

Droylsden Academy is a good school

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Remembrance Day

Last Friday, the Academy remembered and paid its respects to all those who have laid down their lives in the defence of our country and the freedoms that we, and billions of other people around the world, enjoy. Members of the Combined Cadet Force and our Year 11 Prefects attended a Service of Remembrance in the school grounds whilst lessons were paused around the Academy so that staff and students could listen to a message from our Co-Headteachers, Mr Mayell and Mrs Arnold, and join them in two minutes of silent reflection and thanks. A transcript of their message can be found below.

The Droylsden Community has close links with the Armed Services and has, of course, endured its losses and, as such, it was no surprise that our solemn and moving acts of remembrance were impeccably respected and observed by everyone.



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work

Today we remember and pay our respects to those who went to war and never returned. We also remember those who did return, many bearing the physical and mental scars of armed conflict. What transpired in the trenches and on the battlefields of the First World War, and in conflicts ever since, continues to remind us that freedom has its price.

In the four years of the First World War from 1914 to 1918, more than 20 million soldiers and civilians were killed. That dreadful war cast a long, dark shadow over the world and we still feel its impact today.

However, 20 years later, the world was at war again. The 2nd World War, which raged from 1939 – 1945, saw some 75 million military personnel and civilians lose their lives. Countries across the world were devastated and towns and cities lay in ruins once again. The horrors of this conflict still resonate today.

Further conflicts followed these two world wars. Indeed, there has not been a day since 1945 when conflict has not raged somewhere in our world. During these conflicts, many of our brave armed forces personnel have paid the ultimate sacrifice to ensure that we can enjoy the freedoms that we often take for granted in this country.

Every year our nation remembers on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. It was at 11.00am on 11th November 1918 that the guns finally fell silent at the end of World War 1. We know that war, in any form, is a dreadful thing. Yet there have been times in the past – and regretfully there will be more in the future – when to stand up against tyranny is to stand up for freedom.

We will remember all those who have served in and been affected by conflict around the world and we think of those who still suffer today because of war. During our reflection, we visualise the red poppy that grew on the fields of France where so many lost their lives in the slaughter of the first World War. The red poppy symbolises the blood shed on battlefields by brave service men and women, often far away from home. Let us remember them this morning

Lest We Forget.



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Year 7 Electives

Year 7 students taking the Outdoor Education Pathway of the Academy Electives Programme learnt all about the importance of camouflage last week and then had a go at applying their own!

Apparently, there are a group of students on the photograph below but we can't see any.

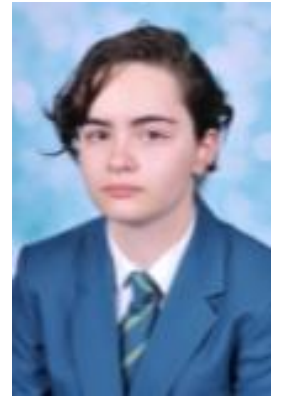
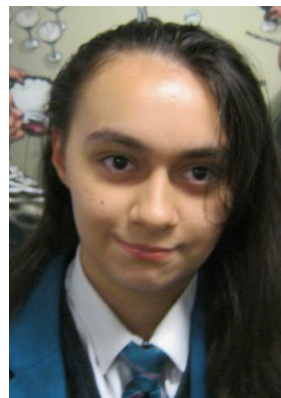


This week's brightest Sparx!

Congratulations to **Samuel Hopwood**, **Hayley-Jane McGeever**, **Akinfemi Bayo-Vergara**, **Lara Nanji** and **Georgia Morris** who were the brightest Sparx for last week having attempted the most questions on the interactive Maths website.

