

Droylsden Academy is a good school

This will be the last edition of Newsflash for the Academic Year. We hope you have enjoyed your weekly read and look forward to bringing you all the news again in September!

## IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

### United Kingdom Maths Trust Challenge Update!

You may remember reading the article on the United Kingdom Maths Trust Challenge last week in which we congratulated all our students who had achieved the Bronze, Silver or Gold Standard in this year's tests. The UKMT Challenge is a prestigious national examination or test taken by the most able mathematicians in schools across the country and you may remember that those students who achieve a score in the top 25% across the country are awarded the Bronze Standard, those who achieve a score in the top 15% are awarded Silver and anyone who achieves a score in the top 5% is awarded Gold.

Well, as it turns out, we didn't congratulate all of our students after all, we missed out the Year 8 students who were amongst the top achievers nationally in achieving the Silver Award! A huge apology and massive congratulations to **Ben Williams, Jack Willott, Jack Nash, Liam Cameron-McClusky, Riley Haslam, Fabio Lucci and Jack Morgan** on your amazing achievement!



Please note that the Newsflash Editorial Team is placing the blame for this omission fairly and squarely at the door of the Maths Department!

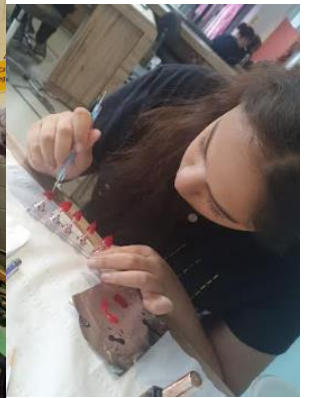
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## Hey Ho Hey Ho, it's off to work we go!

Well done to all of the Year 10 students who took part in the College 'Taster Days' at Tameside College and Clarendon Sixth Form College last week, sampling courses from Animal Husbandry to 'A Level' Physics, Bricklaying to Beauty and Decorating to Design. Your enthusiasm, attitude and approach throughout the day really was fantastic and we hope that you now have a clearer idea of the courses and qualifications you would like to take (or not take!) when you leave Droylsden and the career pathways you would like to follow.



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## Year 7 Parent Teacher Evening

The Academy would like to thank those parents and carers who attended last week's Year 7 Parent Teacher Evening, we hope that meeting your child's teachers was useful and informative. Thank you also to **Success Brat Richard, Desire Okoduwa** and **Samuel Pasieka-Awosanya** for staffing Reception and welcoming parents and carers throughout the evening.



We were pleased that, of the parents who filled in an Academy questionnaire during the evening:

- 98% of them agreed that their child was happy at school;
- 98% felt that their child feels safe at school;
- 98% felt that the school ensures student behaviour is good;
- 100% agreed that the Academy had high expectations of their child;
- 98% felt that their child was doing well;
- 93% agreed that the Academy lets them know how their child is doing;
- 98% felt that there was a good range of subjects for their child to study;
- 97% agreed that their child can take part in clubs and activities;
- 100% felt that the Academy supports their child's wider personal development; and
- 99% would recommend the Academy to another parent.

## This week's brightest Sparx!

Congratulations to **Hayley-Jane McGeever, Fabio Lucci, Kiki Akingbogun** and **Georgia Morris** who were the brightest Sparx for last week having attempted the most questions on the interactive Maths website.

## This week's brightest **sparx**

Year 7	Hayley-Jane McGeever	3,609 XP
Year 8	Fabio Lucci	4,058 XP
Year 9	Kiki Akingbogun	1,288 XP
Year 10	Georgia Morris	3,725 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

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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.

### **The Cadet Force Summer Camp at Altcar**

Well done to the 25 cadets who completed this year's summer camp at Altcar, we hope you enjoyed the experience! The camp lasted for a full week with the Cadets joining in a range of activities from Fieldcraft, Paintballing and Shooting to the Assault Course.

The Fieldcraft activity saw the Cadets patrol and defend an area of woodland from attack, complete in full camouflage. The Contingent then practised their shooting skills with an afternoon of paintballing and clay pigeon shooting before putting their skills to the test on the Rifle Range. Well done to **Ayla Rabanni** and **Jai Yu He** who were awarded badges for their marksmanship and accuracy!



In addition to the activities listed above, the Contingent also completed a range of problem-solving challenges which really tested their observational and navigational skills as well as their team work and leadership. We saw a great resilience from all our Cadets throughout the week, they really did rise to the challenge and exceed our expectations.

A huge well done and thank you to our Section Commanders, **Philian Emmanuel**, **Evan Hughes** and **Bobby Alderson**, and our Seconds in Command, **Jamie Fernandez**, **Mohammad Waziri** and **Lennon James**, for leading your charges so well all week, you all did an amazing job!

