

Droylsden Academy is a good school

## IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK

### Snowballs and Snowmen!



Whilst snow can, undoubtedly, bring its problems and difficulties, it still puts a smile on the faces of most children!



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

## This week's brightest **sparx**

### This week's brightest Sparx!

Congratulations to **Jayden Siu**, **Bana Oubaid**, **Oscar Harris**, **Olivia Herrington** and **Jai Rui Fang** who were the brightest Sparx for last week, having attempted the most questions on the interactive Maths website.

Year 7	Jayden Siu	3,545 XP
Year 8	Bana Oubaid	3,199 XP
Year 9	Oscar Harris	6,338 XP
Year 10	Olivia Herrington	1,575 XP
Year 11	Jia Rui Fang	2,447 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.

### Congratulations

Congratulations to **Millie Smith** from Year 7 who was awarded a Merit in her recent Grade 1 Guitar Examination and to **Matthew Taylor**, **Max Thompson**, **Ethan Charlesworth**, **Dylan Holland** and **Jack Roache** from Year 9 who were invited to the Co-Headteachers' Rewards Dinner in recognition of the recent progress they have made.



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## Poem of the Week

This week's poem is by Lemn Sissay

Night can't drive out night  
Only the light above  
Fear can't drive out fear  
Only love



## West Side Story

With only one week to go, the set for this year's production is now under construction and final rehearsals and preparations are proceeding at pace! The cast have rehearsed every evening this week and will have full dress rehearsals on Monday and Tuesday next week in readiness for the 'Opening Night' on Wednesday. Students from our Partner Primary Schools will be attending the full dress rehearsal on Monday and we are sure that they will really enjoy the performance.



Good luck to the Cast, Back Stage Team and everyone involved with this year's production; you have put so much hard work and energy into West Side Story, it will be another resounding success and we are all really looking forward to next week's performances!



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## Y10 Parent Teacher Evening

The Academy would like to thank those parents and carers who attended last week's Year 10 Parent Teacher Evening; we hope that meeting your child's teachers was useful and informative.

Thank you also to **Mohammad Waziri**, **Osaid Rajjoub** and **Brogan Williams** who staffed Reception throughout the evening.



We were pleased that, of the parents who filled in an Academy questionnaire:

- 93% of them agreed that their child was happy at school;
- 98% felt that their child feels safe at school;
- 98% felt that the school ensures student behaviour is good;
- 84% agreed that the Academy made them aware of what their child would be learning throughout the year;
- 100% agreed that the Academy had high expectations of their child;
- 98% felt that their child was doing well;
- 94% agreed that the Academy lets them know how their child is doing;
- 98% felt that there was a good range of subjects for their child to study;
- 98% agreed that their child can take part in clubs and activities;
- 94% felt that the Academy supports their child's wider personal development; and
- 98% would recommend the Academy to another parent.

## News from the Library!

Thank you to Major Les Webb for collaborating with Mrs Ormrod to set up a new Cadet Force section in the Academy Library! The non-fiction section includes popular titles suggested by Major Webb, as well as popular Armed Forces periodicals such as 'Army Cadet', 'The Sapper', 'The Summit' and 'Army Mountaineer'. There is also an interesting and varied fiction section curated by Mrs Ormrod.

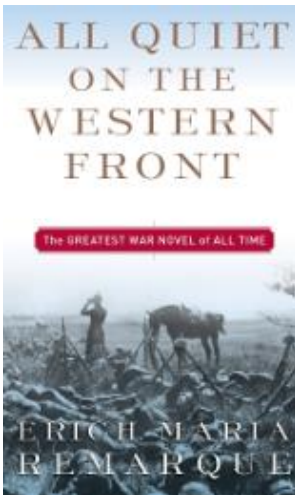


Army Cadet **Pijus Kuraitis** recently read 'All Quiet on the Western Front', written by Erich Maria Remarque, and has written the following review:

*'This book is written from a German's perspective of World War 1 and how tragic war can be. It's different because it tell us the other side of the story. We usually hear the views of the people who won the war but this gives us the view of Paul Bäumer, a German soldier and the main character in the book.'*



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*Bäumer is fighting in the German Infantry and doesn't realise until two years into the war that he is being used and wants to go home. The story is set on the border of France and Germany and shows the misery of war from the side that is losing. In the beginning, Paul secretly enlists by faking his father's signature so he can go off to war with the rest of his friends but it is not long before many are killed in battle (KIB).*

*This book is supposed to make the reader feel emotions for all the characters it does successfully that by giving us as much detail as it can. This book makes me feel like it is made for everyone, those who are currently in the army, those who remember relatives who have been in the armed forces and for people with an interest in historic fiction.'*

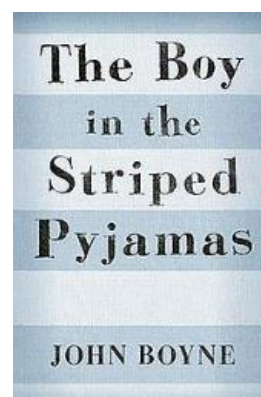
Thank you also to **Miracle Agho**, an avid and prolific reader, who, although only in Year 7, submitted this wonderful article comparing the book 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' with the film as part of the great 'Book versus Film' debate! Apologies Miracle, your original article was a lot longer and has had to be abridged for Newsflash.

