

Friday 14th October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I have been given the pleasure of writing a Vice Principal welcome on behalf of our Principal this week. Over the past two weeks it has been #PHAntastic to see so many positive events happening in and around our academy that I wanted to take this opportunity to share some of these with you.

Trips and Visiting Artists

Our Art department and some of our students joined up with our Eco club to visit the Botanical Gardens. The Eco club students had lots of fun exploring and finding inspiration for our academy garden, whilst our GCSE and A level Art students worked on coursework, collecting drawings and photographs.

Today, we have welcomed professional practitioners from ACE Dance Company to work with our dance students in Years 9, 10, 11 and 13. The workshop was to support our students in developing creative ideas for their upcoming assessments. When I popped in to see them rehearsing earlier, it all looked very intense so I cannot wait to see what is produced following the workshop.

Fixtures

Over the past two weeks our sports students have been heavily involved in a variety of home and away fixtures in both football and netball. Year 10 narrowly lost 3-1 to last years County Cup winners in round 2 of the ESFA Cup. Whilst our Year 9 team won 5-0 against Bloxwich Academy. Our Year 7 and 8 teams played against St Thomas More with Year 7 narrowly losing in a thrilling 3-2 game, however our Year 8 team won 7-1!

Girls Netball began this week with two home fixtures for our Year 7 and 8 teams. Unfortunately, our Year 7 team in their very first match together narrowly lost 6-5. Our Year 8 team were amazing to watch, winning 13-3 against Brownhills Ormiston Academy.

I want to say a huge well done to all involved in our sports teams and thank you to parents, carers and students who have turned up to support our teams so far this year.

Year 7 Settling In Evening

On Thursday 6th October, it gave me great pleasure to welcome parents, carers and students from our new year 7 cohort into our academy, to meet their form tutors to discuss how they have settled in with us. The evening was a huge success with around 70% attendance. It was lovely to speak with parents and carers and hear how happy their children are and how they are enjoying secondary school. For some, it has been a big challenge but we are all very proud of how well they have coped.

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new year 7 students, parents and carers and we look forward to welcoming you into the academy on several more occasions during your 7 year journey with us.

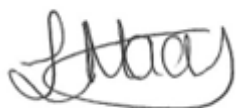
Year 11 Intervention and 'Unlocking Your Potential' Evening

I am immensely proud of how our Year 11 students have taken to their intervention sessions after school every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. We meet in the Sixth Form Centre at the start of every intervention session for a drink and a snack and move to our sessions following this. The atmosphere every evening has been joyful and one I hope we can continue. As I have visited intervention sessions, it has been brilliant to see how students are engaged and wanting to achieve the best grades possible to them. Attendance to these sessions have been very pleasing and I thank parents and carers for supporting us in encouraging your children to attend.

On Thursday 20th October 5:30-7:30pm, I have organised an 'Unlocking your potential' evening for parents, carers and students in year 11. You should have received a letter about this and replies are requested by Monday 17th October 2022 to inform us if you are able to attend. During the evening you will be given revision packs including all revision guides for subjects your child is taking exams in for Summer 2023. We will be delivering a presentation on how you can support your child through their upcoming mocks after half term, future mocks in March and their actual exams that begin in May 2023. There will be sessions delivered by our lead practitioners and core subject leaders for you to gain knowledge about the exams your children will be sitting and how you can aid their revision. I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

As we move into our final week of this half term, I would like to thank you for your ever continuing support and I look forward to seeing you at events throughout the year in our academy.

Have a lovely weekend,



Mrs L Macey
Vice Principal

