

APPOINTMENT OF A PERMANENT HEADTEACHER FOR DROYLSDEN ACADEMY

MR WILSON WINS THE JOB AGAINST A NATIONAL FIELD OF CANDIDATES

Droylsden Academy is delighted to announce that Mr Wilson has been appointed as the permanent HEADTEACHER of Droylsden Academy. He takes on the permanent role with immediate effect. He will lead the Academy alongside our new permanent EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER, Mr Duncan. The post of Headteacher was advertised nationally in April and Mr Wilson applied. Of all those who applied, only 6 candidates from around the country were considered strong enough to be invited to interview. In a gruelling two days of interview the candidates faced: a STUDENT PANEL; A STAFF PANEL; THREE LEADERSHIP PANELS; A WRITTEN TEST; LESSON OBSERVATIONS; THE DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION'S REGIONAL SCHOOLS' COMMISSIONER and representatives from our GOVERNING BODY. Mr Wilson was by far the strongest candidate and has now begun the permanent role.

Mr Wilson will lead the school day-to-day, supported and challenged by Mr Duncan on a permanent basis. Mr Wilson, Mr Duncan and the senior and staff team will also work together to bring significant improvements, over time, to standards of: achievement; teaching; attitudes to learning; behaviour and safety. **Mr Wilson will not be able to secure the required improvements without the significant investment and support of the students and parents of our school.** The school can only get the best for your child with your active support to your child as a learner and to the school itself. We will be most grateful to our parents for taking a strong active interest in the education and progress of their child by: attending all parents' evenings; participating in the full life of the school; supporting the school on achieving high standards of behaviour, homework, commitment to studies and uniform. The majority of our parents are already incredibly supportive of the school and very interested in the learning of their child. It is now time for all parents to buy into this fundamental feature of success for children. No child succeeds who doesn't attend full-time. No child succeeds who doesn't behave and learn. No child succeeds without the positive support to education from parents and carers.

If you have any concerns that cannot be properly addressed by Subject Leaders, Form Tutors or Year Managers or Leaders, please do not hesitate to contact school to speak with Mr Wilson. Together we will achieve great learning, good manners, hard work and a very honest approach to life at school.

Congratulations, once again, to Mr Wilson, our new permanent Headteacher.

GCSE COUNTDOWN

The GCSE exams start next week! **Remember, Year 11, for most of you, the opportunities and success that you have in the future will be directly linked to your GCSE results.** Good luck from all the staff at the Academy.

The following GCSE examinations take place next week:

Day	Morning (9.00am start)	Afternoon (1.30pm start)
Monday 11 th May	BTEC Creative, Digital & Media	BTEC Health & Social Care
Tuesday 12 th May	GCSE French	GCSE Biology
Wednesday 12 th May	-	-
Thursday 13 th April	GCSE Chemistry	-
Friday 14 th April	GCSE Spanish	GCSE Persian GCSE Portuguese

The Period 6 timetable continues to run every evening at the end of the school day. All Year 11 students should be attending one of their subjects every night.

Well done to all of those students who attended the recent intervention and preparation days in English, Maths and Science at the Village Hotel and the A/A* Maths residential in Chester; your attitude, commitment and application were excellent.

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Interviews take place for our new Head of History and an additional Humanities teacher.

Year 11 students attend a Science GCSE study day at the Village Hotel.

Year 10 students from the Aspire group spend a day with Hays Education learning about and practising interview technique.

Year 11 students visit Park View Care Home in Clayton to meet with residents as part of their Health and Social Care Course.

Next year's production of 'Singing in the Rain' is launched with students across the Academy. Further details can be found later in this edition of Newsflash.

Congratulations to Ellie Marie Chesters, from Year 8, who was voted in as Head Student Librarian this week and to Harvey Saxon-Travis, from Year 9, and Liam Noakes, from Year 7, who were voted in as Deputy Head Student Librarians.

SINGING IN THE RAIN

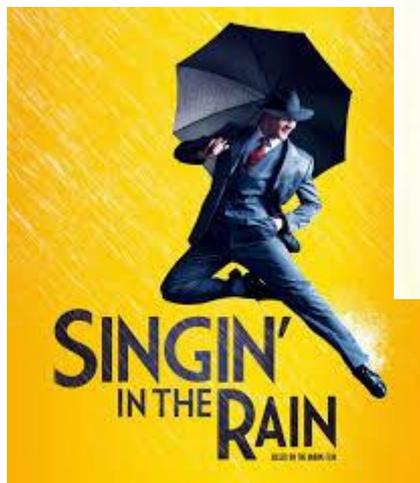
Anyone who has seen a production at Droylsden Academy over the last few years will know that they are of an exceptional standard. Following on from the successes of Hairspray, Les Miserables and Evita, this year's production will be 'Singing in the Rain' based on the Hollywood Musical starring Gene Kelly, Donald O'Connor and Debbie Reynolds. Audition packs are available from the Performing Arts Team and key dates are detailed below:

Thursday 14 th May	Dance and Music Workshops
Friday 15 th May	Drama Workshop
Monday 18 th May	Auditions for leading roles
Tuesday 19 th May	Auditions for Chorus and Dancers
Wednesday 20 th May	Auditions for other parts as appropriate

The performance dates will be on 30th November and 1st, 2nd and 3rd December.

