

Droylsden Academy is a good school

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

Excelling in Maths!

Well done to the Excel students from across Years 7 to 11 who took part in the last week's Maths workshops run by the University of Manchester. As well as competing in a range of activities and challenges to construct a dragon (the more questions you get right, the longer your dragon gets!), the students also learnt about exciting careers and opportunities open to Mathematicians when they leave College or University. Feedback would suggest that the students found the afternoon, enjoyable, engaging and informative!



Great learning through politeness, honesty and hard work



Rewards Lunch

As you are probably aware, **PRIDE** Points are awarded to students for **P**resentation, **R**esilience, working **I**ndependently, meeting **D**eadlines and for **E**xcellence.

As such, we would like to give a huge congratulations to the following Year 7 students who achieved the most PRIDE Points over their first half term and who were invited to attend a Rewards Lunch in recognition of their achievements!

Mariama Balde Faridat Salami Daniel Kelly Annie Banks Ruby-Leigh Mason Jayce Pennill- Coombs Freddie Mather Millie Smith Owen Boardman
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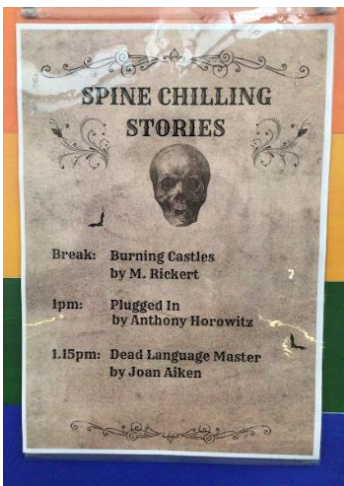
Well done to Mariama, Faridat, Daniel, Annie, Ruby-Leigh, Jayce, Freddie, Millie and Owen on making a great start to life at the Academy!

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News from the Library

Whilst our team of Student Librarians were getting down to the serious business of signing their new contracts for the year ahead, Mrs Ormrod was reading spooky Halloween stories by torchlight! Congratulations to **Georgia Morris**, the Academy Head Librarian, and the team on their appointments and thank you, in advance, for the hard work and commitment involved in helping to manage and run the Academy Library.

Head Librarian: **Georgia Morris**
Co-Senior Librarians: **Declan Bowden**
Freddie Jones
Librarians: **Charlie Morris**
Alfie Weir
Noah Brown
Nadiya Tiplady
Ksenia Cotov
Emma Petrova
Library Assistant: **Thomas Harrington**



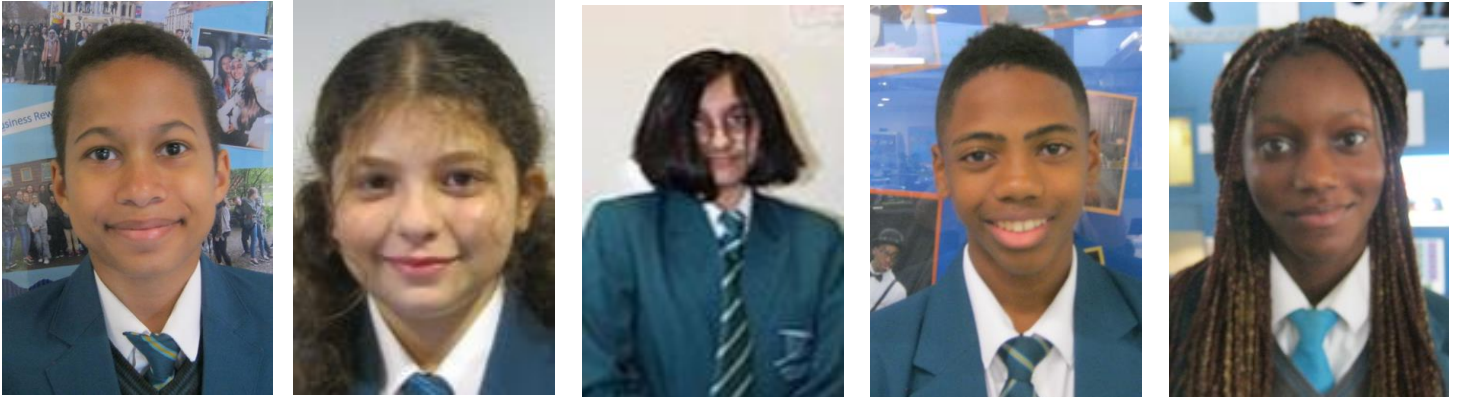
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This week's brightest sparx

This week's brightest Sparx!

Congratulations to **Edwin Ikechuku**, **Bana Oubaid**, **Remi Shah**, **Rico Metz** and **Endurance Arhunmwude** who were the brightest Sparx for last week, having attempted the most questions on the interactive Maths website.

Year 7	Edwin Ikechuku	28,027 XP
Year 8	Bana Oubaid	4,400 XP
Year 9	Remi Shah	3,030 XP
Year 10	Rico Metz	3,820 XP
Year 11	Endurance Arhunmwude	1,500 XP



Congratulations also go to all the students who have recently received their latest Sparx Certificates for reaching the next level up!



