

LETTER FROM MR WILSON

Welcome to this week's edition of Newsflash.

I was delighted to be involved in the selection process for the School Prefects earlier this week. The quality of the interviews and presentations were exceptional and choosing the Senior Student Team proved to be very difficult. Congratulations, in particular, to Natasha Holmes and Kai Wynne-Jones, who were appointed to the positions of Head Girl and Head Boy, and to all the other students who were appointed as Prefects too; you represent the Academy values of politeness, honesty and hard work on a daily basis and we know that you will be excellent examples and role models for others.

I am sure that many of you will have read the alarmist article about the mis-use of a pencil sharpener that appeared in the Evening News last week. The safety of our students is always paramount and I hope that the article on page 4 will clarify the facts about what actually happened and reassure all parents and carers that the incident has been dealt with appropriately.

The new intake of students for Year 7 joined us for two transition days this week. There were lots of smiling faces and hopefully all of the students enjoyed meeting their new Tutor and Form Group and having their first lessons at the Academy. I'm sure I will get to know them all very well and I hope they have five happy and successful years at Droylsden. Thank you to the Year 10 students who helped run the two transition days and make the new intake feel so welcome.

Thank you also to the Performing Arts Department for organising and leading this week's trip to London. As well as seeing the sites, our students watched performances of Billy Elliot, Wicked and Miss Saigon in the West End, an amazing opportunity for all of them. Similarly, I would like to thank Miss Hutchinson for leading the expedition in the Peak District last weekend and for her continuing work with the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

I hope that you have enjoyed the summer weather this week and that the sun continues to shine for tomorrow's Academy Summer Fair.

Best wishes

Mr P. Wilson
Headteacher

GCSE COUNTDOWN FOR YEAR 10 STUDENTS

The GCSE examinations for Year 10 students start in 48 weeks; this time will soon pass. Success will be achieved through hard work and commitment over time and it is vital that all students are preparing thoroughly now if they are to meet and exceed their target grades next summer.

Extra study sessions for Year 10 students are now running every night from 2.35pm to 3.35pm, as they did for the Year 11 cohort which has just left. 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 10 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.**

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

The Summer Fair will be held this Saturday; further details can be found later in this edition of Newsflash. **Please support the event and have an enjoyable day at the Academy.**

The Academy holds its first lunchtime barbeque; the sun shone and everyone enjoyed their burgers, hot dogs and ice cream. Thank you to the Catering Team for organising the event.

Droylsden Students compete in the Tameside Schools Athletics Championships. Further details can be found in the Arts' and Sports' Round Up.

Year 10 Business Studies students visit Greggs and Tesco as part of their GCSE course.

The Year 11 Prom will be held on Friday evening. Photos of glamorous students and staff will appear in next week's edition of Newsflash!

Students taking the Duke of Edinburgh Award complete their assessed expedition in the Peak District.

Students from Year 6 who will start at the Academy in September spend two days with us and meet their Form Tutor and Form Group as part of our transition programme.

Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Tia Edmundson, Will Clare, Eleanor Mortimer and Louie Horan represent the Academy in “Brains of Tameside”, and compete against other local schools.

PREFECTS



The Academy is pleased to announce the names of the Prefect team for the new academic year from September.

The Head Girl for the academic year 2015 to 2016 will be Natasha Holmes and the Head Boy will be Kai Wynne-Jones. Congratulations to both Natasha and Kai on their appointment to these important leadership roles in the Academy.

Other appointments included Tia Edmundson as Deputy Head Girl and Joseph Lewis as Deputy Head Boy. Congratulations also to Tia and Joseph on their appointments.

The senior prefects for the next academic year will be Kendall Beckett, Regan Walker, Kaiynath Rabnawaz, Reece Fletcher and Sami Sakhi.

The following students were appointed as prefects: Bradley Iveson, Jacob Allen, Charles Jackson Goyea, Harry Bond, Luke Shepley, Ben Stopford, Jack Chilton, Joel Ledgister, Kenny Allen, Natalie Bayes, Abigail Bright, Abigail Collier, Samantha Charlton, Lucy Elsworth, Tia Nash, Myah Mistry, Jeel Shukla, Beejal Songira, Meghan Harvey, Ilsa Khalil, Kira McCandless and Lily Wilson.

Finally, the following students were appointed to the Support Student Team: Leanne Branson, Tejal Patel, Aasiya Malik, Sehar Ahmed, Shannon Lilley, Jade Turner, Ryan Lees, Eleanor Mortimer, Tsungai Zindogo, Louise Sutton, Kieran Jarvis, Jack Garlak, Calvin Brown, Will Clare, George Dyer, Sumayya Mackmood-Khan, Lucy Cryer, Ellie Holt, Molly Bevan, Katie Cross, Amy Harwood, Jodie Ogden, Mahek Boota, Chloe Bartrip, Leah Sutton, Kelsey Blencowe, Changyu Yang, Eileen Ryan, Sam Quinn and Shania Dufty

Miss Sanderson and Miss Davies, the Year Leader and Year Manager for Year 10, were overwhelmed by the number and the quality of the applications for the Senior Student Team and feel that this reflects the high standards across the year group where the vast majority of students meet and exceed our expectations day in and day out. All the applicants faced a daunting selection process, including an interview, and, for the senior positions, students had to give a presentation to the Headteacher and the School Leadership Team. Well done, and thank you, to all those involved, we hope you enjoy the responsibility of your new roles and are confident that you will make an excellent Senior Student Team.

