

Droylsden Academy is a good school

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Visit to the Lowry Theatre

Around 100 students visited the Lowry Theatre just before the Christmas break to watch an evening performance of 'The Grinch'. Everyone had a really enjoyable evening and other members of the audience commented on how polite and well behaved our students were. Thank you to Mrs Burgess and the Performing Arts Team for organising the evening.



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Engineering

Year 10 students completing the GCSE Engineering Course at Tameside College have been constructing and testing the effectiveness of electromagnets. The group spend each Friday afternoon at the College where they are taught by one of the Lecturers and have access to the specialist workshops. Well done to all the students on their attitude and commitment to the course and on making great progress.



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Basketball

Following on from our successes against other schools, the PE Department recently ran their own Basketball competition for students from Years 10 and 11. There was some superb basketball played with many of the boys scoring some excellent '3 pointers'! This term, our Key Stage 4 boys will take part in the Tameside Basketball Championships and, after finishing in 3rd place last year, are aiming for Gold this time around! Well done to all the students who took part in the Academy competition and, in particular, to the winning team made up of JJ, Jessy, Aaron, Emanuel and Reiss!



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Xiu Huang on successfully completing the Level 4 Piano Award assessed through the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music. Xiu is a talented pianist who works hard and deserves her success.



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Leadership Celebration

Members of the Academy Leadership Team meet with students each week in recognition of their achievements, skills, personal qualities or contribution to Academy Life. This week, Mrs Lloyd had a breakfast of Hot Chocolate and French Pastries with a group of our most able students who are demonstrating outstanding progress and attainment in their lessons.



Angelo Moraru	Georgia Morris	Milly Madden	Andrew Chen	Hannah Thomas
Emily Houghton	Ben Evans	Xiu Huang		

The Christmas Attendance Draw

Congratulations to Gad Amakye who won a Mountain Bike in the Attendance Christmas Draw. Gad's name was drawn out from over 700 students who had 100% attendance and no late marks over the last half term.

Well done to everyone with excellent attendance and punctuality who qualified for the draw.



GCSE COUNTDOWN

Year 11, now that you have returned from the Christmas Holiday, there are only 17 school weeks left, just 85 days in school, until your first GCSE exam.

You are now on the final lap of your five years at Droylsden Academy and, for most of you, your future opportunities will depend on what happens over the next six months. **There are no short cuts or easy routes to exam success. Those of you who commit to your studies, work hard and prepare thoroughly will do well; those of you who don't will not.** Take control of your future now.

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AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

As part of our on-going consultation to improve all aspects of school for our students, I am very keen to hear your honest views about the Academy and the service it provides for your child.



I am writing to ask you to spend a few minutes completing an important survey about Droylsden Academy. If we have your email address, a link to complete an electronic survey will have been sent to you today, Friday 10th January. If we do not have your email address, you should have received a paper copy of the survey with this edition of Newsflash.

Please read each statement in the survey carefully and, drawing on your experiences of Droylsden Academy, please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree with each one. If you wish to provide further details about any aspect of the work of our school, please write your comments in the space provided before submitting your response. **The deadline for completion of the survey is Friday 24th January.**

Thank you for taking the time to help us. Your views are incredibly important and they will contribute greatly to our future work around school improvement.

Mr P. Wilson
Headteacher

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

This is a final reminder that all replies for the Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award need to be returned to Student Services by Tuesday 14th January. If you would like to take part but have not got a letter, or you have lost your original copy, it is essential that you collect another one from Student Services on Monday and then return it on Tuesday.



The first meeting will also take place on Tuesday in M12, Mrs McCallum's Classroom, at 2.35pm when students will be picking their groups. Failure to attend, or hand in a form before the meeting, will result students not being allocated to a group. If you have any questions please see Mrs McCallum or Mr Bentick as soon as possible.

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You may remember that, last term, Year 9 students took part in a 'Drop-Down Day' when they attended a series of workshops and presentations on Sex and Relationships Education. The day was extremely successful and feedback from students and staff suggested that this format really worked well.

Next week, Year 8 students will be attending a similar day, but looking at the issues around Drugs Education and Safety. Parents and Carers of all Year 8 students should have received a copy of the following letter:

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Drugs Education and Safety



At Droylsden Academy we aim to support students to embrace the challenges of adult life, equipping them with the knowledge and skills that will enable them to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health and safety.

