

- Next week is week beginning 23/09/2019 (Week B)

- Monday - Senior Leadership Drop In

Newsletter

Next Week

All week - Y8 assessments

Monday, 23 September—Senior Leadership Drop In (5-6pm)

Year 7 News

- Our attendance has been at 99.09% this week which is even better than the week before!
- Currently over 1000 achievement points gained so far this week!
- Our selections for Head Boy, Head Girl and Student Council will be announced at the beginning of the next week.
- Reminder to parents that only one pair of earrings and a watch are permitted as part of the school uniform.
- Our Year 7 Learning Hub will be up and running next Wednesday – this is to help with homework and support in the curriculum for invited students.
- Any students wanting to help with the running of the Open Evening on the Wednesday, 2 October should collect a letter from the Year 7 HQ.

Miss Lines (Head of Year 7)

Year 8 News

- Next week is assessment week for all year 8s. Teachers and Tutors have been talking to our students about what to expect next week. Students should come in as normal for registration in their tutor groups.
- Starting next week, we are pleased to offer a Learning Hub for selected students in the Atrium with Mrs Roe every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning from 8am until 8.30am and/or 3pm until 3.30pm This is a great opportunity for students to have breakfast if they wish, complete homework or receive any help with revision. All Year 8 students will be invited over the course of the year.
- We have shortlisted our entries for Head Boy and Head Girl and interviews will take place next week. Thank you to all those students that applied we were very impressed.
- Thank you to all the students that have volunteered to help out at the Year 6 open evening on Wednesday, 2 October, if your child has brought a letter home please could this be signed and returned.
- On Thursday, 26 September the Year 8 boys football team have a fixture at home against CNS. Please come along and support your teammates. Football training is after school on Monday evening.

Mr Lambert (Head of Year 8)

Year 9 News

- Attendance – was much better this week with students settling back into school well.
- Achievement points – Year Weekly Total: 1154. Top: 5 Students: Mackenzie Culley, Adam Edmondson, Jack Teasdale, Faye Lincoln and Estela Gudzikaite. Well done!
- Celebrate success in the year - we have received lots of wonderful applications for our Year 9 Head Boy and Head Girl positions. We'll have our new Year 9 Leadership Team up and running very soon!

Mrs Clayton (Head of Year 9)

Year 10 News

- Another great week for our Year 10 students. Our total number of achievement points this week is 1522. Students with the highest number of achievement points this week are: Ben Kimpton, William Read, Ellie Green, Jess Roll and Rosario Furia. Congratulations, keep up the fantastic work!
- Interviews have been taking place over the past week for our Head Boy and Head Girl leadership positions. All candidates conducted themselves extremely well and the decision was not an easy one to make. I am delighted to inform you that the new Head Boy is Ben Ashby with Alfie Sorrento as his deputy and the new Head Girl is Tilly Butcher with Lola Thompson as her deputy. Thank you to all students who applied for this position, you are a real credit to the Academy. Feedback is available to all students should they wish to receive it.
- On Thursday I had the privilege of accompanying four of our Year 10 students (Lilia Colledge, Shadrak Mushengezi, Josh Stagg and Bayley Squires) to the University of East Anglia as part of their Norfolk Scholars Programme. During the day students experienced a wide variety of activities, including a discussion about 'Skills4Success'. Students spoke about running an INVOLVE project and the skills needed to run a successful project such as open-mindedness, confidence and being organised.

Miss Matthews (Head of Year 11)

Year 11 News

- Attendance figures have risen this week and we can't emphasize how important this is. Every lesson is absolutely vital in all years but especially so in year 11. Research shows that this will give students the best possible chance of success in the PPE, pre public exams (mocks), which start on Monday, 14 October and therefore their exams in the summer.
- Achievement points are also on the increase especially those for outstanding homework, which again will help with the pre public exams.
- Students have been creating revision timetables in tutor time and now we would be expecting that they are revising for at least 45 minutes, 5 sessions a week.
- Information about a post 16 options event has been sent home with students today. This event will host employers, representatives from colleges and information about apprenticeships. We highly recommend a visit if possible.
- Next week we will be interviewing for Head Boy and Head Girl positions, the letters of application were of the highest standard. Thank you to all those who applied.

