

Friday, 28 June 2019 Issue 3

Points of interest

 Next week is week beginning 01/07/2019 (Week B)

Upcoming Events

- 2 & 3 July 2019 Transition Day
- Y10 Assessment week

Newsletter

Next Week

All week - Y10 assessments Monday, 1 July - Y6 Transition Evening Wedneday, 3 July - Y6 Transition Day

Trips & Visits

Tuesday, 2 July - Visit to Norwich School - Inspire Reading & Writing Tuesday, 2 July - Y7 trip to Norwich Book Festival Wednesday, 3 July - Y9 visit to UEA - Women in Economics Day

We are looking forward to taking several Y7s and members of The Millionaires Club to the Norwich Book Festival on Tuesday. The students have written short stories that have been entered into a competition. The winners will be announced at the festival, so keep your fingers crossed for the students of Open Academy! Please bring your reply slips in by Monday at the latest! Ms Roberts (Teacher)

News

Congratulations to Dalia Rosca, Lisa Kracewicz and Jessica Waterfield who were the winners of our Greenaway Gallery competition. These students created fantastic pieces of art based on this year's Greenaway Book Award shortlist. Please see our social media pages for photos of the entries.

Next week is book amnesty week in the library. We are encouraging students to return their overdue library books. Students can receive a biscuit for every overdue book returned and there will also be rewards for the tutor groups with the fewest overdues at the end of the week. Overdue book lists will be sent to students via their form tutor next week. Miss Ling (Librarian)



Undercover Writers

On Thursday, 12 Year 9 students attended the FLY Festival at UEA with Mrs Fisher. They had been specially invited as part of an Undercover Authors

Project that the academy had been invited to join. Students were encouraged and guided to write their own original short stories in some exciting workshops in an attempt to gain a coveted place in the final Undercover Authors book.



Our winner was Edward Lincoln whose story, Happiness in a Sea of Hate, was the envy of published author, Alex Scarrow! Alex told Edward, "You will be future competition for me. However, Edward was not the only one to achieve fame. Pablo the Penguin, the creation of Rosario Furia was perceived as such a brilliant character that his image was used on the promotional material for the event.

Well done to Edward and Rosario but to all our entrants in this amazing competition whose names are printed in the book. A copy has been given for the Academy's library. Mrs Taylor (Teacher)

Uniform

Our move to summer uniform has highlighted a number of issues with student uniform that we are keen to get sorted out.

Our Appearance Policy is available on our website at https://www.open-academy.org.uk/parent/uniform/ and I have reprinted the introduction below as to why we feel it is important. Our rational is that the policy is based on the notion that uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the Academy
- Engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the Academy
- Is practical, smart and business like
- Identifies the students with the Academy
- Prevents children from coming to the Academy in fashion clothes that could be distracting
- Promotes a sense of equality amongst students with regard to appearance
- Is regarded as suitable wear for the Academy and good value for money by most parents/carer
- Is designed with health and safety in mind
- Prepares students for the world of work

The Academy reserves the right to decide if a student's appearance is acceptable.

In short we know that adhering to a strict uniform policy can be challenging however our uniform policy is an important part of our high expectations of students and a significant reason why many of you chose to send your children to us. I would ask therefore, that you work with us to ensure your child meets our uniform expectations particularly in the following areas.

Summer uniform allows students not to wear blazers when it is warm. If the weather cools then their next layer must be their blazer. Other tops/hoodies etc are not to be worn in place of the blazer over the Academy shirt and tie.

Skirts are to be knee length. Whilst we accept that depending upon how tall a student is this may not be exactly knee length, it is essential that skirts remain close to the knee.

Fashion trousers **that look like leggings are not to be worn** the wording in the policy is explicit (*Plain black trousers or knee-length skirt – no shorts, leggings, jeggings, 'skinny' type, jeans style or cropped trousers allowed).

Also directly from the policy...

