

Open Academy Update 14 January 2022
For parents and students – please do discuss the contents with your child.

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

Welcome to the newsletter. I would like to start this week by thanking all of you for your efforts in ensuring that students are in correct uniform and equipped and ready for school. The vast majority are doing a great job of being ready for school and ready to learn, which is most appreciated. With the odd exception we are seeing all students wearing their uniform correctly with pride. Please can I remind you that leggings should not be worn, just trousers or skirts please, and hoodies are only allowed as an extra layer under the blazer if it is cold in a given classroom.

We are managing to keep Covid generally at bay at the moment so well done on your surveillance and testing processes. Please keep closely monitoring your child's health and if you have any concerns, particularly around headaches with aches and temperature, please be safe and keep them home and keep testing.

There is more information about vaccination from the school vaccination team this week, so please do note that catch up vaccines are available for those who have missed out in the past – please see the item later in this newsletter for details. This is in addition to the letters sent out a day or two ago to anyone whose child will be eligible for their first or second dose of the vaccine on or before Tuesday, 25 January when the school vaccination team will be administering mainly second doses. However, you can book a first one if required for that date too.

Finally this week, I wanted to raise the issue of vapes in school. One or two students have recently brought these in, and we are very keen to stop this in its tracks. I say vape, but the type we are seeing are more like a nicotine inhaler. These products look like a marker pen and come in all sorts of colours but have a small mouthpiece at one end – many of them also appear to have a very high content of nicotine – the same addictive chemical that is in cigarettes. There are a number of significant harmful effects associated with nicotine including effects on brain development, concentration, self-control, attention and mood, not to mention addiction effects and physical effects on the lungs.

Sold as 'Geek bars' or 'Elf bars' or similar, these vape like products appear to be marketed towards young people, often brightly coloured and sometimes with cool sounding names.

We take this issue very seriously and we will always confiscate and let parents know what we have found. If we suspect a child is using these products, we will search their belongings and confiscate any banned items such as these vapes.

Our major concern is that these products do not emit any kind of smoke or vapour, but just act as an inhaler, people can keep drawing on them potentially having significant unmeasured doses of nicotine. I would therefore ask that you remain as vigilant as us. If you come across anything and are unsure what it is, please do talk to your child's head of year and we can help identify it. Please do help us to ensure that students do not bring in any banned substances to school. It may be helpful to discuss this issue with your child so they are clear it is not acceptable to vape in school and that we will take the matter extremely seriously.

On that note of caution, I will stop there so you can enjoy the rest of our news this week.

Jon Ford
Principal

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1. Year 7 News

After the first full week back, well done to Year 7 students for continuing their successful start. Today, students were given their new 'Bookbuzz' books for them to enjoy. Following on from their assembly this morning, please do encourage students to take some time out to read (even just 20 minutes a day). It is extremely important and helps them in all aspects of school and adult life.

A reminder that although uniform on the whole is very good, hoodies are not a replacement for a school jumper. Where it is really cold in a classroom, because the teacher is ventilating the room properly, permission to put a hoodie on under their blazer is for THAT lesson only, and should be removed after the lesson.

Some 'in-class' assessments have taken place this week and students have been showing some great effort and attitudes toward completing these. Some of these assessments will continue into next week so please keep up the great work!

We have had some amazing work completed this week and our top 5 achieving students are: Rianna Aldous, George Pickersgill, Martina Vaskyte, Natacha Frutuoso and Harvey Eastman

Some positive shout-outs this week:

From Miss Cheung:

Erica Johnson-Jacob for her motivation in doing revision and creating posters in her own time for Science. Shayleigh Loveridge for her increased efforts and enthusiasm in Mathematics, completing work and contributing to class discussions.

From Mrs Joyce and Ms Moy:

Harry Sadler for being amazing in the practical Food Tech lesson, and again for producing an awesome Science PowerPoint!

Finally, thank you to the majority of students who have made an effort in reducing litter on the tables at break and lunchtime. However, there are still some students that are leaving empty food wrappers out on the tables and on the floor. Please be reminded to place litter in the bins.