Mrs Pearsall (Head of Year 11)

Attendance

Annual

Attendance

for Academy

(Y7-11)

Week Ending 19.9.19

Year 7	98.56%
Year 8	95.91%
Year 9	96.49%
Year 10	93.74%
Year 11	93.54%
Year 12	96.17%
Year 13	86.76%

Well done to Year 7 year group who are currently have the highest attendance.

A number of letters regarding attendance will be sent out to parents in the next week, so please keep your eye out for them.

We have an attendance lottery which means that a student's name is picked out at random on a weekly basis and if that student has received 100% attendance, they will win a £5 Amazon voucher. However, if the student has not achieved 100%, it then goes to a rollover and the student picked the following week is able to win a £10 voucher, and so on.

For all absences, please notify reception or alternatively, you can inform us of your child's absence on our designated student absence email student.absence@open-academy.org.uk

Mrs Ganson (Inclusion Secretary)

Thought for the Week - Teamwork

As you walk through life, remember that you're not supposed to do everything on your own. You need other people to walk alongside you, and other people also need you. There is incredible power in teamwork, but it takes work. It is simple, but not easy to work with others.

Teamwork can sometimes be messy, because it involves people.

Teamwork always requires trust but not control, celebrating others' successes and not taking the credit for ourselves.

Team work also means unity. Unity occurs when people are united in action and in passion for a common cause. Their shared goal is so strong that it removes hostilities, puts away disagreements, and gives previously divided people a reason to take their place alongside each other.

Team work always says "we believe in each other." Your rights must take second place.

In closing, the Bible talks about this subject in saying, "two are better than one because they have good return for their work. If either of them falls down, one can help the other up".

Have a wonderful week. God bless.

Mr Pimlott (Chaplain)

Message from the Principal

Thank you for your care and attention when driving on site!

I wanted to say a quick thank you to everyone who recognises the risks that are present at drop off and pick up times in a morning on the roads around the academy and in our car park. Our 5mph speed limit is vital with the combination of cars, bicycles, pedestrians and one way roads layout so your care and attention on site is deeply appreciated. Cyclists are asked to dismount after 8am so they are not adding to the issues and pedestrians are asked to remain on the pavements.

As traffic permanently seems to get heavier and journey times increase, I'm sure the temptation to rush is present for everyone, however it is vital that we continue to drive with the utmost care and vigilance given our particular circumstances, so please do continue to observe the 5mph speed limit on site, avoid cutting corners in case students are not alert and please do continue to drive safely – thank you!

Homework

We have tightened up our expectations and procedures around homework so we ask that you can do all you can to support your child to complete all work set to the best of their ability. We have not quite managed to get all students set up confidently with the homework app yet, but we have made it a priority to try to get this done. In the next week or so, we will be adding the atrium learning hub as a support base from 3pm until 4.30pm each day to provide a quiet calm workspace, with adult supervision and support, to help any child who needs it with completing their homework.

Homework club continues in the library too, from 3pm until 4pm, where support and a quiet space is available and some year groups will run homework support sessions in other areas.

If your child gets behind in their homework we may ask them to remain behind to complete set work so that they don't fall further behind. I do hope you will fully support us in this important next step in raising our expectations of the students at Open.

Year 11 GCSE Preparation - 'Supporting your child through GCSE's' presentation - Thursday, 10 October (6pm)

Our New Year 11 students have now embarked on their final crucial year before they take their exams and we know it will go very quickly. In order to support them and you their parents, there are some crucial events coming up in the next few weeks. Unlike the old days where students just completed mocks in around January we have found that sharpening their assessment into two rounds of Pre Public Exams (PPE1 and PPE2) one in October, the other in February, can give staff and students their clearest information about where their strengths lie and what areas they need to work on. Students will have been receiving clear messages in their subject areas about the work they need to revise for the first exams in October.

As we know that you will want to support your child as well as possible, we are offering you the opportunity to attend a **'Supporting your child through GCSE's'** presentation here at the Academy on Thursday, 10 October at 6pm. This is timed to occur before the students begin their first Pre Public Examinations experience from Monday, 14 October and will aim to help with practical tips, share tools and resources, and give examples of work and standards required. Whilst we encourage your child to attend with you this would be at your discretion

Final thought for the Week

Does this newsletter benefit from having a final thought? I would welcome any parent feedback.