

Open Academy Update 2 October 2020
For parents and students – please do discuss the contents with your child!

Welcome to our weekly newsletter.

So, we have completed a month back and our new systems do indeed feel like the new normal. We are reminding ourselves of all the safety procedures we must take as it is vitally important that we continue to follow all the advice and guidance given.

I am attaching the advice sheet that we have sent out before around illness and absence as a handy reference guide for you as to whether your child should be in school or not. I am delighted to report that our attendance is significantly above both the national and local averages and not only that, but attendance at Hubs for catch up is also very high.

We are keen to ensure we get as much done as possible whilst we can as it is impossible to tell how things may shape up for the future. For now, however, please accept my thanks for your support in getting your children here, in uniform better than ever, and fully engaging with our recovery curriculum.

If you have ever thought of becoming more involved in the academy, we do have a couple of vacancies for governors at the moment. We are looking for another parent governor and others who might bring particular skills in education, safeguarding, health, HR, finance or business and industry. If you think you might be interested please drop Michelle Shorten, our clerk to the governors, an email on michelle.shorten@open-academy.org.uk and she will put you in touch with the chair of governors to talk things through.

As so many of our children behave impeccably at all times the few who forget themselves are noticeable. After comments from the community, can I ask you to remind your children, as we are in the academy, that poor behaviour on the way to and from the academy will not be tolerated and we will follow up in school issues reported to us. We ask that all students wear their uniform correctly with pride on the way to and from the academy and at all times remember that they are our ambassadors in the community.

Every year at about this time we have been taking full part in the Norwich Opportunity Area Children's Health Survey. Please see the attached letter which explains in full what it is for. We are keen that this goes ahead next week so I hope the letter will clarify everything you need to know.

I am sorry that we are unable to open up the academy to our parent drop in group which we usually hold each half term. However, if you have comments or observations please do not hesitate to email me or your child's year team.

Finally, I will draw your awareness that we are in a limited and risk assessment way re-starting some school trips – generally those closer, more local and outdoors that we can control the risks of. It is by no means a return to business as usual, but it is another step towards normality which will see some photographers and some Duke of Edinburgh students benefitting from shortly.

Please enjoy the rest of the newsletter and I hope the information is of use to you.

Jon Ford
Principal

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1. English Literature

As you may be aware, some of the exam syllabuses are being adapted this year due to Covid. This was announced by the government at the end of July. One of the proposals was that the poetry in English Literature was to be taken out for this year only. We studied all the poetry in lockdown. During August, no plans had been set so we waited. Earlier this month, the announcement was made that poetry was to stay and Blood Brothers remain. That means any Year 11 who did not do the poetry during lockdown will have to do it in Hubs.

We cannot fit it in the day and reteach because we would not finish the rest of the syllabus. The English department has prepared the lessons. They will be available to all students in the coming days in TEAMS. The sessions will be added to the pupil timetables after half term until the work is completed to a satisfactory level.

Should students wish to complete the work at home as well as the Hub, then that will be possible, making it quicker for the student to catch up.

As always, we are determined to help all students reach their potential and we are very grateful for parental and student support. We are stunned by how maturely the students are working during the day and their revision lessons. Please note that Miss Robert's class are already beginning to come in for English Hub. Should you have any further questions, please contact Mrs Taylor.

Kevin Ward
Vice Principal

2. Year 7 News

LEADERSHIP ROLES YEAR 7

HEAD BOY – Luke Jones
DEPUTY – Liam Kerr

HEAD GIRL – Issie Onuchukwu
DEPUTY – Asha Kandola

Open Voice

Senior Open Voice Rep – Ellie Mann
C7 Reps Lucy- Rose Brown and Latifa Cassama
D7 Reps Lola Blossom and Tyler Paul
I7 Reps Oskar Coleman and Ellie Mann
R7 Reps Brian Bolany and Lily Blyth

Community leads

C7 - Lawrence Hawkins and Lily-Mae Holmes
D7 - Keeley Youngs
I7 - Olivia Cooper
R7 - Emilia Kerby