*'The book, 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas', by John Boyne, was adapted into a movie of the same name, directed by Mark Herman. Both follow the story of Bruno, a nine-year-old boy narrating his experience in World War II before moving from Berlin. The narratives of the book and film show many similarities but there are differences too.*

*The book and the film are similar in many ways. Firstly, both mediums clearly describe the main characters in the same way. They both capture Bruno moving away from Berlin and describe his later experiences when he is bored and decides to explore. Both the film and book capture the meeting between Bruno and Shmuel in the barricaded area where they quickly establish a unique connection. The film and also book both clearly illustrate the time of the story with the settings reflecting how things were in the 1940s. The book, however, focusses more on Bruno describing the Concentration Camp as 'Out-with', demonstrating his innocence of the events happening around him. Similarly, the movie portrays Bruno as naïve and ignorant, whilst in the novel, Bruno is more thoughtful and even notes the beautiful appearance of the place where he lived.*

*In conclusion, there are clear similarities and differences between the book and the film 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas'. However, to surmise, I preferred the book as it gave me more depth and detail about the story.'*

Thank you and well done Miracle, a career as a journalist or critic awaits!



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## STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to **Ella Whitehead** from Year 8, **Stephanie Sargaco** from Year 9 and **Kiki Akingbogun** from Year 10 on their nominations as Student of the Week.



Ella has been nominated by the Maths Department as she works with unwavering dedication and applies a consistent effort to everything she does. Ella's ability to persevere in challenging circumstances sets her apart and her work ethic is admirable. Even whilst completing the busy job of Student Ambassador, she made time to bring Ms Shakoore, her Maths teacher, her work to ensure that she did not fall behind. Well done on such a positive attitude Ella, you are a wonderful role model for your peers.

Stephanie has been nominated by the Science Department as she too is such a positive role model for others, consistently demonstrating the Academy values of politeness and hard work. Stephanie always challenges herself to improve and regularly provides positive contributions in class. Well done Stephanie and keep up the good work!

Kiki has been nominated by the English Department as she is diligent, studious and dedicated to her studies in both Language and Literature. Kiki's language analysis is thoughtfully developed and her understanding of 'A Christmas Carol' and Dickens' intentions is wondrous. This work ethic has not gone unnoticed by Miss Marlowe and Miss Corrigan, Kiki's English teachers, and she thoroughly deserves their nomination this week. Kiki's excellence is clearly evident, she consistently models the Academy values and is a real asset to the class. Well done and thank you Kiki.

## GCSE COUNTDOWN

**Year 11, there are only 13 school weeks left, just 65 days in school, until your first GCSE exam.**

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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## UPDATE FROM THE CATERING TEAM

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

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

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
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:

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

## REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

### **Parking in the Disabled Spaces and Access Road**

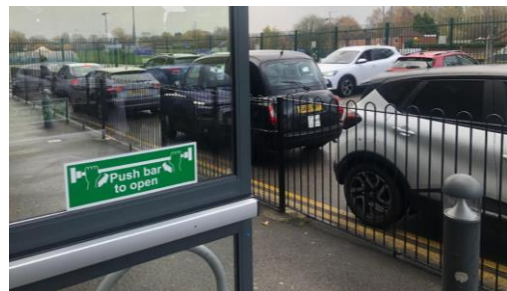
It is becoming increasingly difficult for parents/carers of disabled students to collect them from school as the designated area for disabled parking is being used by non-disabled badge holders as a 'general use' car park.

Last week, there were a couple of occasions when the disabled car park was so busy with cars parked in the disabled bays, and even parked and double parked on the double yellow lines, that it was difficult just to get in or out of the designated area, never mind park and collect students.

**The disabled car park is for disabled blue badge holders who are coming into the school building and need to park near the main entrance, or for the parents/carers of disabled students who have difficulties walking from the school entrance to their parent's car. Please note that if you are a blue badge holder but you are simply collecting your child and not coming into the school building, then you should park and wait in the main car park too, and not the disabled car park, unless, of course, your child is disabled as well.**

If the situation does not improve, the Academy may have to take advice from the Police or request the support of Traffic Wardens to help those families who really need this designated area to park.

