

## LETTER FROM MR WILSON

Welcome to Edition 19 of Newsflash.

Our Academy values are based firmly on the three core principles of Politeness, Hard Work and Honesty or, as identified in the Academy logo, **PH<sup>2</sup>**. We feel strongly that if we can instil these important qualities in all our students, they will develop into happy and successful learners who will go on to make a positive contribution to our community.

We constantly reinforce the importance of politeness, hard work and honesty and I hope that, as a staff, we model these qualities for the students every day. During assemblies, I have reminded students about what hard work means for them at school and how this links into the Academy Rewards System based on **PRIDE** points.

**P stands for Presentation** and if students work hard, they will take **PRIDE** in their written work, ensure that the Academy guidelines are followed to the letter and produce excellent notes. Clearly, some people are neater than others and all that we ask is that every student produces the best written work that they can.

**R stands for Resilience** and if students work hard, they will complete the most challenging work and tasks that they are able to rather than looking for an easier or simpler option. They will take **PRIDE** in persevering when the work is difficult, instead of just giving up and asking their teacher or a friend for the answer. A resilient student will be mentally tired at the end of a lesson!

**I stands for Independence** and if students work hard, they will ask and answer questions in class, plan tasks and activities carefully and complete work at home, or in their free time, as well as during lessons. Independent learners will take **PRIDE** in researching their own work and look for additional information and resources.

**D stands for Deadlines** and if students work hard, they will plan and prepare carefully, use their time effectively and always hand in their assignments or homework on time and with **PRIDE**.

**E stands for Excellence** and if students work hard, they will do all of the above and always proof read, check and look to improve their work whenever possible. Excellence means always doing the very best that you can and making the most of every opportunity that you have. Excellent work is done with **PRIDE** and is of a high quality.

**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**

When you are looking through your child's books and homework, please talk to them about **PRIDE** and encourage them to apply the key principles from above. Clearly, if we work together and talk about the same expectations, we are more likely to instil the important qualities of a hard work in all of our students.

Thank you for reading this edition of Newsflash and, as always, I hope you have a good weekend.

Best wishes

Mr P. Wilson  
**Headteacher**

## GCSE COUNTDOWN

Year 11, there are only 12 school weeks left, just 60 days in school, until your first GCSE exam.

Year 11 students will be taking part in Walking Talking Mocks during some Maths and Science lessons next week. During these lessons the students will complete exam papers in the examination room. The walking talking mock differs from the Pre Public Examinations because it is led by an expert teacher who explains exactly how students should tackle the exam papers. Walking Talking mocks are just one element of exam preparation but they are highly effective.

Year 11 GCSE Music coursework recordings took place on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January. We hope that they went well and that all students gave a good performance.

There is an important workshop for Year 11 Geography students on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January from 2.45pm to 5.15pm. The session will be led by the Chief Examiner for Geography and will be invaluable. Please ensure your child attends.

Year 11 students should already be preparing at home for their Pre Public Examinations after the half term holiday.

There will be a programme of revision and study classes over the forthcoming half term holiday as detailed in the table here. These sessions will help your child prepare for their Pre Public Examinations. Please encourage your child to take advantage of this great opportunity.

<b>Time</b>	<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>
<b>Morning 9.30 – 12.00</b>	Maths	Science	English	H&S Care P.E.	Geography Dance
<b>Afternoon 12.30 – 3.00</b>	Art Textiles		History		Music

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## IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

In response to student requests, the PE Department take delivery of another four new Table Tennis tables. Table Tennis is becoming really popular and we now have eight tables for our students to use at lunch time and after school.



Gardening Club is up and running with bean, potato and rhubarb seeds being sown in the big beds. The Club runs every Thursday after school and any student wishing to get involved is very welcome.



P.E. students visit the Manchester Climbing Centre to continue with their GCSE practical assessments.

Staff are currently submitting their latest assessment data for all Year 7 students as part of the Academy standardisation and moderation week.

Meetings of the various Year Councils are held.