Charity Leads

C7 – Honey Robertson and Amelie Dalton- Cozic
D7 – Rosanne Gardner and Megan Perriton
I7 – Ellie Blake and Luke Edge
R7 – Hallie Chandler

Year 7 Ambassadors

C7 – Areen Mohammed Ali, Joseph Yates, Lily Mae Hogarth, Maizi Young, Missty Cook, Kacie Williamson
D7- Layla Downes, Leah Skipper, Katy Sutherland
I7 – Farah Alwi, Tyler Hanwell, Louie King, Charlie Mann, Katie Meadows, Ben Newell, Madalyn Pirie
R7 – Madison Gray, Layla Moody, Harrison Young

An amazing effort from Year 7 – we are so proud of you all. Keep it up!

Students with the most achievement points for September:

Keeley Young - 116
Hallie Chandler - 108
Emilia Kerby - 101
Asha Kandola - 99
Liam Kerr - 98
Layla Moody - 98
Megan Perriton - 95
Brian Bolaney - 94
Lola Blossom - 89
Lily Blyth - 89
Layla Downes - 88

We are concerned about the misuse of mobile phones in school. Please can parents refer to the E Safety and ICT acceptable use policy. We discourage the use of mobile phones during school hours unless permission is given to do so.

Please ensure that students are in the Atrium before 8.35am in order to keep them safely in the Year 7 and 6th Form bubbles.

Please can students maintain their excellent uniform standards - we do have some spare uniform if pupils have misplaced or lost items.

There seems to be a game at break and lunch time which involves students hitting each other around the head. Form tutors have told students it is not appropriate, but please could parents also discuss this at home.

For any students who do not have access to the internet we are offering lunch time session on Monday and Tuesday in the computer rooms where they can access TEAMS.

Mrs Hewitt-Coleman - Head of Year 7
Mrs Lamb Assistant - Head of Year 7

3. Year 8 News

No update.

Miss Lines – Head of Year 8
Ms Moss and Mrs Smith – Assistant Heads of Year 8

4. Year 9 News

It's been a busy and positive week in Year 9. Attendance is on its way up as the back to school germs and bugs are on their way out. The recovery curriculum Hubs are running well for those students to catch up with their peers and most English and Maths tests have been carried out on all Year 9 students. A great way to start October.

We have decided on our Year 9 leadership roles and congratulations to you all. We look forward to working together and have already heard some great ideas. Our Head Girl is Lucy Birkett and Deputy Head Girl is Lauren Aldous. Our Head Boy is James Hoyer and Deputy is Gerrard Sandell. Grace Moreton is our Charity Lead and Lola Pauling, Kimora Alexander, Dalia Rosca, Isabel Bush, Jamil Ali and Summer MacCormack are our Prefects. Dalia Rosca is our Environmental Lead.

Our top achieving students this week are: Jamil Ali, Angelos Chatzopoulos, Leo Davidson, Jessica Fraser, Ella Iftimie-Hau, Hannah Jordan, Samih Ozkan, Dalia Rosca, Joe Sanderson, Alfie Skerritt, Samuel Yellop and Toby Thompson. Well done to you all. Lots of achievement points earned this week.

Mr Lambert - Head of Year 9
Mrs Roe - Assistant Head of Year 9

5. Year 10 News

Another great week for Year 10. Our new student leaders got the chance to carry out their first duties this week by helping run a quiz to be included in the Virtual Open Evening this year. Well done to them!

Our achievement point total for this week are 1102 and our top five students are:

Mackenzie Culley	42
Jessica Ramm	40
Izzy Taylor	37
Jack Teasdale	29
Anyia Cramp	22

Keep up the good work!

We are starting to get more of our leadership responsibilities sorted now and our IT Reps, Adrian Colcer and Jon Jordan, have taken on a project to create a student's IT guide, so really well done to them.

Uniform seems much better this week, but please keep reminding them they need to keep their blazers on!

