

Open Academy Newsletter – 11 July 2025

Dear parents, carers and students

We have had a fantastic week here at the academy, topped off by an incredible sports day! It was wonderful to see students from all year groups taking part with such enthusiasm – from competing on the field to cheering from the sidelines. The energy, teamwork and house spirit on display made it a day to remember.

A special mention goes to our new Year 6 students, who joined us for their transition week. They have had a brilliant few days getting to know the academy, meeting staff and students and preparing for September. It has been great to see how quickly they have settled in.

Looking ahead, please check your inbox for a separate message with key information about the end of term and plans for the start of the new academic year.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend – it looks like it's going to be another warm one!

Miss Wenlock (Vice Principal)

Last Day and New Term Arrangements

The Open Academy will be closing for the summer break at 1.00pm on Tuesday, 22 July 2025. Lunch will be served from 12.30pm before students leave.

The school will be open for collection of pre-ordered new school uniform on:

Wednesday, 13 August (10.00-2.00)

Thursday, 14 August (11.00-3.00)

The start of next term will be staggered for students in September. If your child is in **Year 7, 11 or 13** their first day of term will be **Wednesday, 3 September**. If your child is in **Year 8, 9 or 10** their first day will be **Thursday, 4 September**.

All students need to be ready to line up in their tutor groups by 8.30am, in line with the revised timings of the school day.

School Day – September 2025	
8.30 – 8.40	Form line ups and tutor check in
8.40 – 9.05	Form
9.05 – 10.05	Period 1
10.05 – 11.30	Period 2
	Including a 20-minute break 10.05-10.25 (7, 8, 9) 11.10 – 11.30 (10, 11)
11.30 – 12.30	Period 3
12.30 – 2.00	Period 4
	Including a 30-minute lunch 12.30 – 1.00 (7, 8, 9) 1.30-2.00 (10, 11)
2.00 – 3.00	Period 5
3.00	End of school day

Contacting the academy:

Email office@open-academy.org.uk
Website www.open-academy.org.uk
Facebook @OAopenacademy
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Curriculum Enhancement Week – Friday, 18 to Tuesday, 22 July

We are very excited that our curriculum enhancement week kicks off next Friday. Please ensure that both yourself and your child have familiarised yourselves with the itinerary, so that you know what time to arrive to school, and what you need to bring. A reminder that all in school activities require students to wear full school uniform. If your child is in Year 7 and at camp, they will be joining in with curriculum enhancement week on Monday, 21 and Tuesday, 22 July only.

Mrs Molloy (Head of 6th Form)

Year 8

It has been a very busy couple of weeks with the sports day, literacy festival, rewards evening, the We Will Rock You performance and the Norfolk Show. Although I was unable to watch the Year 8's poems, I have heard so much good feedback from other members of staff. Special congratulations goes to the top three of the competition:

1st Bianca and Phoebe A
2nd Evie A
3rd Neveah B

It was a real honour to present Jessica H with the Year 8 pastoral award and watch Amalie T be presented with the Frank Armes shield.

It was lovely to speak to so many Years 8s that had a great time at the Norfolk show, many of those with bucketfuls of free pens, so no excuses now for no equipment in lessons for most, especially Mrs Hindry, thank you Ashanti for the pens.

For the first time our tutor will be doing a summer door decoration competition, each tutor can decorate their door with a summer theme, the winners will win a prize at the end of the term.

Congratulations to Challenge for the best attendance and Respect for winning the tutor challenge quiz

Teacher praise:

- Jack S is still a legend – Mrs McEvoy
- Mrs Hindry was very impressed with everyone that took part in the drama performance.
- Megan K geography homework.
- I would like to say well done to Ashanti, Ayo, Hattie and Isaac for being kind and helpful to the year 6s. Well done to Hayden and Dante for working very well as a team in their Spanish - Miss Llorett Blackburn

Mr Lambert (Head of Year 8)
Mrs Hindrey (Assistant Head of Year 8)

Year 11



Thank you to all the teachers who supported from this year! It was a brilliant send off for our Year 11s and we were grateful to have you there! Massive kudos to Mrs Lamb, who from early in the year had led the organisation, fundraising and planning of what ended up to be a hugely successful event!

Mr Dilley (Head of Year 11)

Mrs Lamb (Assistant Head of Year 11)

Chaplain's Reflection

Perseverance has been talked about a lot in the academy this week. It is vital that we have this core value as one of life's foundations. Great things come about through perseverance.

I am reminded about a story from the Bible which talks about this. Jesus' disciples had been out all night fishing and had not caught anything. They came back to shore feeling down, tired, and disappointed. This was not a leisurely fishing trip, it was their livelihood, and they depended on a good catch to live and pay the bills.

Jesus was waiting on the shore for them, seeing the tiredness and disappointment they were carrying, He did something that seemed to not make sense. He asked them to go out to sea again but this time He told them to let down their nets on the other side of the boat. You could imagine the puzzled looks on their faces as they tried to fathom what was going on. It seemed like a pointless exercise.

The disciples agreed and proceeded to do as Jesus had asked them.

Something miraculous happened. When the disciples lifted the nets out of the water, they were bursting with fish. So much so that they had to call on other boats to take the catch to shore.

Every miracle that Jesus ever did or continues to do now, faith and perseverance were/are the catalysts to bring about change. Great things come about through perseverance.

I want to encourage you this week, whatever you are facing or whatever struggles you are going through. Keep going, don't give up, step out in faith even when you feel tired and weary and there is seemingly no point to it all. Blessings and change will be there to meet you. Keep letting those nets down.

Keep going.

You are all in my thoughts and prayers for Gods strength to be with you.

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