Mrs Pearsall – Head of Year 7

Mr Hawkins – Cover Supervisor

2. Year 8 News

The first full week of the new term complete!

We would like to say a big well done and thank you to students who have come back and settled into "The Open Way". Can we please remind students that if they are choosing to wear a coat/jacket in the academy building that their blazer needs to be worn underneath. The coat/jacket is not an alternative option to wearing a blazer.

Message from Miss Whitwood - As Head of Year and of course a PE Teacher, it was great to see such an amazing turn out to Year 8 football training on Wednesday. It is great to see so many of our students committed every single week and it was awesome to see some new faces there too. Well done boys!

Hubs sessions have started. Please ask your child to check their timetable, students are expected to attend Hub if shown on timetables. If for any reason they are not able to attend, please contact the year team. These sessions are there to support your child and their progress and therefore attendance to them is vital. Remember, if your child isn't on the list, but they or you feel it would benefit them, please get in touch and we can discuss adding them to the register.

This half term will see the Student Leadership Team and Open Voice members start to action the points raised before Christmas. One of the main focuses is going to be looking at fundraising for the year groups chosen charity, which is Cancer Research, so please watch this space! Both Mr Crawford and I are always really impressed with the level of maturity and ideas that students bring to these meetings.

This week the year group have been awarded over 950 achievement points. Top tutor group this week is Mrs Napthen – R8 with 289 points awarded to the tutor group.

Top achievers this week: Millie Hagger, Riley Page, Callum White, Madalyn Pirie and Rebecca Shapcott.

Well done to everyone.

Ms Whitwood and Mr Crawford - Heads of Year 8

Mrs Lamb - Assistant Head of Year 8

3. Year 9 News

We have now had the first full week back at the Open Academy in 2022. What a year 2021 was and hopefully we can continue making progress towards a bright future. Year 9s have been fantastic during this first week with lots of brilliant learning taking place.

Achievement points still pour in for Year 9 which is great to see, even in the final week. This is testimony to the dedication, hard work and wonderful ability of our year group. The current tally for this week is:

AED – 62

LGA – 90

RPH – 44

NST – 67

The building remains cold at times with ventilation and the cooler weather of winter. Please ensure students are arriving to school in correct uniform (blazer, black shoes, skirts/trousers). They can also wear a coat over their blazer to help with the cold.

Please also ensure that students have the correct equipment they require for their learning, (pen/pencil/ruler).

Finally, I want to thank you all for your continued support in these challenging times. The Covid pandemic has had a large impact on the learning of students all across the country and has affected everyone in

different ways. It is only with your support that as a school we can continue to develop and grow as a safe place for students to come and learn.

I hope you have all had a fantastic, safe and healthy winter break and that we all look forward to the bright future of learning at the Open Academy.

Mr Pickup – Head of Year 9
Mrs Smith – Assistant Head of Year 9

4. Rhine Valley Trip

Please note if your child has applied for a place on this trip, you will receive a letter in the post early next week either to confirm your child's place, or outlining details for a repeat trip in July 2023. Refunds will be made by Friday, 21 January 2022.

Mrs McEvoy
Teacher

5. Year 10 News

1,157 achievement points awarded to Year 10s in our first full week back. This shows the hard work and perseverance displayed by our students this new year. Well done to everyone for a great attitude.

Our top achievers this week are: Jude Abramson, Tommy Bluett, Angelos Chatzopoulos, Jake Folkes, Isla Gardner, Ryan Howes, James Hoyer, Erin O'Neill, Robbie Ruff and Sade Woollard. Well done to you all.

On the whole, there has been an improvement with uniform standards this week. Thank you for your support with this. Please refer to the school uniform guide if you are unsure and please supply your child with a note and/or ring the year office if they have to unexpectedly wear different shoes etc. Just a reminder that fizzy drinks/energy drinks are not permitted in school.