This week's brightest sparx

Year 7	Samuel Hopwood	13,674 XP
Year 8	Hayley-Jane McGeever	2,568 XP
Year 9	Akinfemi Bayo-Vergara	11,500 XP
Year 10	Lara Nanji	12,674 XP
Year 11	Georgia Morris	3,225 XP

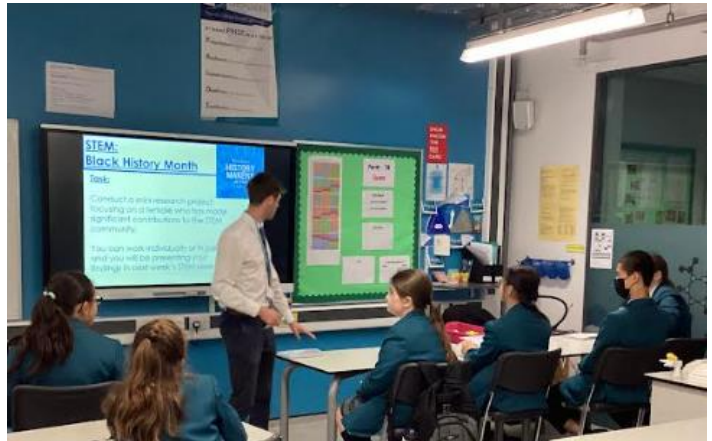


As Parents and Carers will be aware, Sparx is an online Maths resource which students can log onto at any time to practise and reinforce or develop their understanding of a topic, revise and complete homework tasks. Students are awarded 'XP Points' every time they attempt a question and evidence clearly shows that regular use of Sparx boosts a child's GCSE Grade. Parents and Carers can receive Sparx updates for their child by email and we hope that they will encourage their child to use this brilliant resource regularly at home.

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Science

There was great excitement at Robot Club this week as the new kits arrived and assembly and programming could begin! We are now looking forward to the Academy's very own 'Robot Wars' where the robots will compete against each other to complete a series of manoeuvres and challenges; watch this space!



Meanwhile, STEM Club reviewed and discussed the presentations about inspirational black females that had been produced by members of the group to celebrate Black History Month. Whilst the group did not nominate winners and runners-up, a special mention must go to **Emma Petrova** for her amazing work on Wangari Maathai who is best known as an environmentalist and a campaigner for civil rights, democracy and education and against poverty. Emma's presentation can be seen below.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Founded 'Green Belt Movement' (environmental, non-governmental organisation that plants trees and advocates for environmental conservation and women's rights while also alleviating poverty and conflict in Kenya).
- First African woman to win a Nobel Peace Prize (2004).
- First woman in Kenya to become a professor.
- First female in Central and East Kenya to take a doctorate in biology.

NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER

Awarded the prestigious award in 2004, Wangari Maathai was recognised for her contribution to sustainable development, democracy and peace. She was the first African woman to win this.

Green Belt Movement

Founded in 1977

It focuses on 'promoting environmental conservation, to build climate resilience and empower communities, especially women and girls, to foster democratic space and sustainable livelihoods.'

Wangari Maathai

Social, political and environmental activist
Biologist/Biochemist

FACT FILE:

Birth	1 April, 1940
Death	25 Sep, 2011
Children	3
Spouse	Mwangi Maathai (1969-1979)

Education

- Went to St. Cecilia Intermediate Primary School
- Rated first in her class - academically gifted from a young age
- Went to Loreto High School (Limuru)
- Received a scholarship to study at Benedict College
- Majored in biology, chemistry and German
- Received a bachelor of science degree
- University of Pittsburgh, received masters degree in biology

Adversities

What troubles has Maathai encountered?

Early Life

Where was she born? Where and what did she study?

01

Imprisoned

Wangari Maathai was imprisoned several times for criticizing the then president of Kenya and demanding multi-party elections.

02

Beaten

While leading a peaceful protest against the president, thugs and state police beat her unconscious.