Further news on the auditions and the progress of the production will be featured in future editions of Newsflash.

A huge amount of effort and commitment goes into a production such as this. Good luck and best wishes to all the staff and students involved.



ATTENDANCE

The average attendance for any student across the country is 95%. If your child has an attendance rate below 95%, then their attendance is a concern. Every day a child misses school, he or she falls five lessons, or five hours of education, behind other members of the class. Students with poor attendance fail in school and beyond.

Whilst the vast majority of students at Droylsden attend exceptionally well, with attendance well above 95%, others do not. **In these circumstances the school has a responsibility and a legal obligation to follow the law around non-attendance and, in conjunction with the Local Authority, impose the appropriate sanction.** The range of sanctions bestowed upon all schools in England and Wales to ensure good attendance range from warning letters to penalty notices and fines and, for extreme and persistent non-attenders, court proceedings which can include large fines and, in some cases, custodial sentences.

Excerpt from national and LA guidance

All children of compulsory age who are registered pupils at a school must attend that school regularly and punctually. It is your responsibility as a parent to ensure this. Failure to do so may result in legal action being taken against you in the Magistrates Court. Should your child fail to attend regularly and punctually, the school may refer you for prosecution for an offence under the 1996 Education Act.

A MINORITY OF STUDENTS ARE NOT GETTING THE MESSAGE YET

It is with much regret that the school reports that **there is still a small minority of children who are not getting the message about our high standards.** The school simply will not tolerate verbal abuse to its teachers. Teachers are not paid to accept this: their job is to teach. It is the job of the parent and student to guarantee that manners are good and positive behaviour allows teaching to take place. This minority of students will **not** be allowed to spoil lessons for the teacher or for the vast majority of fantastic children who come to our school to learn. Verbal abuse of staff will lead to exclusion from school which, if not corrected, will result in permanent exclusion. We are a kind, hard-working group of people who only want the best for our learners and their families but children who spoil the education of others will **not** be tolerated in our community. We need the active and direct support of their parents to guarantee us that their children will be polite and hard-working. Only together will we achieve great learning, good manners, hard work and a very honest approach to life at school. **Thank you to the vast, vast majority of our students and their parents who already demonstrate such a polite and positive approach to school, respect for the teaching profession and their child's learning.**

REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

The Grand Booksale is still taking place in the LRC. Students can find a bargain and help raise funds for AAR:UK (Auto-Immune Alopecia Research: UK).

Year 10 are raising funds for STARS, their chosen charity. Fund raising activities include a Five-a-Side football competition, Ice Pop and Cake sales, a sponsored 2km run and a Basketball shooting competition. **Anyone who would like to donate to this worthwhile charity can do so by texting Droy50(amount) to 70070.**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

HPV Vaccinations for remaining Year 8 girls on 12th and 13th of May.

Year 7 Gateway Project on 14th May.

Year 7 Humanities trip to Skipton Castle on 18th May.

Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition departs on 22nd May.

The Academy closes for the half term holiday on 22nd May.

ARTS' AND SPORTS' ROUND UP

Rugby training has come to an end for this season at the Academy. This was the first year that the Rugby Club has run and the foundations have been laid for future success on the field. Well done to all those students who have been involved, with a special mention going to Dylan Higgins, Bradley Iveson, Charles Jackson-Goyea, Sam Farrell, Owen Lewis, Ryan Edwards, Callum Holmes, Jessica Holden, Bethan Barlow, Natasha Holmes and Tia Nash. Thank you to Mr Mortimer and Mr Teasdale for running the club and to Ms Veal, a qualified coach from the English RFU. **A full report can be found on the on-line Sports Blog on the Academy website.**

Congratulations to Rhoda Sarpong who was awarded the Volleyball player of the month for May by the visiting England Volleyball coaches. The Volleyball Club runs every Tuesday evening and anyone who is interested in playing is welcome to attend.

National School Sports Week will be celebrated at the Academy from 22nd to 26th June. Last year's event was very successful and this year's will be even better! The following activities will be held during the week:

- Mobile Skateboarding Workshop
- Fencing
- Strong Star Competition
- Mini World Cup

- Orienteering Treasure Hunt
- The Academy Sports Day

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