Hubs have started after school. If your child has a Hub session on their timetable then they should attend. Please contact the year office if there are any issues with this. Homework is an essential part of the students' courses. If your child would like to attend to catch up with homework please let us know.

Have a relaxing weekend everyone.

Mr Lambert – Head of Year 10
Mrs Roe – Assistant Head of Year 10

6. Madrid Trip

A gentle reminder that the second instalment payments were due on Friday, 7 January. Students that need to be on the group passport can make their £5 payment via +Pay.

Ms Stickland
Teacher

7. Year 11 News

No update.

Mrs Clayton – Head of Year 11
Mrs Roberts – Assistant Head of Year 11

8. 6th Form News

Happy first full week back! The sun is shining, and the days are slowly getting longer. What's not to love?!

Just a couple of important points below:

Firstly, please remember to follow the government COVID advice and guidance in relation to testing and isolating. Masks must be worn in lessons now, so please make sure that students have one when they leave the house in the morning.

Y13 UCAS – Huge well done to all Year 13 who have now had their UCAS applications sent off. Most are getting offers flooding in which is really very exciting! Students should come and speak to one of the 6th Form team if they need help making their firm choice.

Y13 PPE2 – Apologies for telling students that these exams would be going ahead on the week commencing 24 January. They have in fact been scheduled to start on **Monday, 31 January** and will run over a two week period. Timetables will be sent to all students very soon. In the meantime, students should speak to their subject teachers so that they are aware what papers they will be sitting and what topics they need to be revising.

Sixth Form area – Unfortunately I have had several complaints over the last week about the state of the Sixth Form areas. I will once again explain that having this area is a privilege and it is the responsibility of all those in Year 12 and 13 to ensure that it is kept neat and tidy. General complaints have centred around the following issues: chairs being moved around and not tidied up, rubbish and food packaging being left on desks and floor, Covid tests being scattered around, books and paper being left, tea/coffee mugs not cleaned up after use. Please can students make sure that the area is left tidy every time to use it. Unfortunately, I may have no choice but to close the area for a short period of time if it is left untidy again.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and get to enjoy the lovely sunny (but freezing!) weather!

Mrs Molloy
Head of 6th Form

9. Chaplain's Reflection



Mark Pimlott
Chaplain

10. Library News

This week was very exciting for our Year 7 and 8 students who received their free BookBuzz book. This is a national scheme that gifts students a book that is theirs to read and keep. As part of the gifting ceremony, we held a special assembly all about the joys of reading for pleasure and why it's so important to read for 20 minutes a day. Year 7 will also be using their book for a special *Battle of the Books* tournament in their tutor groups. We hope students enjoy reading their books and look forward to hearing all about them in the coming weeks!

A reminder that our library clubs are now back up and running. The following clubs take place in the library every week:

Books & Biscuits • Thursday Lunchtime

Our weekly reading group where we talk about the books we are reading (there are no set books so students are welcome to read a book of their own choice), share book recommendations and play reading related games.

Comics & Manga Club • Friday 3-4pm

A chance for lovers of comics, graphic novels and manga to get together to discuss their favourite titles, learn more about the format and have some fun! Each week has a different theme or activity.

Library Club • Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 3-4pm

The library is open to students after school for study or recreational use. Whether you want to revise for a test that is coming up, complete homework or relax with friends while using the libraries resources, the library is open every day except Tuesday.

The library is also open to students at break and lunchtimes for reading, homework and relaxing with mindfulness activities.

