

**Droylsden Academy is a good school**

## IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Although the first two articles refer to visits and events that took place in the final week of last term, we have not reported on them as yet and hope you enjoy reading about them!

### **Performing Arts Residential to the West End!**

In July, Miss Burgess took a group of 50 students involved in the Performing and Creative Arts on a Rewards Trip to London. On the Wednesday, we all enjoyed a Pizza Hut Buffet, and visits to Southbank and the National Theatre, before taking in an amazing evening performance of 'Matilda, The Musical' at the Cambridge Theatre.

The following day, the group took part in a workshop at Pineapple Dance Studios with the Dance Captain of Matilda, and had a walk around Covent Garden, before taking in our second West End Production, a matinee performance of 'Frozen, The Musical' at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane!

The students packed lot of activities and experiences into just two days and had an amazing trip; some lucky students even got to meet the Founder of Pineapple Dance Studios, Debbie Moore! Thank you to all the staff who supported the trip and a big thank you to all the students for your hard work throughout the year and your behaviour, consideration and energy over the two days we were in London; you were a joy to be with!

Roll on July 2024!



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



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## Another Amazing Report from Zion Productions!

Thank you to the team from Zion Productions for another fantastic report covering the Primary School Olympics, the Academy Rewards Day and the Academy Sports Day, all of which took place in the last week of term. A career in broadcasting surely awaits Liam and his amazing team! The report can be viewed through the link below:

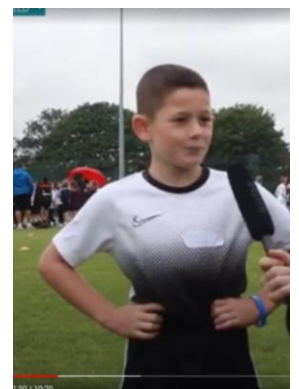
[\(6\) Zion News | #8 - Primary Olympics / Rewards Day / Sports Day - YouTube](#)

Director  
Director of Photography  
Camera Operatives

Sound Mixers/Boom Ops

Featuring

**Charlie Boardman**  
**Liam Tomkinson**  
**Izzy Sinclair**  
**Olivia Mansell**  
**Neveah Smith**  
**Kiki Akingbogun**  
**Pippa Mansell**  
**Lily-Mae Nicholls**  
**Charlie Boardman**  
**Lucas Turnbull**  
**Geraldine Morton**  
**Olivia Mansell**  
**Evie Quinlan**  
**Leyla Francis**



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## Thank you!

A big thank you to the company 'Visual Architects', based in Hyde, who have donated a range of materials that will support the Technology Department in its delivery of the Year 7 Electives Programme! Mr Clark and Mr Acton collected the materials this week and it will be a wonderful opportunity for our students to work with industry standard resources. Thank you again 'Visual Architects'; we look forward to developing close links with your company in the future which will support and enhance the Technology Curriculum.



## Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Evie Quinlan** and **Rachel King** from Year 10 and **Logan Latchford** from Year 11 who have all been accredited for their performance skills through Trinity College, London.



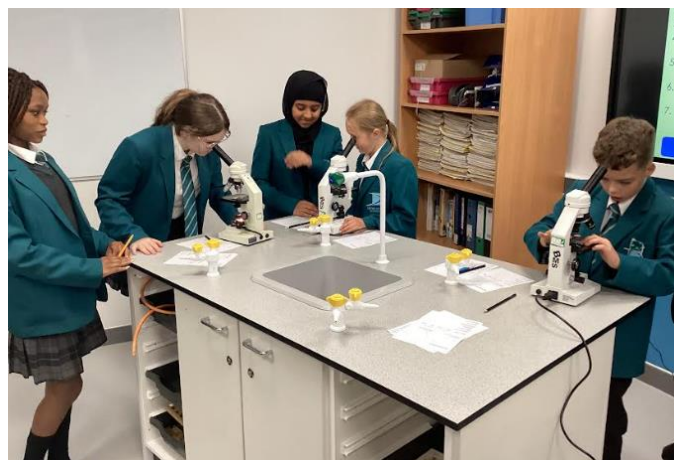
Evie achieved her Grade 2 Acting Certificate, gaining a merit, whilst Rachel achieved her Grade 3 Guitar Instrumental Certificate and Logan his Grade 4. Evie is a very promising actor and is currently rehearsing to play the lead role in this year's Academy Production of 'West Side Story' whilst Rachel and Logan are talented guitarists whose success is testament to their hard work and dedication!



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## Science

Meanwhile, in Science, Year 7 students have been modelling the behaviour of particles in solids, liquids and gases and learning how to use the microscope!



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Out of the classroom, Ms Cairns and Mrs Byrne have been introducing our new students to our two Axolotls, Rosie and Tyson, and already have volunteers to feed and care for them at break and lunchtime.



Axolotls are salamanders that never really grow up! Usually, as amphibians, salamanders start off living in the water and then transform into adults that can live on land too, a little like a tadpole turning into an adult frog. Axolotls never make this transition and instead, they keep their frilly external gills and other juvenile features and stay living in the water for their entire lifecycle. Although axolotls look like the 'tadpole' form of most salamanders, they do become adults in the sense that they are able to breed.

Like many species of salamander, axolotls also have the remarkable ability to regenerate parts of their bodies including limbs, eyes and even parts of their brains. Rosie and Tyson, you are amazing!