Mrs Clayton – Head of Year 10
Mrs Roberts – Assistant Head of Year 10

6. Year 11 News

We are pleased to announce the following students have been appointed as Prefects after strong applications:

Abbie Spencer, Courtney Campling, Kianna Drake, Dominic Kubiesa, Samuel Leverett, Chantelle Blythe, Lilia Colledge, Georgia Haslam, Lucy Muscrop, Lola Thompson, Toby Wenn, Amelie Orr

Following a letter of application and an interview including a presentation the following students were appointed:

Head Girl - Lottie Sanderson
Deputy Head Girl - Jess Roll
Head Boy - Rosario Furia
Deputy Head Boy - Jeya Kandola
Senior Prefects - Ellie Chapman, Ben Ashby, Alfie Sorento

We are absolutely delighted with the above appointments and excited about the initiatives that they will lead, which will include fundraising, mentoring, improving the rewards system and leading Open Voice.

Attendance this week has improved since last week, well done. Every lesson is vitally important for students to make progress and reach their potential.

Attendance at Hub sessions has also been excellent, we are thoroughly impressed with those willing to stay that extra hour (on top of a full day of learning) to take advantage of the recovery curriculum. Every session attended will make a huge difference when it comes to the summer exams. Please continue to encourage your child and praise them for their attendance.

In achievement points the following students are the top 5 in gaining achievement points this week:

Bailey Squires
Leo Lisboa
Samuel Leverett
Kelsey Wellard
William Read

Mrs Pearsall – Head of Year 11
Mrs Middleton – Assistant Head of Year 11

7. Sixth Form News

A great week with lots of positive things happening in Sixth Form.

First of all, I would like to introduce you to our brand spanking new and shiny leadership team:

Y12 Head Boy: Adam Suter

Y12 Head Girl: Emma Amies

Y13 Head Girl: Abbie Summers

Y13 Head Girl: Cissie Waters

Student Voice: Cerys Ash, Sam Mixer, Aiden Measures

Community Champions: Amelia Moore & Leah Sabberton



We are so proud of how you conducted yourself in interview and are really looking forward to working with you this year.

On another hugely positive note, our football boys started the season with a bang with a friendly against Lowestoft. WFC students did very well against a physical Lowestoft program. WFC going 1-0 down at half time... some good football played by WFC. Some good instructions were given at half time and the boys responded well to start the second half and Ricardo should have scored. We played some quality football second half and most importantly the boys didn't give up. We scored 2 late goals and won 2-1.

Proud of the boys and a very positive start. Showed some good character and patience during the game

Goals:

Ricardo Monteiro (good strike outside the box)

Barry Delf (great header in the box)



Well done boys! Smashing start!

Well done to those of you attending the Hub. Ms Davies will be emailing all students on a Monday to give a list of students that have been requested to join the hub for that week (both Tuesday and Thursday).

And finally, as many of you know, our awesome Reuben in Year 13 has a great passion for World War one and two. Him and his brother Ethan have designed a fantastic website called The History Boys and its jam packed with photos, press releases, info, as well as some brilliant videos that they've made themselves to educate younger years about what life was like back in those days. Go check them out. You won't regret it! <https://dukeboo.wixsite.com/historyboys>



Mrs Molloy
Head of 6th Form

8. Careers

Last October many of you attended the Post 16 Options event at Carrow Road. Unfortunately, this year, due to the pandemic the event cannot happen in the same way. However, a 'virtual' experience is being hosted on Instagram by the Norwich Opportunities Area on Wednesday, 7 October between 3 and 7pm and this will feature content from all the local sixth forms and colleges you would expect to see. Please encourage students to follow the @noa_careers_ page on Instagram from their personal accounts. Content will continue to be added over the next week and live and pre-recorded content will run on the day. Students are encouraged to contribute questions in advance, on the day and afterwards via Instagram stories. All content will be saved, re-run and be available for at least 24 hours after the event so students can access outside of school time.

There is no cost to attend and no need to register for the event, **students just need to follow @noa_careers_ on Instagram.** Instagram is accessible online in website format for any students (or adults) without a smartphone. Students will need to create an Instagram account if they don't have one already to participate in the event.