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NEWSPAPER REPORT

Following the article that appeared in the Manchester Evening News earlier this week, Mr Wilson felt it was important to clarify the facts for all parents, carers and students.

We initially received a report that a Year 7 student had been found with a blade that he had taken out of a pencil sharpener. On further investigation it became clear that a group of three other boys had also been involved. Whilst, to our knowledge, none of the boys had used the sharpener to damage anything, this clearly represented a serious incident. Parents and carers were contacted and Police Panels were arranged so that all the boys would get a clear and unequivocal message about the serious nature of what they had done. All staff were informed at a full staff briefing session and all Year 7 students were spoken to about the severity of the incident by senior staff. The boys were very remorseful for what had happened and we were, and remain, absolutely confident that lessons have been learnt. We do not feel, nor did we at the time, that any of the boys concerned represented any threat or danger to others in the Academy.

At the same time as this, there was an allegation that a Year 7 girl, a friend of the boys involved, had used a pencil sharpener to cut across the work of another student. Although the girl concerned has denied this, she has been placed in isolation whilst the incident is investigated. Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken dependent on the outcome of the investigation. Whilst this is a serious incident, we do not feel that the girl's presence in isolation represents a danger or threat to others in the Academy.

We, and the Local Authority, are confident that the incident has been dealt with effectively and there have been no further related incidents since.

YEAR 7 PARENT TEACHER EVENING

The Academy would like to thank those parents who attended Year 7 Parent Teacher Evening last week. Altogether 109 students out of a total of 146 were represented by parents or carers on the night, a turn-out of 75%. Feedback would suggest that the evening was very useful for parents, students and staff.

Many parents filled in a questionnaire during the evening and we were particularly pleased that:

- 100% of them agreed that their child enjoys school and was happy at the Academy;
- 97% felt that their child was safe and well looked after;
- 97% felt that their child was making good progress;
- 97% felt that their child was taught well; and that
- 97% would recommend the Academy to other people.

In response to other questions, 94% of parents felt that behaviour was good and 97% felt that they are now kept well informed; both of these figures represent significant increases on previous questionnaires.

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Whilst the Academy is delighted with the 75% turn-out and appreciate the clear communication from one or two parents who genuinely couldn't attend, we remain extremely worried and disappointed that 25% of our students were not represented at such an important evening where progress, attainment, strengths and learning areas for development were discussed with subject teachers. Evidence clearly shows that students who are actively supported in their education by parents who attend such events as Parent Teacher Evenings do much better.

THE SUMMER FAIR

Our Summer Fair will be held this Saturday from 11.00am to 3.00pm. There will be lots of attractions including Craft Stalls, Fun Fair Rides a Fun Run, Face Painting, a Music Trailer, a Tombola and Raffle, Refreshments and a BBQ! **Please support the event and have an enjoyable day at the Academy.**



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

The Scholastic Book Fair will be returning to the Library on Tuesday 7th July! There are over 200 titles for you to browse through with fantasy, thrillers, chick-lit, non-fiction, comedy and lots more. Prices start at just £2.99 per title and there's sure to be a book for everyone to enjoy.

The Book Fair will be available to visit all week, at lunchtimes and after school. If you can't make it to the Book Fair, you can buy a discounted Gift Voucher at www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/parents. They're a great way to ensure you don't miss out and every book or voucher bought helps to get free books for the school!

REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

Completed consent forms for the Rewards Trip to Blackpool must be returned to Student Services, and the payment of £10.00 made, by **Wednesday 15th July** for those children who are eligible and wish to go. Payment and consent forms cannot be accepted after this date.

