

# Newsletter

Friday, 7 February 2020  
Issue 5

Week beginning  
10/02/2020 (Week A)

## Diary Dates

Tuesday, 11 February – 6<sup>th</sup> Form Parents' Evening (4.00-6.00pm)  
Tuesday, 11 February – Safer Internet Day  
Friday, 14 February – Non Uniform Day (£1 voluntary contribution)  
17-21 February – Half Term

## Trips & Visits

9-12 February – Battlefields Trip  
Monday, 10 February – UEA Sports Park Trip  
Tuesday, 11 February – Norfolk Scholars Lincoln University Trip

## Message from the Principal

Welcome to our newsletter this week which I thought I would take the opportunity to share a few reminders regarding our uniform standard along with other information.

On uniform, the first thing I would like to say is a huge **thank you**, we really appreciate the hard work you, our parents and carers, who make sure that the vast majority of our pupils are in full uniform every day without any issue.

**Over 98% of students get it right** so the first thing to say if your child is telling you that 'such and such' student gets away with wearing...' that is not the case. We challenge all instances of non-uniform in all year groups and will do all we can to maintain our high standards. For many of you it was a key reason for choosing this Academy but for all, in agreeing a place at the Academy, you agreed to support our standards.

As we come to half term then and you might be refreshing items of clothing for uniform, please note it is **black shoes not trainers, school trousers or skirt** (not fashion items/leggings etc) and blazer and tie at all times. There has been a small increase in the number of students wearing jewellery so I am including the following reminder from our uniform policy. You can find a helpful guide to the uniform policy on the website here: <https://www.open-academy.org.uk/parent/uniform/>

**Jewellery:** *For health and safety reasons, jewellery is not permitted in the Academy. The exceptions to this rule are small studs in pierced ears – one in each lower lobe, and a watch. 'Stretcher' type ear studs are not allowed. Facial, including tongue, and body piercings are not permitted in any circumstances whether visible or not. To clarify, the only jewellery permitted is: One pair of small studs, one in each lower lobe and a wristwatch.*

If a child has an item of jewellery beyond that described, they will be asked to remove it and hand it in until the end of the day. We would ask therefore that you check your child is in correct uniform each day to minimise any potential conflict in school.



As I said at the start, our uniform is something we are proud of and that our students wear with pride, your support in upholding this standard is therefore most appreciated.

One quick final note is to raise your awareness that students are participating in a health and wellbeing survey next week. Please see the attached information letter.

Mr Ford (Principal)

## Year 7 News

**BREAKING NEWS** – Year 9 has broken our record-breaking attendance streak! For the first time this academic year, we are not the leaders of attendance for the school and we can't let this damage our reputation! One more week before the half term, let's see if we can push through and reclaim our title!

Congratulations to Elisha Jones, Brooke Craven-Andrews and Ella Ramm for their stellar scores of achievement points! Almost 1500 points earned by Year 7 this week which is great!  
Other congratulations to our Year 7 Girls basketball team who competed against Notre Dame this week, winning the match with a record-breaking 10 baskets – very well done to all the players!

On Friday, 14 February, we'll be having a non-school uniform day to raise money for charity so if students would like to partake, please ensure they bring in £1 on the day.

Finally, a quick note to say that contrary to belief, there is no Year 7 Disco happening on the 14 February. This has been rescheduled until after the half term.

Miss Lines (Head of Year 7) and Miss Moss/Mrs Edwards (Assistant Heads of Year 7)

## Year 8 News

I hope all parents have had the opportunity to look at their child's progress reports issued last week. If you have any queries please get in touch with the year 8 team.

Our top 10 achieving students this week are: Zac Skells, Lucy Birkett, Katie Scrivener, Joshua Tidd, Hayden Purvis, Josh Kerry, Daniel Smajda, Luke Copping, Jayden Muzembe and Luca Bush.

Attendance for Year 8 this week is 92.33% which has decreased from last week.