**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**

## HEADTEACHER'S CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to the following students who were invited to attend this week's Headteacher celebration of achievement:

Lily Ward   Stephen Parkes   Minahil Arshad   Sara Hamdani   Ethan Shaw  
Autumn Holmes   Hannah Carling   Cassia Myers   Rodney Osei   Simar Kaur

## YEAR COUNCIL PRIORITIES

Following Year Council Meetings earlier this week each year group has identified their top two priorities for this term. The Councils also considered how to develop an Action Plan to implement their priorities.

### Year 7

**Priority 1:** To continue the improvements in classroom teaching and learning by including a wider variety of activities that will make lessons more engaging.

**Priority 2:** To review how the rewards system can better reward good behaviour through ideas such as a 'politeness plus' card and a 'be better' passport.

### Year 8

**Priority 1:** To ensure all students are in the correct sets and that all groups have the opportunity to learn and practice key learning skills.

**Priority 2:** To ensure that all students, including SEND students, have work that is absolutely matched to their ability and needs.

### Year 9

**Priority 1:** To continue improving behaviour across the Academy and eliminate all low level disruption.

**Priority 2:** To provide opportunities for students to develop their exam technique.

### Year 10

**Priority 1:** To review and develop the rewards system so that it encourages and incentivises good attendance.

**Priority 2:** To ensure all students write their homework into their planners and complete it to the standard required.

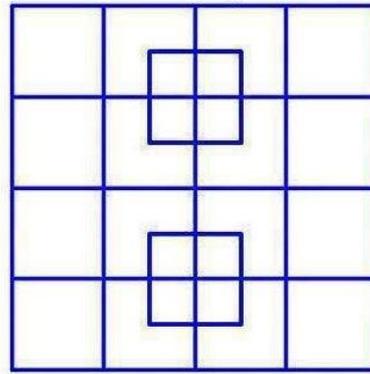
### Year 11

**Priority 1:** To review and develop the rewards system so that it encourages and incentivises student achievement.

**Priority 2:** To provide guidance and support for Year 11 students on effective time management.

**Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work**

THIS WEEK'S MATHS PUZZLE.....



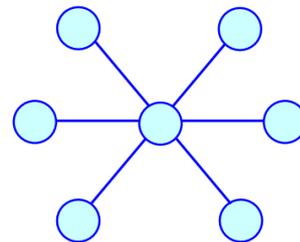
How many squares are there in this picture?

This puzzle is not as simple as it looks!

.....AND THE ANSWERS TO PAST PUZZLES!

Following requests from our readers, we will be publishing the answers to each Maths puzzle in the subsequent edition of Newsflash. These are the answers to the puzzles from the last few editions. The Maths Department hope that you have got them all right!

1. Put the numbers **1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6** and **7** in the circles so that each straight line of three numbers add up to the same total.



Solution: The number 4 should be in the centre, then 1 should be opposite 7, 2 should be opposite 6 and 3 should be opposite 5. Each straight line should then add up to 12.

2. There is a pole stuck in a lake! One half of the pole is stuck in the ground at the bottom of the lake. Another one third of it is covered under the water and 10ft of it is sticking out above the surface the water. What length is the pole in feet?

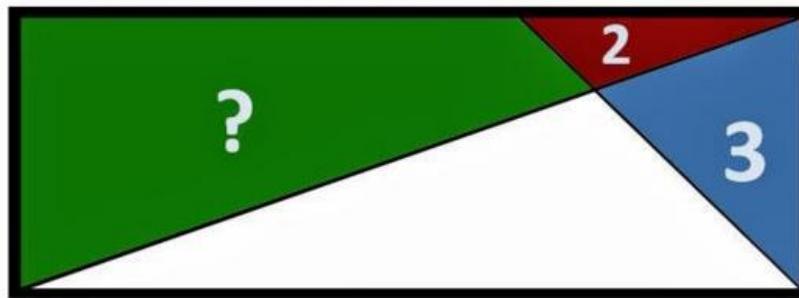
Solution: The pole is 60ft long. If half of the pole ( $\frac{3}{6}$ ) is stuck in the mud then half of the pole ( $\frac{3}{6}$ ) is in the water and sticking out of the water. If a third of the pole ( $\frac{2}{6}$ ) is covered by water then  $\frac{1}{6}$  of the pole is sticking out above the surface. If  $\frac{1}{6}$  of the pole is 10ft then the pole must be 60ft in length.