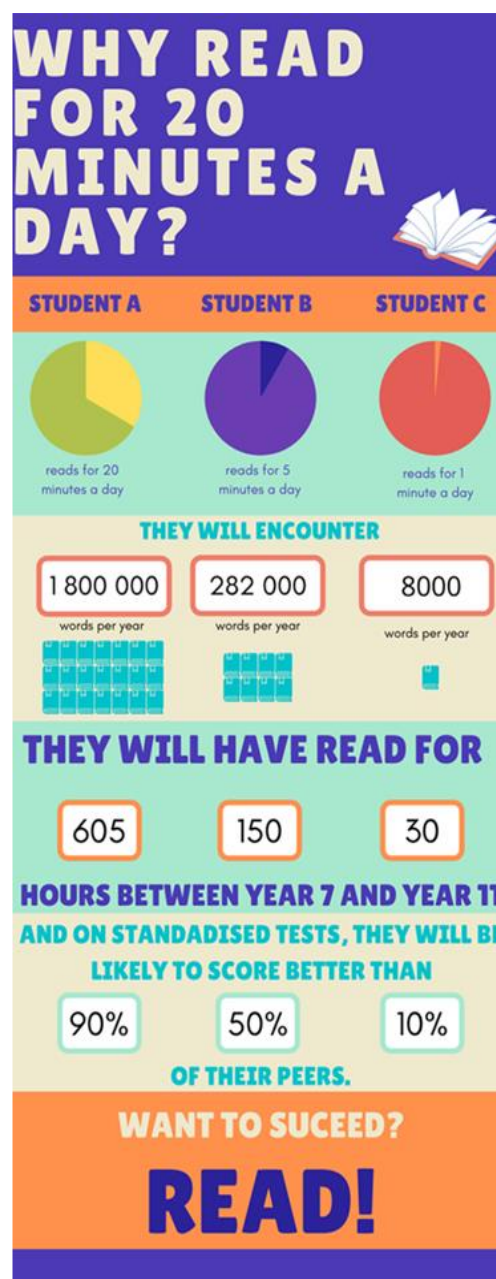
Miss Ling
Librarian

11. PE

Many thanks to students and parents who have purchased our PE top this year. We now have a very large proportion of students in their correct top. If you have yet to purchase the black polo top from the uniform shop, please could I encourage you to do so. Our PE uniform expectation is for all students to wear the correct polo top for all PE lessons.

As previously stated, shorts, jackets and trousers etc. do not need to be purchased from us, but are optional extras at a very good price.

If you have been unable to purchase this or would like help from the PE department or academy, please get in touch.



Could I also remind everyone that students with longer hair need to make sure it is tied back for PE, along with removing all jewellery. Please bring hair bands with you for lessons.

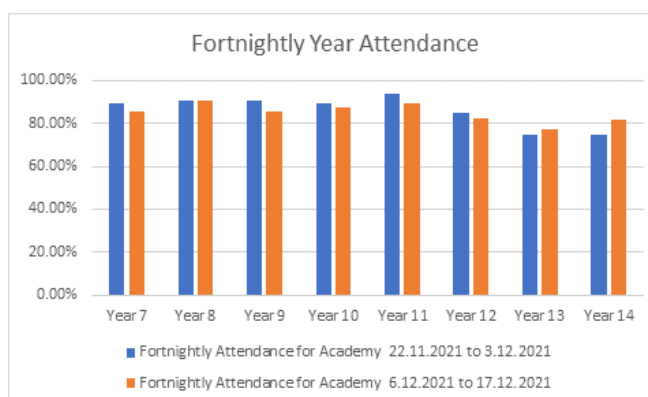
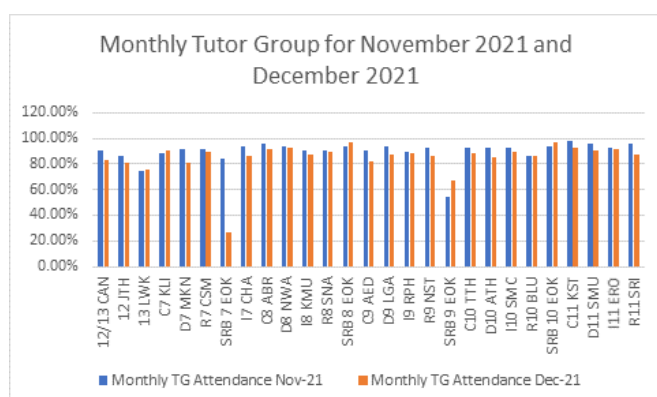
Finally, many of you will be aware that on Sunday, 20th February, England Lionesses will be playing Spain at Carrow Road as part of the Arnold Clark Cup. This cup contains four teams from the world's top 10 sides.