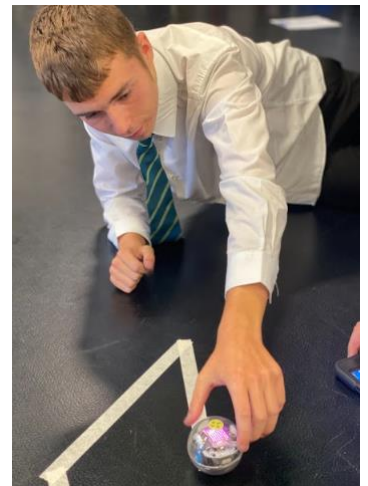
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The next camp is Easter 2024 and if that one is half as enjoyable as this one, then we are in for another great time!

### **Year 10 Computer Science**

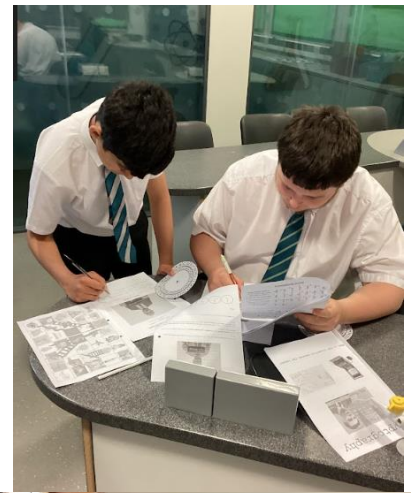
Year 10 students took part in a Computer Science ‘Drop Down Day’ this week where their normal timetable was suspended and they attended a number of workshops and activities on Computer Science and ICT instead. The aim of the day was to develop their computer science and problem-solving skills and hopefully have a good time too!



The year group took part in four sessions altogether. In the ‘Sphero’ session, they used their coding and problem solving skills to program robotic spheres to navigate various mazes, a challenging but really interesting and enjoyable task!

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Students then delved into the fascinating history of the Enigma Machine, and how it had been developed to crack coded Nazi messages during the Second World War, before going onto develop their own cryptography skills by writing and breaking their own ciphers. In the 'Digital Media' session, students designed their own logos using digital applications and, finally, students explored the hugely important subject of digital footprints, the footprint and information you leave behind when you have used social media and other the internet.



Whilst everyone really enjoyed and engaged well with all of the activities, it was this final workshop which probably had the most impact when students started to get a real understanding of the implications of their digital presence both now and in years to come. It also made students realise the importance of online safety and how they must protect their privacy and navigate the digital world responsibly. Student feedback would suggest that they had a very enjoyable, engaging and thought provoking day and had gained skills, knowledge and understanding that would be of real importance going forward. Well done Year 10!

### **Congratulations and good luck!**

A huge congratulations to **Lily-Mae Nicholls** from Year 7 and **Leyla Francis** from Year 8 on successfully auditioning for a position with the very prestigious, and internationally renowned, 'Chameleon Youth Dance Company'.

The Company is highly regarded for its top quality contemporary dance training and creative development and Lily-Mae and Leyla will be taking part in a number of performances across the region. This really is a fantastic opportunity and we wish both Lily-Mae and Leyla the best of luck in what will be a very exciting year ahead!



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### A little creativity!

Thank you to Miss Hickman for submitting the following work from **Lily Yarwood** and **Reece Carter** who are both in Year 7. Miss Hickman was very impressed with Lily's artistic skills in creating the 'Anime' artwork and by Reece's model making and photographic skills in assembling and then taking excellent 'stills' of his finished and assembled kits.



### GCSE COUNTDOWN

Year 10, you only have 31 weeks left in school, just 155 days, until your GCSE examinations start next year in May 2024!

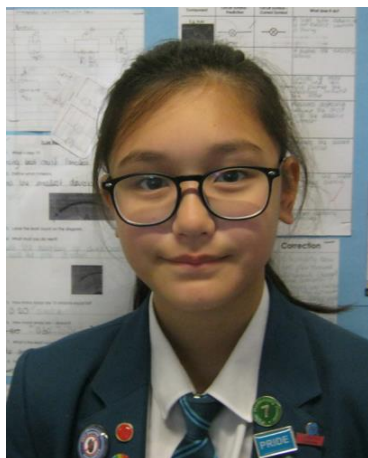


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## STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to **Rosie Sawyer** from Year 7 and **Lacey-Mae Williams** from Year 9 who have both been nominated as Student of the Week.



Rosie has been nominated by the Maths Department for her hard work and contribution to class throughout the year. Rosie's commitment and attitude to learning are commendable and her work is always perfectly and clearly presented. Similarly, she has a really good in-depth all round mathematical knowledge and is always happy to share her answers and understanding with the class. Rosie's homework scores are also consistently good. Well done Rosie!

Lacey-Mae has been nominated by the English Department for her hard work and progress throughout the year and, in particular, for improving her range of vocabulary. Lacey-Mae always contributes positively to lessons too and is keen to read aloud for the class. Well done and thank you for a good year Lacey-Mae!

Congratulations also go to **Felix Oboh** and **Mahdi Kareme** from Year 7 and to **Ben Lees** from Year 9, who have been nominated as Humanitarians of the Week by the Humanities Department.