Ms Davies
Careers Facilitator and Assistant Head of Sixth Form

9. Library News

Well done to Dalia and Katie Lambert-Sharp who have jointly won our prize draw for completing the Summer Reading Challenge. They have both been awarded a book token to congratulate them for their summer reading efforts.

We also have two new competitions to announce today. Firstly, is our annual National Poetry Day competition. This year we are asking students to write a poem on the theme of 'vision'. They could paint a picture with words, write about their vision of the future or come up with their own ideas. Whatever they decide to write about, we can't wait to read their entries. [Supporting resources can be found by clicking here.](#)

Our second competition relates to Libraries Week which is being celebrated nationally next week. As we have gone digital and launched our online library catalogue this year, we would like to provide students with a library card. We are therefore holding a competition for students to design the image to go on our library card. A template will be available to students from next week.

Students who would like to use the library after school/attend an after school club must sign up in advance.

[Please click here for this week's sign- up sheet.](#)

Finally, can I please ask once again to have a good look at home for any library books students may have borrowed before lockdown. We still have quite a few out on loan and need to get these back so they can be shared with other students. Thank you for your support with this.

Miss Ling
Librarian

10. Attendance

Well done to Year 7 and to tutor groups 1213CANGGO, D7NWA and SRB8EOK for having the highest attendance for week ending 25 September 2020. Well done all!

Attendance Lottery – Many congratulations to Tom Walker, Year 10, who has won a £5 Amazon voucher for having 100% attendance for week ending 25 September 2020. Well done Tom!

During the month of September 2020, we had an amazing 306 students (Year 7-11) who achieved 98% or above and 29 students in the 6th Form. All those students will be given achievement points. Many Congratulations to you all.

For week 21.9.2020 to 25.9.2020, we had an amazing 404 students who achieved 100% attendance from Year 7 to 11. We also had 39 students in our Sixth Form who also achieved 100% attendance. Well done to all those students!

Days off school means lessons and learning missed Student Attendance (%)	Number of days off school a year	Number of actual lessons missed
95%	10 days absence	60
90%	19 days absence	114

85%	29 days absence	174
80%	38 days absence	228
75%	47 days absence	282

Please discuss with your son/daughter the importance of good school attendance.

Mrs Ganson
Attendance Officer

11. Chaplain's Reflection

Service

"Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help".

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (The Bible)

I want to encourage us all to keep encouraging each other. This pandemic seems to be robbing us of so many things. It changes our freedom, our social lives and the way we interact with our family friends and colleagues. This can leave us feeling down and isolated and sometimes fearful. A verse from the Bible says, "Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. This is so true and I feel is more important than ever. It might take moving out of our comfort zones to encourage others. Sometimes it might be inconvenient to do it, but let's encourage anyway.

I continue to pray for you all for strength wisdom, courage and all that you need and if I can be of any support, please let me know.

God bless you all

Mark Pimlott
Chaplain

12. FISH – Food Collection Scheme

HALF-TERM HOLIDAY LUNCH COLLECTION

**FRIDAY 23rd OCTOBER, MONDAY 26th OCTOBER
WEDNESDAY 28th OCTOBER, FRIDAY 30th OCTOBER**

Norwich Foodbank, in conjunction with Norwich Central Baptist Church (ncbc), are pleased to announce a free lunch collection scheme to take place during the half-term holiday for families in the Mousehold area.

The collection point will be from Mousehold Hub, Mousehold Avenue (opposite Crome Road and George White playing field).

Packed lunches will be available for all family members who have registered on Monday, Wednesday and Friday lunchtimes during the half-term holiday. (2 days worth of lunches will be given each time).

They will ensure social distancing rules and hygiene standards are adhered to.

There will also be children's activity packs available.

To book a place, please complete the registration form attached with details of all family members who would like a lunch pack. Please ensure that you list any food allergies on the form.

Completed forms can be returned to your school, or directly to Mousehold Hub, 22 Mousehold Avenue, Norwich, NR3 4RS.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact Alan Barnes on 07982 234781 or alan.barnes@norwichcentral.org

We will confirm with you once we have received the registration form.

PLEASE REPLY BY FRIDAY, 16 OCTOBER TO BE GUARANTEED A PLACE