Unfortunately, we are unable to run this as a trip on this occasion, however, it is a great opportunity for students to see the best of the best of women's international football at the home of Norwich City. Tickets are good value and the link for more information and how to buy tickets is below:

<https://www.canaries.co.uk/content/tickets-for-england-v-spain-at-carrow-road-on-sale>

Mr Richardson
Teacher

12. Attendance



Well done to the 149 students who have improved their attendance from the months of November 2021 to December 2021 and also an amazing 204 students who achieved 100% attendance for the month of December 2021 only. A massive well done goes to all of these students and achievement points have been given to them.

For any absence in term time i.e. holidays, please could you kindly complete and return a form prior to the absence. These forms are available from reception.

As we regularly monitor punctuality, as well as the attendance, of all students to school and also to lessons, please could you reiterate the importance of punctuality to your son/daughter. If a student is late after 9.05am, this will affect their attendance.

If there are any changes to contact details, please do let us know as soon as these are known.

Mrs Ganson
Attendance Officer

13. NHS Message - Covid Vaccinations

What to do if your 12-15 year-old child missed their appointment at school to receive their Covid vaccination

If for any reason your child missed the opportunity to receive their vaccination at school, or were declined their vaccination because they tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 12 weeks, you have the following alternative options. You will need to accompany your child to any venues offering the vaccination to give consent:

Booking vaccination appointments online

You can book your child's 1st dose online from the day they turn 12. You can usually book their 2nd dose from 24 hours after they had their 1st dose. You'll be offered appointment dates from 12 weeks after their 1st dose. [Book a COVID-19 vaccination appointment](#)

Getting the vaccine at a walk-in vaccination site

Your child can get a 1st dose at a walk-in COVID-19 vaccination site from the day they turn 12. They can get a 2nd dose if it's been 12 weeks since their 1st dose. [Find a walk-in COVID-19 vaccination site](#)

East Anglia Community School Age Immunisation Service NHS Trust

Tel: 0300 555 5055 | e-mail: hct.csaisnorfolk@nhs.net

14. Kicks 2022

Premier League Kicks in 2022 has launched!

Kicks aims to support young people in free, social football groups around Norfolk. If you have any young people who need physical wellness, exercise, community support or positive use of time, contact us and sign them up to come along to our FREE sessions!

Community Sports Foundation had a successful end to 2021 but are always looking for partnerships to refer young people you support.

Check out our website, flyers and sign up using the links below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/mkhAXLpQWG>

AGES 8-18

Fixtures
Drop-in/out
FA qualified coaches
Represent Norwich City FC
Progression opportunities
Workshops
Prizes and giveaways

KICKS

FREE SPORTS SESSIONS & WORKSHOPS

Norwich • Dereham • Great Yarmouth
Lowestoft • North Walsham

Scan to book
onto your
nearest venue!



Registered charity number 1086236



communitysportsfoundation.org.uk



Free sports sessions & workshops

- Drop-in/drop-out sport sessions, including football, basketball, handball, and many more!
- Led by FA qualified coaches
- Progression opportunities
- Including workshops on sexual health, smoking, drinks, drugs and CV writing & career advice
- The chance to represent Norwich City FC against clubs in competitive fixtures
- Prizes & rewards, including Norwich City FC merchandise

Venues

Norwich • Dereham • Great Yarmouth • Lowestoft • North Walsham



Scan to book onto your nearest venue!

To find out more, scan the QR code
or call the team on 01603 984000

@NorwichCityCSF communitysportsfoundation norwichcitycsf

Norwich City Community Sports Foundation, Norwich City FC, Carrow Road, Norwich, NR1 1JF
www.communitysportsfoundation.org.uk / 01603 984000 / Registered charity number: 1086236