Congratulations for the efforts of our Year 8 girls in the recent basketball games this week. We were unable to win, but showed great effort and attitude throughout: Paige Berry, Kimora Alexander, Isla Gardner, Klaudia Baranowicz, Grace Moreton, Sophie Swatman and Lucy Birkett.

On other sporting news, well done to the Year 8 football team who were unable to win their semi-final match on Wednesday, but like the basketball team, showed great attitude and resilience.

The Learning Hub is on every day after school from 3-4pm and is a great opportunity to complete any work or homework with the use of laptops and assistance from staff.

Mr Lambert (Head of Year 8) and Mrs Roe (Assistant Head of Year 8)

## Year 9 News

Spring is in the air. Morning and afternoons are lighter. There are snowdrops and blossom out and it makes things feel promising for the ongoing 2020. Year 9 students are talking about fund raising ideas in Student Voice and coming up with lots of idea which is great.

We have a week to go and then half term and I think this will be a real boost for the students of Year 9 as they continue their journey of making choices of subjects to help toward their career idea they have at this time.

Mrs Clayton (Head of Year 9) and Mrs Johnston (Assistant Head of Year 9)

## Year 10 News

Our total number of achievement points this week is a big jump from previous weeks at 935; congratulations! Our top five students for achievement points this week are as follows; Bayley Squires, Gus Jefferson, Daniel Swatman, Chuks Elikwu and Jack Morris. Well done and keep up the fantastic effort!

Congratulations to the following students for completing at least one piece of homework to an 'above and beyond' standard this week; Archie Waters, Toby Wenn, Ben Ashby, Calli Atkins, Millie Britcher, Ellie Chapman, Lilia Colledge, Harrison Foster, Rosario Furia, Jeya Kandola, Samuel Leverett, Edward Lincoln, Lucy Moscrop, Amelie Orr, Kacper Podadowski, Pheobe Prichard, Jess Roll, Lottie Sanderson, Calvin Smith, Alfie Sorrento, Bayley Squires, Josh Stagg, Daniel Swatman, Lola Thompson and Cara Tipple. As always, the Learning Hub is available for all students every evening from 3-4pm in the atrium where students will receive support and guidance to complete their homework.

A reminder regarding work experience please! Only 20/109 students have obtained a placement for the upcoming work experience. Despite the 6 July still seeming in the distant future, we would strongly urge students to begin sorting their work experience placements as a matter of urgency! If your child/ward is struggling to find a work experience placement, please encourage them to seek the support of the Year 10 team during tutor time in G40 where we will be more than happy to help.

Attendance is still a big concern with the year group attendance at 92%. Attendance has a very high profile at the Academy. We expect all students to achieve a minimum of 98% attendance per academic year and we count on parents to support us. Please can you ensure that students are only being kept off school if absolutely necessary and ensure all absences are reported as soon as possible.

Miss Matthews (Head of Year 10) and Mrs Lamb (Assistant Head of Year 10)

## Year 11 News

Attendance this week is again at 92%, despite various bugs doing the rounds. Well done to all of those attending, every lesson will make a difference as we head towards PPE2 and the final exams.

The PPEs have now started and I spoke to the examination officer yesterday. She expressed how pleased she is with the behaviour, organisation and effort of students in the exams so far. It is always great to hear that students are making the most of this opportunity to rehearse for the final summer exams and to get an accurate picture of where they are and what they need to work on.



I am delighted that revision sessions are being so well attended. Students should be revising for a minimum of 2 hours a day, possibly split into 30 minute sessions. Attending a revision session counts as an hour revision and can help develop confidence as well as knowledge. If your child needs help with planning a revision timetable please ask them to pop into the Year 11 office and we can support. Students should be planning revision over the half term week, obviously with rest and fun/ reward activities too.

As a year group we have gained 1764 achievement points this week. Our top 5 achievers are:

Dominik Dochunski-Duchonski  
Mateusz Pietrzak  
Millie Clarke  
Theo Amies  
Carter Tink

Mrs Pearsall (Head of Year 11) and Mrs Middleton (Assistant Head of Year 11)

## 6<sup>th</sup> Form News

Firstly, its parents' evening on Tuesday, 11 February (4-6pm). All students should have made appointments with their subject teachers. If parents or guardians are unable to attend, it is still expected that the students make an appointment and attend themselves.

