLSDEN ACADEMY
PRESENTS

Footloose

YOUTH EDITION

Stage Adaptation by
DEAN PITCHFORD and WALTER BOBBIE

Based on the Original Screenplay by Dean Pitchford
Music by TOM SNOW Lyrics by DEAN PITCHFORD
Additional Music by ERIC CARMEN, SAMMY HAGAR,
KENNY LOGGINS and JIM STEINMAN



25th-27th January, 2023
7pm (doors open from 6:40pm)
Tickets available from Student Services

Adult tickets £4
Concessions £3
Under 5s watch for free



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Sports Leaders

Applications for positions as Sports Leaders are now open.

Students wishing to apply should complete their application using the form in in their PE Google Classroom. Completed applications will then be assessed by the PE Department in January. Please think carefully about what you should write and include in your application.



For more information, please see a member of PE staff.

The standard of our sports leadership has been outstanding in recent years and we are sure that this will continue with the current round of applications.

Thank you and good luck!

The Cost of Living Crisis

Many families across the country are struggling with the cost of living crisis.

There is help out there and Tameside have asked schools to publicise the following link so that you parents/carers are aware of the

<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/helpinghand>



We all need a little support sometimes, we can lend a helping hand when you need it.

Helping Hand provides you with a one-stop-shop of local support services who can assist you with:



Taking control of your finances and finding out if you're entitled to financial support



Improving your mental health and wellbeing



Assisting you with housing problems



Building your work skills and find routes into employment



Finding local food pantries and food banks

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SETTING UP APPS, GAMES AND SOFTWARE

Millions of new phones, tablets, laptops and games consoles will be nestling under Christmas trees this year. However, even if parents and carers have gone to the trouble of setting up these new devices and enabling the safety features, there are still potential hazards in the apps, games and software that children will want to install and use. Knowing what to look for and discussing those risks with your child may help avoid any nasty surprises this Christmas. Here are our top tips for ensuring that unwrapping this year's presents doesn't unleash any unexpected dangers.

TAKE NOTE OF AGE RATINGS

Back when most games were bought in shops, checking the age rating was easy: it was on the front of the box. Now that most games are downloaded, it's tougher – but not impossible. All reputable download stores show a game's age rating at the point of purchase, and you can check the suitability of a specific title your child wants to play at videostandards.org.uk/RatingBoard/games.



CHECK THE SPECS

To avoid let-downs, check a game's specs before buying – especially for PC or Mac, where games often need a particular graphics chip or processor to work. Sites like systemrequirementslab.com can scan your computer to see if it will run certain games properly. On consoles, make sure you're buying the right version: some newer Xbox or PlayStation games won't play on older consoles.

'FREE' ISN'T ALWAYS FREE

The games market has changed radically in recent years. Many titles are free to download, but then tempt players to pay for cosmetic items (as in Fortnite) or to unlock additional content. There can be huge peer pressure for children to pay for these items. Agree a budget for in-game purchases before the game is downloaded, and make sure children can't authorise in-game purchases by themselves.

DISABLE IN-APP PURCHASING

It's not wise to leave children with devices that can make in-app purchases without your permission. Ideally, set up computers, consoles and phones so child accounts need an adult's authorisation to buy anything. On shared devices (like iPads, which don't allow user accounts), check the settings to ensure that in-app purchasing requires the account holder's password, fingerprint or face ID.

MONITOR IN-GAME COMMS

Voice chat with friends is part of the fun of modern gaming – but danger lurks here too. Many titles have open chat systems, meaning that children could speak to strangers or hear adult language and verbal abuse when games get particularly competitive. Using a shared family area (as opposed to alone in bedrooms) for online gaming is a good way to keep an occasional ear on what's being said.

BE WARY OF GIFTS

Titles like Roblox, Minecraft and Fortnite have in-game currencies, which can be earned through progress in the game – but can also be bought with real money. A common scam is for a young player to be offered currency if they click a link, visit a certain site or contact another user directly. Warn your child about such offers; they should show you if they're in any doubt over an in-game gift.

APPS ARE AGE RATED, TOO

Like games, apps in the major stores have age ratings, too – so you can see in advance whether an app's appropriate for your child. Additionally, phones' parental control settings allow you to set age limits, preventing young ones from downloading unsuitable apps themselves. These ratings aren't infallible, however: we've seen TV apps featuring adult shows with an age rating of 3, for example.



CONSIDER STORAGE

Most apps and games will tell you in the online store how much space they need on a device. Check this carefully – especially with games, which can run into hundreds of megabytes and beyond. If you don't have enough free storage on a device to run the game or app, you won't get a refund from the store. You can normally check a device's available storage space through the settings menu.

WATCH OUT FOR IMITATORS

Even in the official stores, untrustworthy rogue apps can slip through the net. Common tricks are apps or games that have a slightly different name to the genuine article (Fortnight rather than Fortnite, for instance) or use logos which deliberately look very similar to the official app. To avoid downloading these imitations, read the app's description and check who the publisher is listed as.

LEGAL APPS THAT BREAK THE LAW

There are many apps that are perfectly legal but enable illegal activity – streaming apps which let people watch football matches, say, without paying for Sky or BT Sport. Prosecution for using such apps is rare, but they can lead to risky behaviour like viewing rogue streams on sites teeming with malicious links. Watch for children installing unusual apps with 'TV', 'stream' or 'sport' in the name.

IN-APP REGISTRATION

It's common for apps and games to ask users to register: entering personal details like email address, date of birth and other information you might not want your child to divulge. Ask them to get your permission before giving any personal info to an app – and consider using your details rather than the child's, so they're not targeted by marketing spam or put at risk of having their data stolen.

STAY UPDATED

Most games and apps are subject to regular updates, which not only offer new content and features but also provide critical security improvements. Children tend to ignore such updates – usually because they don't understand why they're important, or they simply want to get straight on with gaming. Check your child's devices periodically to make sure these updates are being installed.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Academy will re-open for students on Wednesday 4th January at 8.30am

The term dates for the remainder of the Academic Year can be found below:

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 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 at 12.00pm.



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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!

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