03

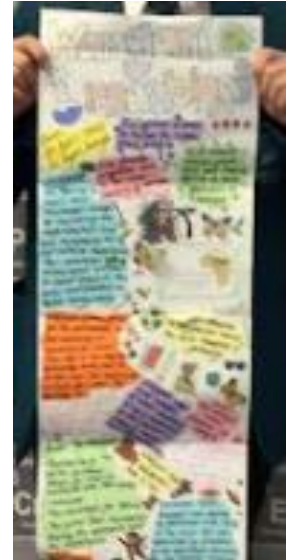
Sexism

Her husband divorced her but she was 'a strong-minded woman' and 'unable to con her'.

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Thank you and well done also to those students who produced posters and displays about Wangari Maathai and her amazing work. Congratulations, in particular, go to **Oscar Wilhelm**, from Year 9, pictured here, who submitted the winning entry and received a £20 voucher for his efforts. A special mention must also go to the following students, all from Year 7, for their entries in the competition:

- Marley Wild**
- Miracle Agho**
- Matthew Millington**
- Annabelle Savery**



Saving Lives

This week, Year 7 have been taking part in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Defibrillator training during P.E. Lessons. This is an essential skill which, clearly, could help them save someone's life!

In order to pass the course, Year 7 had to identify all the correct steps and procedures when undertaking CPR and then demonstrate how to perform it effectively on a mannequin. We are delighted to say that every student completed the course successfully and received their certificate. Well done 7, one day in the future, somebody, somewhere, may be very grateful that you listened, learned and practised these very important skills.



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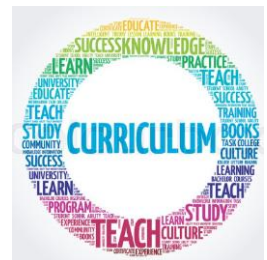


WHAT IS MY CHILD LEARNING?

We are pleased to report that parents/carers can now access details about every subject taught at the Academy in our Parent Curriculum Information Booklet.

The Parent Curriculum Information Booklet can be found on the Academy website at

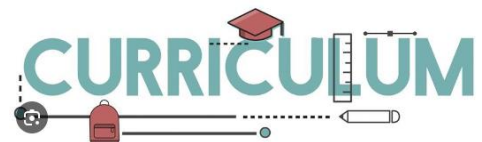
<https://www.droylsdenacademy.com/parents/parental-curriculum-booklet/>



The booklet includes the following information for every subject we teach, across all year groups, and we hope that it will help parents and carers to support their child’s learning at home:

1. Topics for each half-term
2. Links to the exam board specifications
3. Key assessment dates
4. Details of how parents can support learning at home

We hope that you will find this information useful.



GCSE COUNTDOWN

Year 11, there are only 19 school weeks left, just 95 days in school, until your first GCSE exam.

You are half way through your first set of Pre-Public Examinations and we hope they are going well. The timetable for the remainder of your examinations can be found below:

Date	Session	Exam
Mon 20 th Nov	am	Maths (Paper 3) Photography
	pm	Drama
Tue 21 st Nov	am	History
	pm	Religious Studies

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Wed 22 nd Nov	am	Combined Science: Physics
	pm	Computer Science
Thus 23 rd Nov	am	English Literature
	pm	Music Design & Technolgy



STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to **Owen Boardman** from Year 7, **Scarlett Baker** and **Victoria Ohene** from Year 10 and **Isabel Murphy** from Year 11 who have all been nominated as Student of the Week.



Owen has been nominated by the English Department as his effort in lessons is fantastic! He has a really positive attitude, he always works hard and is such a selfless student when it comes to helping others when they are struggling with their work. Well done Owen, you are an asset to the class and it is brilliant to see!

Scarlett has been nominated by the Science Department as she has settled really well in Year 10 and is a very able scientist. Scarlett works hard in every lesson and at home; she has prepared very thoroughly for her T1 Assessment and, deservedly, achieved an outstanding grade. Scarlett also consistently models the Academy values and Miss Sandiford, her Science teacher, is really very proud of her! Keep it up Scarlett!