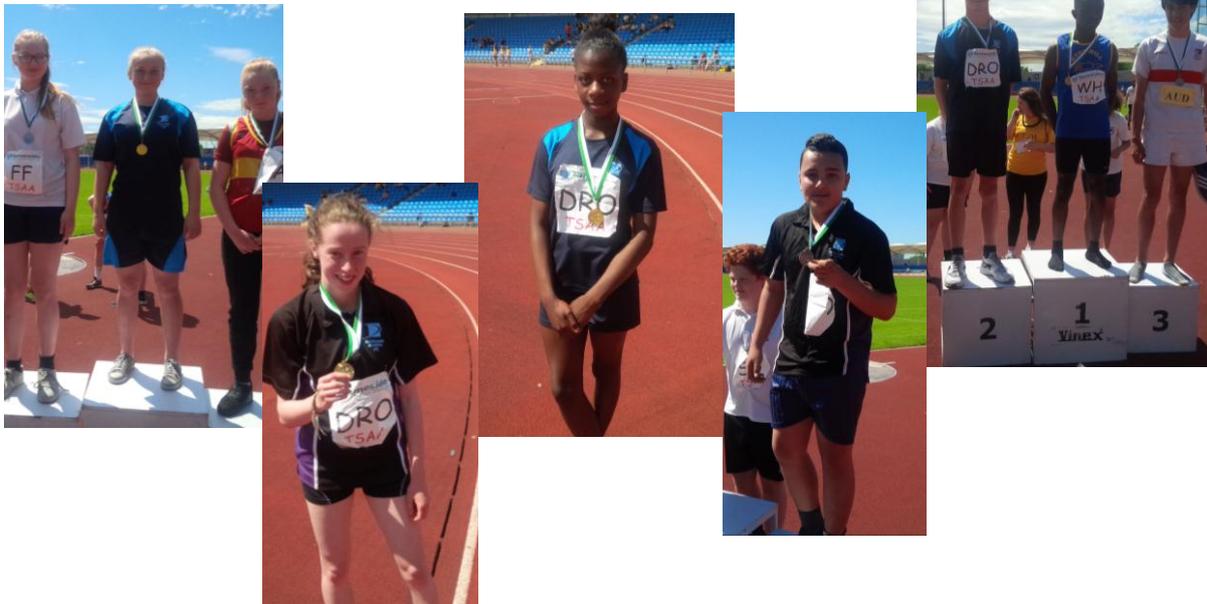
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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Academy will close for the summer holiday at 12.00pm on Tuesday 21st July. **Sandwiches will be available for students who are on free school meals but parents and carers must pre-order these in advance by phoning Student Services.** Sandwiches will not be available for those students who have not pre-ordered a meal.

ARTS' AND SPORTS' ROUND UP

Congratulations and well done to all the students who represented the Academy at the Tameside Schools Athletics Championships held at Sport City earlier this week. It was a really successful day for the Academy with the team winning three Gold, one Silver and one Bronze medal as well as qualifying for the finals of six other races.



Our medal winners were, from left to right were **Autumn Holmes**, Junior Girls Shot Put Gold Medal winner; **Regan Walker**, Intermediate Girls 100m Gold Medal winner; **Darkus Bawuah**, Junior Girls Long Jump Gold Medal winner; **Reko Mughal**, Junior Boys Shot Put Bronze Medal winner; and **Jack Garlak**, Intermediate Boys 800m Silver Medal winner

The following pupils also qualified for the finals of their races:

Michael Zhang, Junior Boys 200m

Kiera Holland, Intermediate Girls 200m

Sulemain Djalo, Junior Boys 100m

Sam Farrell, Junior Boys 800m

Liam Norris, Michael Zhang, Leighton Jones and Sulemain Djalo, Junior Boys 4 x 100m Relay

Ellie Jones, Kiera Holland, Charlotte Evens and Regan Walker, Intermediate Girls 4 x 100m Relay

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It was the most successful Tameside Athletics Championship that Droylsden has competed in. Congratulations and well done to all the pupils who took part, not just for your performances on track and field, but also for your attitude and behaviour throughout the day, you were a credit to the Academy.

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

COMMUNITY CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Day	Event	Time	Contact details
Monday	Tameside Netball	18.00 – 22.00	Jane cjchiz@blueyonder.co.uk
	Zumba with Nat & Caz	19.00 – 20.00	Natalie 07581171033 Natalie.day@hotmail.com
Tuesday	Tameside Netball	18.00 – 20.00	Jane cjchiz@blueyonder.co.uk
	Brendon Bee's Under 17 Football	18.45 – 19.45	Contact details to follow
Wednesday	TV Talent, Drama and Street Dance	Drama (Ages 3 – 11)	17.45 – 19.00
		Dance (Ages 3 – 12)	19.00 – 19.45
		Drama (Ages 12 – 18)	19.45 – 21.00
	Medlock Rangers Football for Children (Aged 6 – 13), Ladies (Open age) and Men (Open age)	17.45 – 20.45	07886825843 info@tvtalentedrama.co.uk www.tvtalentedrama.co.uk
			Jed Chant 07855766459 jedchant@ccpowerltd.co.uk
Thursday	Tameside Netball	18.00 – 20.00	Jane cjchiz@blueyonder.co.uk
	Brendon Bee's Under 17 Football	18.45 – 19.45	Contact details to follow
	Medlock Rangers Football for Children (Aged 6 – 13), Ladies (Open age) and Men (Open age)	17.45 – 18.45	Jed Chant 07855766459 jedchant@ccpowerltd.co.uk
	Zumba with Katie	20.00 – 21.00	Katie 07912640786 katieroper.zumba.com
Saturday	Little Sports Coaching A football school for boys & girls from 18 months to 12 years old	09.00 – 13.00	0800 032 1806 info@littlesportscoaching.co.uk

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