Whilst we recognise that Parents and Carers are the prime educators for children on many of these matters, the school can complement and reinforce this role by building on what children learn at home as an important part of delivering a good education.

With this in mind, on **Wednesday 15th January**, Year 8 students will take part in a workshop aimed at delivering important aspects of Drugs and Safety. The workshop will cover cannabis, alcohol, nitrous oxide and safe behaviour.

The normal school timetable will be partly suspended and the session will be facilitated by a professional and expert external agency - **Change Grow Live**: a national charity (with a Tameside division) that focusses on education and intervention with reference to substance misuse.

The workshop will take place during one period only, students should bring all their usual equipment and books as normal.

I am sure that you see the value of this important aspect of your child's education and encourage you to discuss their learning with them.

Yours faithfully

Mr S. Jackson

Director of Character and Life Skills



EX-STUDENT OF THE WEEK!

We are delighted to announce that Ethan Prince, currently at Oxford University and an ex-student of the Academy, will be returning to our school next Tuesday to talk to a group of students about his experiences.

Ethan left the Academy just three years ago, having achieved a string of top grades across his GCSE subjects, with three at Grade 9, four at A* and two at Grade A. He then went on to study Maths, Physics, Chemistry and Biology at Ashton Sixth Form College and was subsequently offered a place to study Biochemistry at Oxford. Ethan is the first member of his family to go to University and would like to share his experiences with our students as well as answering any questions they may have about life at one of the most prestigious Universities in the World.



REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

Music Festival

There will be a Music Festival at Ashton Sixth Form College on Thursday 6th February when a mix of Bands and DJs, all students or ex-students of the College, will showcase their talents. Whilst all students are welcome to attend the event, it may be of particular interest to those currently studying Music at the Academy or who are thinking of studying it at College.



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 11 students will be attending a Revision Conference at the Village Hotel in Ashton on Tuesday 14th January. All parents/carers will have received full information about this important event.

Year 8 students will be attending a 'Drop-Down Day' on Wednesday 15th January when they will be attending workshops on Drugs Education and Safety.

A group of Year 10 GCSE Photography students will be visiting Saddleworth Moor on Wednesday 15th and Wednesday 22nd January to take landscape photographs for their coursework portfolios.

A group of Year 11 students will be visiting the Lowry Theatre on Wednesday 15th January to watch an evening performance of 'An Inspector Calls', one of the texts they are studying for their GCSE English course.

Year 9 Parent Teacher Consultation Evening will take place on Thursday 16th January. Parents/cares of Year 9 students should have already received information about the event by post. Please contact Student Services if you would like any assistance in booking your appointments for the evening.

The Character Awards Evening will be held on Wednesday 29th January.

Year 8 students will be attending a 'Drop-Down Day' on Wednesday 12th February when they will be attending workshops on First Aid.

A group of Year 11 students will depart for a GCSE Residential Revision Weekend at Borwick Hall on Friday 14th February.

The Academy will break up for the half term holiday on Friday 14th February.

Finance Assistant

Pay Scale: Grade C (Points 5 – 6)

Contract: Full Year

Hours: 36 hours per week

Closing Date: 21st January 2020

Interview Date: To be confirmed

Start Date: As soon as possible

We are looking for a trustworthy, hardworking and reliable Finance Assistant to join Droylsden Academy.

Droylsden Academy is enjoying a period of rapid improvement; this is a very exciting time to join us as we are building a team of committed professionals who are driven in making our vision of becoming outstanding a reality.

The Academy was inspected in 2017 and Ofsted noted the rapid progress our school is making. The result of this inspection was the **school being judged good in all areas**.

“Pupils behave well, they are proud of their school and take on leadership roles readily”

“The school’s core values of politeness, hardworking and honesty are in abundance”

“Pupils are interested in their learning because teachers have excellent subject knowledge and plan carefully”

The Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment. To ensure this, successful candidates will be subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure.

For further information please visit:

<http://www.droylsdenacademy.com/work-at-droylsden-academy/3527.html>

Interested applicants should complete a Droylsden Academy Application Form and Equal Opportunities Application Form available on the school website at:

<http://www.droylsdenacademy.com/work-at-droylsden-academy/3527.html>.

Completed applications should be returned electronically to:

hr@droylsdenacademy.com

or posted to:

Human Resources, Droylsden Academy, Manor Road, Droylsden, Manchester, M43 6QD.

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