Victoria has been nominated by the English Department as she is working extremely well and, having joined the school during Year 10, has had to adapt and get up to speed with how we do things here

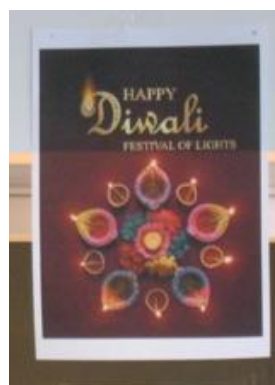
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at Droylsden Academy. She has approached this challenge with a quiet determination and is now reaping the rewards of her hard work. It is clear to see from Victoria's work and contributions in class that she is growing in confidence and she has produced some excellent pieces of written analysis, particularly in relation to Macbeth in English Literature. She can approach the Pre-Public Examinations that we are now doing with a sense of belief and we look forward to marking her papers - well done Victoria!

Isabel has been nominated by the Maths Department as she is a very conscientious and diligent student who takes great pride in her work. Although one of the quieter members of the class, Isabel works really hard and is not afraid to ask questions to check her understanding, or ask for guidance if she needs it. Isabel is very methodical and this will be to her advantage during her Pre-Public Examinations. Isabel also embodies the characteristics of politeness, hard-work and honesty and is a delight to teach. Keep up the good work Isabel and all the best for your exams, Mrs Lloyd is expecting great things!

UPDATE FROM THE CATERING TEAM

The Catering Team would like to send their best wishes to everyone who celebrated Diwali last week. We hope you had a lovely day!



Next week, the Catering Team will be serving...

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Meat Option	Chilli Con Carne & Rice	Sausage & Mash	Roast Dinner	Spaghetti Bolognese	Fish Finger Butty & Chips
Vegetarian Option	Quorn Spaghetti Bolognese	Mac 'N' Cheese	Veggie Roast Dinner	Cheese & Onion Pie and Mash	Veggie Burger, Chips & Beans
Lighter Bites	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling

We also have a 'Grab & Go' Menu. The Menu for next week is:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mixed Pepper Pasta Bake	Chicken Wrap & Wedges	Cheese Whirl & Wedges	Chicken Madras & Rice	Sausage, Chips & Beans

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Finally, we also have a Menu for the meals we serve from the Juice Bar. The Menu for next week is:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Jumbo Hotdog	Burger on a Bun	Cheese & Pepperoni Panini	A Large Slice of Pizza	Chicken Strips in Khobez Bread

REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

Academy closure

The Academy will be closed next Friday, 24th November, for a staff training day. Please note that the site will be closed for the day and Reception will not be staffed.

Community Quiz

After the success of our first Community Quiz, which we held last year, we are organising another one! Why not join in?

DROYLSDEN ACADEMY

COMMUNITY QUIZ

Presented by students and staff

THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER

**DOORS OPEN 5:30 FOR 6PM START
FINISH AROUND 7:30**

**STUDENTS/CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE - £2.00
ADULTS/STAFF - £3.00**

- There will be a charity raffle
- Light refreshments included in the price of the tickets
- Drinks will be available to buy for a low price
- All proceeds will go to house charities
- To register to join in, please pay in advance via School Gateway or at reception/student services

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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

SMART TVs

Smart TVs connect to the internet without the need for a set-top box or streaming device, letting users access a range of features through the TV set itself, from on-demand content apps like BBC iPlayer to streaming services such as Netflix, as well as connecting to smartphones and other wireless devices. Most new televisions are internet enabled – so whether you're thinking of upgrading your home viewing system or buying an additional TV for your child's room, it's now even more important to consider the online safety aspects.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

From Netflix to Disney+ to Prime Video, there is a plethora of streaming services available. While these services offer content catering for younger viewers, they also provide material for more mature audiences. If you don't have parental controls set up on your accounts, your child could find themselves being exposed to shows and movies with adult themes, strong language and violence.



INCREASED SCREEN TIME

The array of content available through smart TVs could lead to your child spending excessive amounts of time in front of the screen. Not only can prolonged screen time distract from important activities such as schoolwork or exercise, but experts have also warned that endless hours in front of the box can lead to health problems including obesity, poor sleeping patterns and depression.