Felix has been nominated by the History Department for the amazing quality of his answers in class, Mahdi has been nominated by the Religious Studies Department for his wonderful contributions in lessons and Ben has been nominated by the Geography Department for his positive attitude, enthusiasm and his sharp sense of humour! Well done Felix, Mahdi and Ben!

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## AN UPDATE FROM THE LIBRARY!

### 'Retro Reads'

Earlier this term, we introduced our new showcase, 'Retro Reads', where we focus on popular titles from the seventies onwards. This month's Retro Reads looked at titles written by Sue Townsend, an author who was at the height of her popularity in the seventies and eighties, and who your Grandparents may remember!



The editor of Newsflash remembers reading and really enjoying 'The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole aged Thirteen and Three Quarters', one of Sue Townsend's most popular titles, many thousands of years ago!

### BOOK AMNESTY



Do you have Academy Library books at your house or maybe in your school bag?  
Please drop them off at the Library or in the Book Box at the top of the Atrium staircase before the end of term.  
The Library needs the books back. Please help!

### Overdue Loans Policy



Reminder 1 - return the book(s) as soon as possible

Reminder 2 - return the book(s) or receive a Late Library Book detention (Level 1)

Reminder 3 - return the book(s) or receive another Late Library Book detention (Level 1)

Reminder 4 - return the book(s) or be billed for the cost of a replacement copy

With the end of the year rapidly approaching, the Droylsden Academy Library is holding a Book Amnesty! If you have any Academy Library books at home, please return them before the summer holidays. It doesn't matter if they're overdue, we just need them back!

Those who fail to return them by the end of term will, however, face the wrath of the Overdue Loans Policy in September!

## UPDATE FROM THE CATERING TEAM

And next week we will be serving...

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Meat Option	Tandoori Chicken & Rice	Beef Lasagne, Veg or Salad	Roast Dinner	Mince Beef & Onion & Mash	Fish, Chips & Peas
Vegetarian Option	Cheese Omlette & D'phinoise Pots	Veggie Sausage & Pasta Bake	Veggie Roast Dinner	Chick Pea Curry & Rice	Veggie Mince Pie Chips & Peas
Lighter Bites	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
BBQ Pasta Bake	Chicken Curry & Rice	Spicy Chilli Beef with Wedges	Pasta Arrabiata	Fried Chicken, Chips & Corn

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chickenburger on a Bun	Giant Hotdog	A Hot Panini	A Large Slice of Pizza	Cheese & Onion Pasta



### 'Foodie Facts'!

Each week, the Catering Team will be giving us a few 'Foodie Facts' so that we know a little more about what we eat and understand the importance of a balanced and healthy diet.

Over the last few weeks we have learnt a little bit about minerals and vitamins, things we need in small amounts to ensure that different systems and processes in our body work properly. Over the last couple of weeks, we looked at Vitamins C and D and this week we will look at Vitamin A!

Vitamin A is naturally present in many foods and is important for normal vision, the immune system, reproduction and growth and development. Vitamin A also helps your heart, lungs, and other organs work properly. So quite an important vitamin then!

Vitamin A deficiency can lead to inflamed skin, night blindness, a condition where you can't see things clearly in dim light, infertility, delayed growth and respiratory infections. Sometimes a shortage of Vitamin A is associated with acne or if wounds and cuts take longer to heal than they should.

Whilst Vitamin A can be found in many foods, carrots, sweet potatoes, squash, eggs, and green leafy vegetables are really good sources of this important nutrient.



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## REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

### Stop Press

Watch the latest report on the Partnership Primary Olympics from Zion Productions through the link below. Another top quality production from Liam and his team!

[https://youtu.be/z1\\_XKhJ\\_mVE](https://youtu.be/z1_XKhJ_mVE)



### Online Safety

The following sites may be useful in keeping your child safe online.

**Qustodio** is a free Parental Control App. It allows each parent to filter and monitor on 2 devices, a level of cover which should be appropriate for most families. It allows parents to filter content, monitor activity and set time limits. For vulnerable students, there is a subscription version that parents can pay for (a free 30 day trial followed by a subscription of approximately £40 per year for 5 devices) which allows parents to track, monitor calls/messages and get reports and alerts.

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**Report Remove** is a Childline tool for having nude images taken off. This is the link for the website:

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/report-remove/?scrlybrkr=f1b5124c>

**Report Harmful Content.com** is a website that provides advice and support and allow people to report harmful online content. The link is below:

<https://reportharmfulcontent.com/>

**Internet Matters** offers advice to parents and schools regarding internet use and tackles online hate. The link can be found below:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Academy Sports Day will take place on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July.

The Academy will close for the Summer Holiday on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July at 12.00 noon.

The Academy re-opens for students on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

**We hope that everyone has a wonderful Summer Holiday and look forward to seeing you all again in September.**

#### 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.

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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 Good, 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](mailto: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**