The Academy has the right to employ the full range of sanctions in the Positive Behaviour Management Policy to ensure that all students meet the requirements of the Appearance policy. These might include being sent home to change, being placed in isolation, and, in cases of persistent non-compliance, external exclusion.

We have been warning the students for the last few days that we are expecting uniform issues to be corrected and will be contacting parents where students are not complying to resolve issues early next week.

Thank you for your co-operation and support on this issue

Humanutopia

Parents of year 9 students should watch out for the letter we are sending home regarding a fantastic opportunity we have secured thanks to a successful bid for funding from the Norwich Opportunity Area. The Humanutopia people will be coming in to start a self-awareness and peer mentoring program. There will be a couple of days of activities this year and 3 further days in the academic year ahead. These inspirational workers will bring a fantastic dimension to our Personal Social Health Education program and we think your children will really enjoy the activities

Allotment - Open Harvest

As part of the improvement of the allotment area we would like to inform parents/carers that they could help us to transform the area by donating materials and products that could be re-used/recycled.

- We would particularly like the following donations:
- Old wooden pallets (in good condition)
- Old scaffold boards (good condition)
- Old canes/unused bricks
- Old pairs of welly boots/tyres or ceramic sinks
- Sleepers/treated timbers

Please could all donations be left off of the main car park but close to the new gated access entrance at the rear of the sports hall on the footpath (not blocking vehicle access). Many thanks. Mr Mundy (Teacher)

Clubs & Sport

Monday, 1st July Rounders Y7,8.9 v Notre Dame (Home) Tuesday, 2nd July Rounders Y7,8,9 v Framlingham Earl (Home) Thursday, 4th July D of E Expedition Presentations 3.15 Lecture Theatre

PE department extra-curricular clubs (summer term):

	Lunch Time	After School
Monday	Book the Sports Hall	Athletics Club
Tuesday	Rounders Club	
Wednesday	Badminton Club	
Thursday	Girls Handball Club	Badminton Club
Friday	Dance Club Book the Sports Hall	Y10 BTEC catch-up

Thought for the Week

"Respect is one of the greatest expressions of love"

In the bible, Jesus told the story of the Good Samaritan. One day a man was attacked and robbed by thieves and left to die on the side of the road. A Few people passed by and ignored the situation and left the battered and bruised victim to suffer. A Samaritan walked by and decided to help. He administered first aid, took him to hospital and payed his medical bills. The Samaritan that helped had not even met the man before, knew nothing about him but he still gave him respect and took care of him. Today we come across many different people from different cultures and ways of life and often we demand respect before we give it. Jesus taught the opposite. As with the Samaritan, we all have the choice to pass by or to respect unconditionally the people in our world. Stopping for a moment, taking the time to show respect can be the greatest expression of love we can ever give. A moment like that can change some one's life, and ours too. God bless you all. Mr Pimlott (Chaplain)

Message from the Principal

I will try to be a little briefer this week as there is lots to read already! This week I would like to highlight a major change for the Academy that is coming up over the next year. In order to support the students' progress fully we are changing the pastoral structure with effect from September

New Pastoral Structure

From September we will be moving to a more traditional pastoral structure that will see all year groups have a **Head of Year** who will be their main co-ordinator. They will each be supported by a non-teaching assistant Head of Year and together they will provide pastoral support for their year groups.

The Heads of Year will monitor the progress of all children in their year group and will work to support children if they fall behind in liaison with you and their subject teachers. Each key stage will provide a learning support hub before and after school which will provide a supportive space for students to complete homework or receive catch up help if required. The new Heads of Year will be tracking and monitoring all of their students' grades closely to ensure no one is struggling alone.

As with all new systems it may take a little time to settle in, however at the start of the academic year next year, you will receive letters to introduce you to your year team and explain how the pastoral system will work.

Final thought for the Week

Huge thanks for all the positive feedback and suggestions I am getting as regards the newsletter, do keep it coming. It is helpful to know people are reading it and that it is proving helpful and also to know what other information is required.