REMOTE-CONTROL RETAIL

Like many online devices, smart TVs facilitate digital purchases: buying a new app or the latest season of a favourite show, for example. If your child has access to a bank card and isn't restricted by spending controls on the system, they could run up a sizeable bill through a smart TV fairly quickly – especially if they're not quite old enough to fully appreciate the value of money.



UNCONVINCING SECURITY

As Internet of Things (IoT) devices, smart TVs can be uniquely vulnerable to attack. Experts warn that internet-enabled TVs tend not to support high-level security software, so you won't always be able to download strong antivirus programmes like you would on a phone or computer. Being targeted by hackers could be deeply upsetting for your child, as well as putting their personal data at risk.



A SILENT SPY?

Some smart TVs already collect data on users' viewing habits and then display targeted advertising based on that personal information – while there have also been reports of internet-enabled TVs (and the apps installed on them) being used to 'eavesdrop' on owners. In models with a built-in microphone (for voice activation), third parties could potentially listen in on someone's home life.



CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Many smart TVs can be used for web browsing, social media and live streaming – all of which could allow unknown users to contact your child (or vice versa). If your child engages with these functions of the TV, a stranger could potentially discover their contact information and potentially then use it to obtain even more sensitive personal details, such as your home address.



Advice for Parents & Carers

MAKE IT A FAMILY THING

Family TV time is a great way to model the responsible enjoyment of technology – showing your child how to use the smart TV safely for when they're old enough to watch it independently. You could also take this opportunity to establish some healthy TV boundaries, such as time limits on their daily viewing or how to make sure they're only watching content that's appropriate for their age.



CREATE CHILD PROFILES

Much like with smartphones and tablets, apps can be downloaded onto smart TVs: from free content platforms such as BBC iPlayer to paid-for services like Prime Video. Most of these apps allow you to create a separate account for your child which has different settings to your own – suggesting more child-friendly material and reducing the possibility of them viewing explicit content.



SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

It's likely that your smart TV has built-in parental controls, which not only let you filter out age-inappropriate shows, movies and games but can also restrict in-app purchasing, so your child can't accidentally spend money through the device. When you've enabled these safeguards, have an open conversation with your child about the reasons, helping them to understand the potential risks.



CONSIDER THE LOCATION

If you're concerned about the online safety hazards that a smart TV might pose to your child, you could consider where in your home you put the device. The safest option would be to place the smart TV in a shared family space – so that an adult is usually nearby and able to supervise while your child's watching it – rather than in the relative privacy of a bedroom.



Supporting a really worthy cause

Mustard Tree - Winter Wishlist

Mustard Tree are Saxon House's chosen charity partner. The organisation combat and prevent poverty, inequality and homelessness across Greater Manchester.

We are going to support Mustard Tree with their 'Winter Wishlist' in our annual House event.

Between now and **Wednesday 13th December** you are encouraged to bring donations from the 'Winter Wishlist' into school (hand them into a form room or to one of the House Leaders). These will be collected by House Captains at regular points between now and the 13th. IWO will then deliver these on the 15th December.

To learn more about Mustard Tree go to <https://mustardtree.org.uk/>



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Academy will be closed next Friday, 24th November, for a staff training day. Please note that the site will be closed for the day and Reception will not be staffed.

There will be a visit to the Lowry Theatre on Thursday 30th November to watch an evening performance of 'Edward Scissorhands'.

Recognition Evening for the 'Class of 2023' will be held on Thursday 30th November.

There will be a visit to the Lowry Theatre on Tuesday 12th December to watch an evening performance of 'The Life of Pi'.

The Academy Christmas Lunch will be served on Wednesday 13th December.

The Academy Christmas Carol Concert will be held on Wednesday 13th December

The Academy will close for the Christmas Holiday on Friday 15th December at 12.00 noon.

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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 Good, 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

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

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