$$\begin{array}{l} \square + \bigcirc = 53 \quad \bigcirc = \\ \triangle + \triangle = 36 \quad \triangle = \\ \triangle + \bigcirc = 45 \quad \square = \end{array}$$

3. What is the numerical value of each shape?

Each triangle must have a value of 18 as two triangles add up to 36. If a triangle has a value of 18, then a circle must have a value of 27 as a triangle and a circle add up to 45. If a circle has a value of 27, then a square must have a value of 26 as a square and a circle add up to 53.

4. Calculate the area of the green shape.



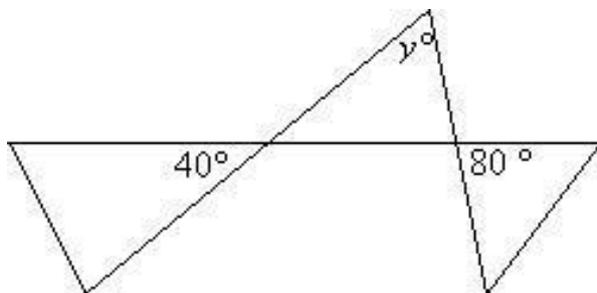
Solution: The green shape has an area of 5.5 units.

**Neither Mr Wilson nor Mr Duncan can do this question although they now know that the answer is 5.5.** If you can explain how we get the answer of 5.5, then write down a clear explanation and submit your answer to Student Services. A prize of a £10 voucher will be given for the clearest explanation (it will need to be really clear for Mr Wilson and Mr Duncan to understand it!). In the event of a tie break, the winning explanation will be drawn out of a hat. Answers must be submitted to Student Services by Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

5. What time should be on the last watch?



Solution: As you move from right to left each watch shows a time that is 42 minutes later than the previous watch. The final watch must show a time of 5:19 as this is 42 minutes later than 4:37.



6. Calculate the value of angle  $y$ .

Solution: Opposite angles, where two lines intersect (cross each other) are always the same. This means that the angle opposite  $40^\circ$  is also  $40^\circ$  and the angle opposite  $80^\circ$  is also  $80^\circ$ . As the internal angles of a triangle always add up to  $180^\circ$ , the value of  $y$  must be  $60^\circ$  as  $60^\circ$ ,  $80^\circ$  and  $40^\circ$  add up to  $180^\circ$ .

## REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

Year 9 examination week will take place during the week beginning Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February. **All school exams are important and the results of the Year 9 exams will help to inform possible option choices and Year 10 GCSE groups and sets.** Please ensure your child is preparing thoroughly and revising now.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Year 10 Parent Teacher Consultation Evening will be held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February.** Letters have been posted out to all parents and carers this week with further information about the evening and details about how to make appointments with staff. Please contact Student Services if there is anything you wish to ask or clarify.

The Academy will break up for the Spring Half Term Holiday on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February. The Academy will re-open on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

## ARTS' AND SPORTS' ROUND UP

**Hot of the press.... Sporting Success at the Academy!  
Further details in next week's edition of Newsflash.**

The Year 9/10 Girls Team and the Year 7/8 Boys Team both won Bronze Medals at the Tameside Volleyball Championships. The Year 7/8 Boys Team was made up just of Year 7 boys so they did particularly well competing against older students.

The Year 9/10 Girls Team won the Silver Medal and the Year 7/8 Boys A Team won the Gold Medal at the Tameside Table Tennis Championships. The Year 7/8 Boys B Team narrowly missed out on the Bronze Medal finishing 4<sup>th</sup> out of 13 teams.



*TV Talent charity raffle  
Win a brand new IPAD AIR 2*



*In aid of Francis House Children's Hospice*

*Tickets are £1 each and can be purchased at the  
reception of the following establishments*

*Middleton Arena  
Droylsden Academy  
Stretford Sports Village  
Talbot Centre, Stretford*

*Winner to be announced on Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February*



**FRANCIS HOUSE  
CHILDREN'S HOSPICE**  
Caring for children with a short life expectancy

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