

## LETTER FROM MR WILSON

I hope that you had a relaxing Easter break and welcome back to the summer term. The good weather certainly made the holiday more enjoyable. We can only hope that the sunshine stays with us over the coming months.

At Droylsden Academy we firmly believe that success comes from good manners, great learning, hard work and honesty. Regular attendance at school is also one of the key factors to ensuring good progress and academic success. Please support your child by ensuring that they attend school on time, every day.

The summer term is always a very busy one, especially for our Year 11 students as their GCSE exams approach. I would like to wish our Year 11 students all the very best in their preparations at such an important time. Effective preparation is vital and experience has shown us that support from home, a structured revision timetable and a “can do” attitude are the keys to success.

Enjoy this edition of our Newsflash and thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes

Mr P. Wilson  
**Interim Principal**

## GCSE COUNTDOWN

Three weeks to go to the first exam! **Year 11, make sure that when you get your results in August, you know, hand on heart, that you have done the best that you can; no-one can ask any more of you than that. But please don't fool yourself; only hard work in school and at home will make the difference.**

Thank you to the many teachers who came in over the Easter holidays to provide extra support for Year 11. The holiday sessions ran every day and were very well attended; we are sure that the students found them really useful. Staff were impressed by the enthusiasm and commitment shown by the students and hope that this continues throughout the examinations.

Extra study sessions will now run every night from 2.35pm to 3.35pm. These study sessions are called Period 6 lessons as they run at the end of the day after Period 5 has finished. The following table shows which lessons are on each evening.

Day	Subjects that will run on that evening
Monday	Art, French, Computing, Photography and Business Studies
Tuesday	Maths and Art
Wednesday	Science and Sport
Thursday	English, Performing Arts, Catering, Product Design, Business Studies and Photography
Friday	Geography, History, Spanish and Art

All Year 11 students have been given personalised Period 6 timetables telling them which lessons to go to each night. Please look at your child's Period 6 timetable and encourage them to attend these really important study sessions. **Attending Period 6 lessons will improve your child's GCSE grades and the opportunities open to them when they leave the Academy.**

There will be a Maths mock examination on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April for all Year 11 students; this will be the calculator paper. All students should ensure that they are well prepared.

If parents or carers have any questions or concerns about the exams at all, please contact Mr Frost, the Year Leader, Mrs Stephenson, the Year Manager or Mrs Smith, the Academy Examinations Officer.

**IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK**

Year 10 Catering students complete their GCSE controlled practical assessments.



Students involved with the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme start training for their May expedition when they will camp out and complete a 10 kilometre hike. Other students who are interested in getting involved can meet with the group each Wednesday at 2.45pm.

The Gardening Club starts the summer season; staff and students are welcome to join the group which will meet every Thursday at 2.45pm.

The use of the Good Manners Card is launched with all students during Assembly time. Further details about the card can be found in this edition of Newsflash.

Year 11 GCSE Geography students depart for a weekend residential Field Trip at Beverley in East Yorkshire where they will study coastal formations.



## ATTENDANCE REALLY DOES MATTER

Clearly, any time missed from school has a serious impact on a child's progress and achievement and, ideally, all students should have an attendance rate of 100%. Attendance below 95% is a concern. A child with an attendance rate below 90% is classed by the Government, colleges and employers as a Persistent Absentee.

It is no surprise that there is a direct link between attendance and achievement; those students with good attendance achieve better GCSE results. Every day a child is absent from school, he or she falls five lessons, or five hours of education, behind other students in the class, time that can never be made up. Parents who allow their child to stay off school for no good reason are letting them down and putting future opportunities of achievement, success and employment at risk.

## THE GOOD MANNERS CARD

Good manners, good behaviour and treating each other with respect are essential qualities that all our students should possess and demonstrate at all times. All students have been issued with a Good Manners Card which identifies four simple expectations on how they should conduct themselves around the Academy building. These are:

1. Always display good manners and be respectful to all.
2. Walk quickly and quietly to your next lesson (only then can all learners learn).
3. Walk on the left hand side of corridors and stairs.
4. Avoid physical contact with any other student.

Students who fail to meet an expectation will have this logged on their card. A detention will be issued if a student fails to meet our expectations on three occasions. Similarly, sanctions will be issued if a student loses their card or refuses to hand it over to a member of staff.

We hope that all our students will meet these simple expectations. Where this is not the case, we hope, and expect, that we will have the absolute support of parents and carers.

## REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

Please check your child's Homework Planner and ask to see their Good Manners Card.

Year 10 students have a Chemistry mock examination on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May which will cover the content of topic C1.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 8 Parent Teacher Evening is on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May. All Parents and Carers should have received a letter with further details about the evening. Please contact Mr Wakefield in Student Services if you have not received a letter or if you have any problems using PTO, the on-line booking system for making appointments.

There will be a Book Sale starting in the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April. It will run until half term. All monies raised will be split between AA: UK (Auto-immune Alopecia Research which is the LRC charity of the year) and restocking the LRC.

Year 11 Maths intervention day at the Village Hotel on 30<sup>th</sup> April.

Year 11 English intervention day at the Village Hotel on 1<sup>st</sup> May.

Year 11 Grade A/A\* Maths residential weekend in Chester from 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

Year 8 Humanities trip to Chester on 5<sup>th</sup> May.

## ARTS' AND SPORTS' ROUND UP

A group of students from Years 7 and 8 visited the Lowry Theatre during the Easter Holidays to watch a performance of The Boy in the striped pyjamas.

After school sports activities will take place on the following days next week:

Monday	Fitness suite open (All students)
Tuesday	Volleyball (Girls Years 7 to 9), Rugby (All students), Football training (Year 10)
Wednesday	A Team training in the Sports Hall (All students)
Thursday	Football training (Years 7 and 9)

**For other news from the P.E. Department please visit the weekly on-line Sports Blog on the Academy website.**