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

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Sparx updates for their child by email and we hope that they will encourage their child to use this brilliant resource regularly at home.

Black History Month

Thank you to the many students who have taken part in the competition to create a piece of writing or art work to celebrate Black History Month. The deadline for submitting entries was on Tuesday of this week and our independent panel of judges will now pick out a winner and nominate those students who they feel deserve special recognition for the work they have produced.

Whilst the competition has only just closed, Miss Worsley, who organised the competition, would like to acknowledge the creative talent of **Samuel Pasieka-Awosanya**, **Muneeba Muneeba** and **Layla Sharkey** who have submitted some amazing work!



Performers of the Month

Congratulations to **Ishaque Raiyan** and **Jessica Nelson**, both from Year 7, and **Ruben Mistry** and **Daniel Thompson**, both from Year 10, who have all been nominated as Performers of the Month by the Performing Arts Department.



Ishaque has been nominated by the Drama Department as he has made a fantastic start to Year 7. Ishaque has shown an excellent understanding of a range of skills and a deep awareness of the key issues in the story that he has been exploring this term. He is keen to answer any questions in class, enthusiastic in group discussions and always speaks in front of others with confidence and clarity.

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Ishaque has also shown himself to be a highly skilled and creative leader who regularly directs his groups in practical work. Well done, Ishaque!

Jessica has been nominated by the Dance Department as she too has made a fantastic start to Year 7. Jessica goes above and beyond in lessons and always gives 100% to everything that the group are covering. Jessica is also a great role model for her peers, she consistently models the Academy values and always exceeds the expectations of her Dance teacher. Keep up the fantastic work Jessica!

Ruben and Daniel have both been nominated by the Music Department.

Ruben has worked relentlessly at practising his Grade 3 piano pieces since the beginning of this academic year and is becoming an accomplished pianist. He also plays with beautiful expression when performing. Well done Ruben, you have made excellent progress and Mrs Burgess looks forward to your talent really blossoming over the rest of the year!

Daniel has been nominated by his drum teacher for his excellent progress on the drums. His teacher has been impressed by his dedication to practice and he knows that Daniel is going to be extremely successful in his GCSE Performance Examination. Congratulations, Daniel and keep up the hard work.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to **Iris Ho** from Year 7, **Oliver Discombe** from Year 8 and **Brendle Yak** from Year 11 who have all been nominated as Student of the Week.



Iris has been nominated by the Maths Department as she has settled into Droylsden Academy exceptionally well and is excelling in her maths class. Iris regularly contributes to lessons, is keen to volunteer answers and always models the Academy values of politeness, honesty and hard work. Well done and thank you Iris, you are a pleasure to teach!

Oliver has been nominated by the Science Department as he is an enthusiastic and helpful member of the class. Oliver is keen to volunteer answers and contribute to group discussions and has also

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been a great help with the routine procedures of handing out equipment and books and clearing up. Well done Oliver, you have really 'stepped up' this year and this has not gone unnoticed!

Brendle has been nominated by the English Department as he has been working really hard over the first term of Year 11. Brendle is always eager to complete extra work and revision outside of lessons as he is, clearly, determined to be successful. Well done Brendle and keep this up; your commitment and positive attitude will be rewarded in the summer!

GCSE COUNTDOWN

Year 11, there are only 21 school weeks left, just 105 days in school, until your first GCSE exam.

Key Dates

Your first set of Pre-Public Examinations will take place from 8th November to 23rd November.

Your second set of Pre-Public Examinations will take place from 5th February to 25th February.

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

As detailed above, your Pre-Public Examinations start on Wednesday 8th November and it is essential that you prepare and revise thoroughly for them. Your Pre-Public Examination timetable can be found below:

Date	Session	Exam
Wed 8 th Nov	am	Health & Social Care Assignment
	pm	
Thurs 9 th Nov	am	Health & Social Care Assignment
	pm	
Fri 10 th Nov	am	Spanish (Listening & Reading)
	pm	French (Listening & Reading)
Mon 13 th Nov	am	English Language
	pm	Business Studies
Tues 14 th Nov	am	Triple Science: Chemistry Combined Science: Biology
	pm	Spanish (Writing) French (Writing)
Weds 15 th Nov	am	Maths (Paper 1)
	pm	Geography
Thurs 16 th Nov	am	Art
	pm	Art
Fri 17 th Nov	am	Maths (Paper 2)
	pm	PE (Written Paper) Statistics

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Mon 20 th Nov	am	Maths (Paper 3) Photography
	pm	Drama
Tue 21 st Nov	am	History
	pm	Religious Studies
Wed 22 nd Nov	am	Combined Science: Physics
	pm	Computer Science
Thus 23 rd Nov	am	English Literature
	pm	Music Design & Technolgy

UPDATE FROM THE CATERING TEAM

As you may be aware, the Catering Team have been serving African and Caribbean food throughout October as a celebration of Black History Month.