Unfortunately, attendance seems to be dropping in OA6. This is a reminder that all students should be in the Academy from tutor time until the end of the day at 3pm. Unless you have arranged it with myself, there should be **no students going off site during private study periods**. If students are off sick they must email both myself and their subject teachers, and ask for any missed work to be emailed to them. Students that miss lessons and do not catch up quickly will most likely fall behind in their A Level subjects. It is therefore good practice to get into the habit of having open and clear communication with their teachers via email so that they are aware of the reasons, if they have to miss a lesson, and are then able to forward any work. I will have no choice but to contact parents if any students' attendance or punctuation continues to be a cause for concern.

Please can all students be aware of our Academy policy for appropriate dress code. Students can wear smart/casual clothing with no rips or offensive slogans, no cropped tops or short skirts/shorts. The rest of the students in the Academy look up to Sixth Formers, so they should dress appropriately.

On a much more positive note, WFC Open went through to the quarter final of the ESFA National Cup after a 1-0 win against Luton Town Development Squad. Daniel Lawes with the only goal of the game from the penalty spot. Well done boys!

Mrs Molloy (Head of 6<sup>th</sup> Form)

## Careers Information

### Apprenticeships

If you have a child considering next steps, they might be considering an apprenticeship. An apprenticeship involves on the job training with study, so your student gains qualifications whilst earning a wage.

Apprenticeship levels:

<b>Intermediate Apprenticeship</b>	<b>Advanced Apprenticeship</b>	<b>Higher and Degree Apprenticeships</b>
Level 2	Level 3	Level 4 – 7
12 – 18 months	18 – 24 months	Usually a minimum of 24 months
Equivalent to 5 GCSEs 4-9	Equivalent to 2 A Levels	Equivalent to an Undergraduate or Masters Degree

In the same way as at school or sixth form, they will study at a different level depending on the qualifications. For example, they can study for a degree apprenticeship without having completed an advanced apprenticeship as long as they meet the entry requirements set by the apprenticeship. This would most likely include having level 3 qualifications/equivalent.

If you or your child would like to find out more, this week is National Apprenticeship Week, and there are lots of websites which will give you further information and show live apprenticeship vacancies.

There is also support available within school or I can be contacted through Ms Davies if you or your child would like to find out more.

Ms Reynolds-McKay (Higher Education Champion Network for East Anglian Collaborative Outreach)

## Coronavirus Advice

Please see the poster below.

## Library News

On Thursday we held our annual Harry Potter Book Night celebration in the library. Similar celebrations happen across the country and we marked the occasion by hosting a Triwizard Tournament. As students arrived at the library in their wizarding attire, they ran through platform 9<sup>3/4</sup>. The tournament itself then began with students throwing their name into the Goblet of Fire and accepting the challenges of the night ahead. They then assembled into teams representing five different schools in the wizarding world - Hogwarts, Beauxbatons, Durmstrang, Ilvermorny and Mahoutokoro.

The first task of the evening tested their Harry Potter knowledge with students competing in a Harry Potter quiz. After this their teamwork and puzzle solving skills were put to the test with a hunt for dragon eggs. Students had to decipher a series of codes and puzzles (including a Caesar Cipher and turning binary code to decimal numbers) to find their egg.

The final challenge of the night involved a series of mini-games including a hunt for pixies hidden in the library, table top quidditch and a transfiguration challenge where they had to mould tinfoil into an animal.

All the students performed fantastically and it was a delight to see them having so much fun. It was a very close competition but the prize was taken by the Mahoutokoro team - well done to Masie McCormack, Liliana Read, Scarlet Bush, Ema Vaskyte, Jessica Lawson and Jessica Waterfield who made up the winning team!

Miss Ling (Librarian)

## Safer Internet Day 2020



Safer Internet Day 2020, will be taking place on Tuesday, 11 February 2020, when - once again – Open Academy will join forces across the globe to work "together for a better internet".