Thank you

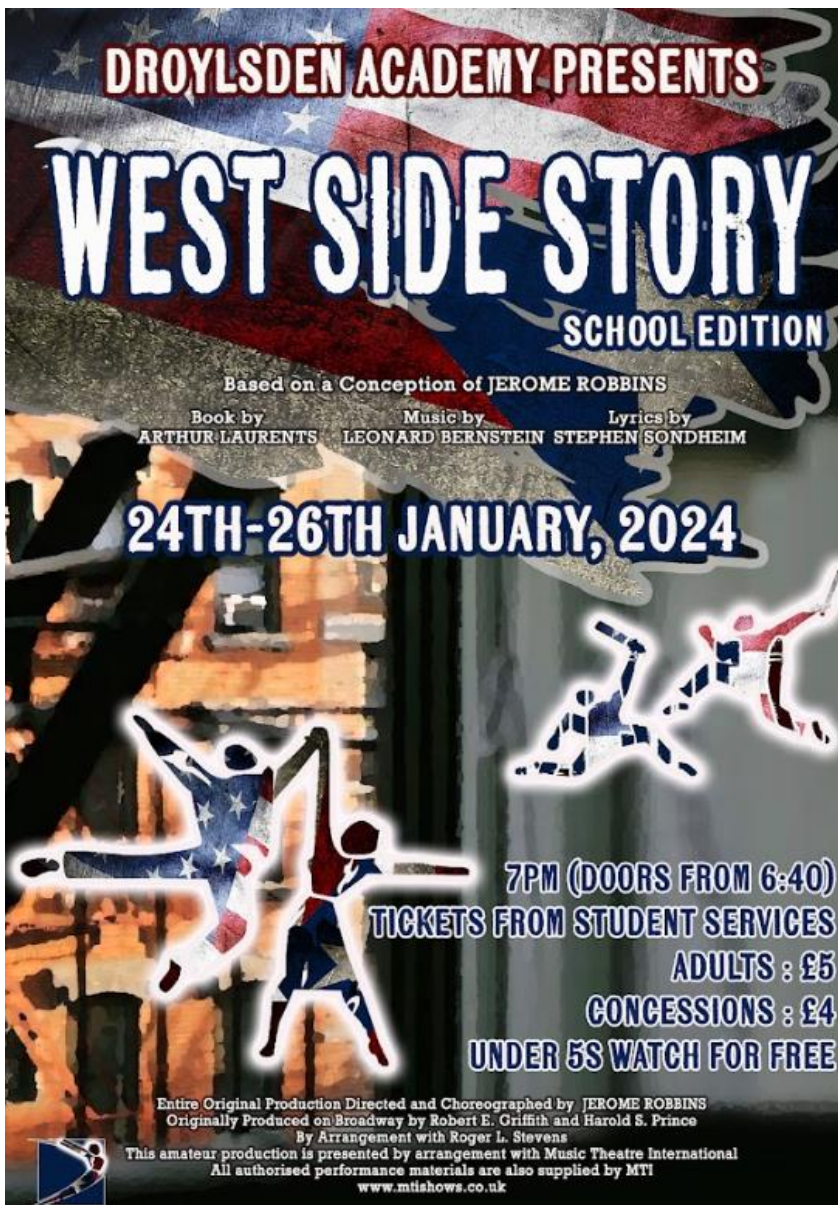


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## West Side Story

Tickets are now on sale for this year's Academy production of 'West Side Story'! They can be purchased from Student Services and are priced at £5 for adults and £4 for concessions. Performances will take place on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> and Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January.

The show is a guaranteed sell out, so buy your tickets now to avoid disappointment!



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# What Children & Young People Need to Know about **FREE VS HATE SPEECH**

Everyone in the UK has the right of "freedom of expression". That's the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It's not the right to say whatever you want without regard for others' feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to those around us, rather than making offensive and threatening remarks. That's called 'hate speech' and knowing the difference is incredibly important.

Free speech is a person's legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences. This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights legislation, and here's what it does for us in our day-to-day lives ...

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – that negatively targets a group or an individual because they are perceived to be different in some way. Demonising and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes...

The Human Rights Act 1988 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely – even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.

Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It's important to respect someone's opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo's theories were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin, even today. A frequent exchange of ideas is vitally important for a healthy society.

Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others' views is healthy – while having ours challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Freedom of expression includes the right not to do something, like not standing up for – or singing – the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn't illegal. By law, nobody can force you to say anything you don't want to.

Free speech is a powerful tool for change, justice and reform. Many modern UK rights – such as women being allowed to vote, decent working conditions or same-sex marriage – couldn't have been achieved without it.

Targeting people or groups because of a protected characteristic – like race, gender identity, sexuality, nationality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on the same characteristics: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example. Separating the target from other human beings is usually an attempt to justify the speaker's bigotry.

Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions. Suggesting that a certain group should be removed from society could be seen as a call to arms, for example – potentially putting people from that group in danger.

Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way. This kind of thinking is always incorrect – but can be incredibly harmful to the group in question.

Spreading damaging misinformation about a person or group that the speaker views as "different" – essentially, trying to turn others against them by lying. Someone might claim that a recent tragedy is the fault of this entire group, when this is simply not possible.

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are. This has been illegal in the UK for a long time – but some people still try to promote the exclusion of others, which can cause a huge amount of distress.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

There will be performances of this year's Academy Production of West Side Story on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> and Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January.

Parent Teacher Evening for Parents and Carers of students in Year 8 will be held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February.

Character Awards Evening will be held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February.

The Academy will break up for the Half Term Holiday on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February.

## EVER THOUGHT ABOUT A CAREER IN TEACHING?



**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](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

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