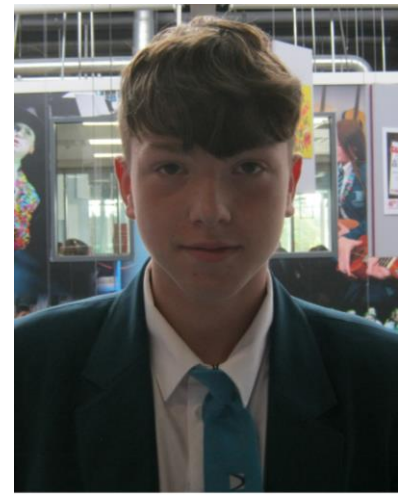
## STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to **Ivan Ilevbare** from Year 7, **Liam Tomkinson** from Year 10 and **Alfie McGhee** from Year 11 who have all been nominated as Student of the Week.

Ivan has been nominated by the Maths Department as he has made a great start to Year 7. At the start of term, Ivan handed in an excellent piece of transition homework that he had completed during the summer and, since then, has displayed a fantastic attitude and commitment in class. Ivan has already been credited with over 1000 points on Sparx even though he has only had the login for 2 days! Well done Ivan!

Liam has been nominated by the Science Department as he too has made a great start to the year. Liam is very attentive in class and is also confident in contributing his ideas when we are discussing things in class. Similarly, he has made a really good start with his homework and has not been afraid to ask for help if he has needed it. Liam has also stayed behind after school to ensure that he is well prepared for his first assessment next week. Well done Liam, Miss Sandiford is very impressed!

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Alfie has been nominated by the English Department as he has returned from the summer holiday and started Year 11 with a superb attitude in English. In every lesson, Alfie has been positive, focused and has made superb contributions to class discussions. He has also done an incredible impression of the First Witch in Shakespeare's 'Macbeth'! Thank you, Alfie, well done and keep it up.

## GCSE COUNTDOWN

**Year 11, there are only 27 school weeks left, just 135 days in school, until your first GCSE exam.**

By now, you should all have an idea what you may want to do when you leave Droylsden at the end of this academic year. It is important, however, that you get as much information as you can about the different colleges you can apply to and the courses and qualifications on offer. There will be lots of Open Days or Events over the coming term and it is important that you visit as many as you can so that you can start to make informed decisions about your future.

### Key Dates

Make sure that the following important dates are in your Student Planner:

Year 11 Parent/Carer Evening will be held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October.

Your first set of Pre Public Examinations will take place from 13<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

Your second set of Pre Public Examinations will take place from 5<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> February.

A second Year 11 Parent/Carer Evening will take place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March



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## REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

### Year 8, remember your empty plastic milk containers!

Year 8, please remember to bring any empty plastic 2 or 4 pint milk containers to school as soon as possible so that we are ready to upcycle them into amazing African Masks! You can drop off any containers at Student Services or with your Art Teacher!

Don't forget and thank you!



## HELMETS MUST BE WORN

You must wear a helmet when riding to or from school on your bike



Students who do not wear a helmet will not be able to cycle home until a parent brings a helmet in

### Cycle Helmets

This is a reminder that Cycle Helmets must be worn if you wish to come to school on your bike. Students who do not bring a helmet with them will not be allowed to cycle home until a parent brings a helmet in.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

There will be Geography Field Trips to the River Medlock for Year 11 students on 18<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> September.

Tempest Photography will be in the Academy on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September to take photographs of students in Years 7 and 10. Further information will be sent to parents/carers nearer the time.

The Academy Open Evening will be held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September.

Futures Evening will be held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October.

Year 11 Parent Teacher Evening will be held on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October.

The Academy will break up for the Half term Holiday on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October.

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# Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

## PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

## ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

## AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

## DISCUSS AGE RATINGS



Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary; emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

## FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

## ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

## TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

## BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.



**TAME RIVER**  
EDUCATIONAL TRUST  
TEACHING & CURRICULUM  
INSTITUTE



If so, why not **'Train to Teach'** with us here at **The Tame River Teaching & Curriculum Institute** through School Direct in partnership with the everyonelearning@ Hawthorns Kingfisher , Tame River Teaching and Curriculum Institute.

We are currently recruiting for **Biology, Chemistry, Physics, English, Geography, History, Maths, PE with Ebacc, Art, RE, Computer Science and MFL.**

School Direct allows Trusts and schools to request training places directly, select the ITE (Initial Teacher Education) provider of teacher training they want to work with and agree the content and focus of the training, in line with national standards for teachers.

Our new Trust, Tame River Educational Trust, plays host to training and placements in very strong schools (Mossley Hollins High School, Ofsted Outstanding, and Droylsden Academy, Ofsted Good) and we are working in partnership with other schools in Tameside. Bursaries are available!

For further information please contact [e.duggan@tret.org.uk](mailto:e.duggan@tret.org.uk)

<https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/explore-my-options>

Apply here <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-teacher-training> **Course Provider Code 2A1**

## JOB VACANCY AT MOSSLEY HOLLINS HIGH SCHOOL

### **Higher Level Teaching Assistant (Level 4) SEND & Power of Language Strategy (POLS) Co-ordinator**

**Pay Scale:** Grade F, Point 17-22, (Actual starting salary at Point 17 of £21,695)

**Hours:** 34 hours per week, Term Time Only

**Contract:** Permanent

**Closing Date:** Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023 (12 noon)

**Interview Date:** Week beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023

**Start Date:** As soon as possible

Interested applicants should complete an Application Form available on the school website at

[www.tret.org.uk/vacancies/mossley-hollins-vacancies](http://www.tret.org.uk/vacancies/mossley-hollins-vacancies)

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