From cyberbullying to social networking, each year Safer Internet Day aims to raise awareness of emerging online issues reflecting current concerns. Follow on Twitter @SaferInternetDay

Mr Thompson (Teacher)

## Thought for the Week

### Respect

Some really important character traits seem to be falling by the wayside in our day and age. Two of such traits are respect and honour. In many ways our world seems to more disrespectful and dishonouring of those deserving of our esteem, valuing and appreciation.

It's very easy to put people in "respect" boxes and label them up as deserving little respect or lots of it. Many times, what we think or how we respect people is shown up in our attitudes towards them or how we treat and talk to them. It doesn't matter what role a person plays in an organisation or community; all people should be given the same respect and dignity. **That's everyone.**

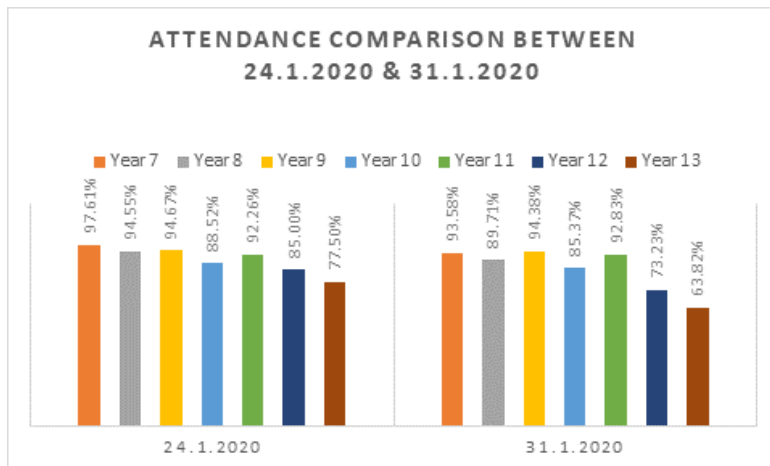
Jesus was a perfect example of this. He picked out the lonely, hated and rejected people of society and placed love and value on them. Love and value often being the things that would change people's lives.

As we go through this week, let's be determined to respect, honour and place value on the people around us, it works wonders.

Have a wonderful week, you are all in my thoughts and prayers.

Mr Pimlott (Chaplain)

## Attendance



Well done to Year 9 for having the highest attendance for week ending 31.01.2020.

Our school attendance for Years 7-11 for week ending 31.1.2020 was 91.15%, which is a considerable drop compared to the previous week. Please encourage your son/daughter to have good attendance and if they are absent for three or more consecutive days, we require medical evidence which can be in the form of off the counter medication, prescription, appointment notes etc.

The whole school attendance, including 6<sup>th</sup> Form, for week ending 31.1.2020 was 88.64%. Again, this is a decrease on last week's attendance.

Attendance Lottery – Many congratulations to Harry Hammond, Year 8, who has won a £5 Amazon for having 100% attendance for week ending 31 January 2020. Well Done Harry!

For week 27.1.2020-31.1.2020, we had an amazing 423 students who achieved 100% attendance from Year 7 to 11. We also had 27 students in our Sixth Form who also achieved 100% attendance. Well done to all those students!

We also had 144 students who had improved their attendance between the months of December 2019 and January 2020. They have all been given achievement points.

Please remember all attendance matters can be found on the Parent App.

For any absences, please contact Reception or [student.absence@open-academy.org.uk](mailto:student.absence@open-academy.org.uk)

Mrs Ganson (Attendance Officer)





HM Government



# CORONAVIRUS: PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Government and NHS are well prepared to deal with this virus.

You can help too.

Germs can live on some surfaces for hours.

To protect yourself and others:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.
- Bin the tissue, and to kill the germs, wash your hands with soap and water, or use a sanitiser gel.
- If you have arrived back from China within 14 days follow the specific advice for returning travellers.

This is the best way to slow the spread of almost any germs, including Coronavirus.

**Find out more at [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://gov.uk/coronavirus)**