Last week the team served up Jamaican Patties, a savoury pastry dish filled with meat, fish and vegetables such as callaloo. The patties are seasoned with an array of spices and herbs to give the dish a truly unique Caribbean flavour!

Ms Heslop, Miss Parkinson and the team hope that you have enjoyed our 'guest dishes' throughout October!



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

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Meat Option	Chicken Curry & Rice	Beef Burger in a Bun & Wedges	Roast Dinner	Spicy Beef Kebab on Khobez Bread	Fish, Chips & Peas
Vegetarian Option	Spicy Bean Burger	Cheese Whirl, Beans & Mash	Veggie Roast Dinner	Veggie Chilli & Rice	Veggie Sausage &, Chips
Lighter Bites	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling	Jacket Potato & Filling

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Fish Fingers on a Bun	Giant Hotdog	A large slice of Pizza	Spicy Beef in a Wrap	Pepperoni & Cheese Quesadilla

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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chicken, Rice & Curry Sauce	BBQ Pasta Bake	Chilli Beef Pin Wheel & Salad	Mac & Cheese	Fried Chicken, Chips & Corn

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

A Service of Remembrance will be held at the Academy on Friday 10th November.

There will be a visit to the Palace Theatre on Thursday 16th November to watch an evening performance of 'Hamilton'.

Year 7 'Settling-in Evening' will be held for the parents/carers of students in Year 7 on Thursday 16th November.

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.

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Online Safety

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

FIVE NIGHTS AT FREDDY'S



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Five Nights at Freddy's is a series of indie point-and-click horror games whose word-of-mouth success and widespread spin-off content on YouTube have helped each of the nine instalments so far to sell almost five million copies on Steam (the PC gaming platform) alone. Set in various deserted locations at night, with creepy animatronic characters suddenly coming to life, the games are rated PEGI 12 for disturbing/violent content, mild profanity and horror themes.

FRIGHTENING THEMES

Five Nights at Freddy's (FNaF for short) doesn't feature bloodshed like many horror games – but it does build tension and use jump scares, which may be too intense for young players. The sinister animatronic characters and the sensation of being trapped and defenceless could be particularly unsettling, as could the inclusion of disturbing elements such as murder or possession by evil spirits.

STRESSFUL SITUATIONS

Due to FNaF's suspenseful atmosphere, it can be extremely stressful for players. Constantly checking that one's surroundings are safe is a crucial part of the gameplay and could create residual stress or even obsessive-compulsive behaviours. Several media reports have suggested that some younger children have experienced severe nightmares or sleep anxiety after playing games from the series.

IN-GAME SPENDING

FNaF doesn't foreground in-game purchasing as strongly as many other well-known games, but some titles in the series do offer additional content that promises to enhance the experience. Five Nights at Freddy's: Help Wanted, for instance, is complemented by a Halloween-themed expansion pack called 'Curse of Dreadbear' (costing £8.99), which unlocks new levels and mini-games.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

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As a result of FNaF's popularity, a sizeable YouTube community based on fan-made content has developed around the game. While the majority of this material is still child friendly, there are a number of channels which are geared more towards mature audiences: they contain adult and disturbing themes, for example, and (in some cases) age-inappropriate language.

PLAYING IN ISOLATION

Many parents will be relieved to learn that Five Nights at Freddy's is a single-player game which doesn't include any online chat functionality; conversely, however, this could also make playing FNaF quite an isolating experience – especially if your child is spending a lot of time investigating the game's spooky, shadowy environments alone in their room, for example.

Advice for Parents & Carers

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Five Nights at Freddy's doesn't have conventional parental controls. However, if you're concerned about the potential impacts of the game's themes and content, you can simply choose not to let your child play it. If they use an Android or iOS device for gaming, you can adjust Apple and Google's built-in parental controls to restrict your child's access to certain content.

TRY IT YOURSELF

Every child is different, of course, so it could be worth playing Five Nights at Freddy's yourself for a while to gauge how your young gamer might cope with the series' more frightening and disturbing aspects. If they're old enough, you could spend some time playing it together – after all, it usually only takes between two and ten minutes to complete a level.

LIMIT SPENDING

Unlike many popular titles, Five Nights at Freddy's doesn't bombard players with tempting in-game purchase offers. It's worth noting, however, that some instalments in the series do provide the option for players to spend real-world money. With that in mind, it's important to either keep a close eye on your child's expenditure or limit their access to digital payment options.

SPOT THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that your child might be spending too much time on Five Nights at Freddy's, or you're worried that the game's scary themes are taking a toll, watch out for warning signs. Young people may start to prioritise gaming over everyday essentials like schoolwork or sleep; irritability or a lack of concentration could also indicate that their gaming sessions are going on too long.

TALK ABOUT THE RISKS

Before you allow your child to play Five Nights at Freddy's, it's wise to have a conversation about the game so that they're aware of the potential risks. Ensure that your child understands that the series is purposely designed to be tense and unsettling, and that they should stop or take a break if the intensity of the gameplay is making them feel uncomfortable or putting them on edge.



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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

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