

Our ref: MMC/GHR

02 February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

This week has seen the launch of our Year 5 transition work that is aimed at getting young people into the academy to experience a secondary school experience. The students from the local primary schools have been superb and we look forward to them joining us again at transition events in the future.

The insight into ECO that our students got was superb and we will hopefully continue to work with this fantastic community centre who offer some amazing services.

A reminder that should any parent want to come in and tour the academy, you are always more than welcome at any time.

### **Teaching and Learning**

#### Year 5 Transition Events

This week we have welcomed Year 5 pupils from a range of Primary schools including Hill Top Primary Academy, Mallard Primary School, Waverley Academy, St. Mary's Catholic Primary School, Warmsworth Primary School, and Edlington Victoria Academy, to attend a Technology Taster morning at Sir Thomas Wharton Academy. The Year 5 students have had lessons in Food Technology making pizzas and in Resistant Materials making wooden keyrings. It has been a fantastic event and has allowed us to continue developing positive relationships with primaries and our future students.

### **Events and Enrichment**

#### Year 9 Options

Thank you to parents and carers who attended our online Year 9 Options Presentation. Following this, the videos, options booklet, and the presentation itself are all available on our website for students and parents / carers to watch back in their own time to make informed choices about their options. Further instructions on how they will be selected will be shared in the coming weeks.

#### Discover Us

As part of the Access to Sheffield careers programme, our Year 10 students involved in the 'Discover Us' programme visited Sheffield University on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February. Students were given the opportunity to meet the team at the university, along with student ambassadors, tour the campus, and find out about the different subjects available to study at the university. These events go a long way towards inspiring our students to think about going on to study in higher education at university.

#### Student Parliament Foodbank Visit

On the afternoon of Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February, members of our Student Parliament visited Edlington Community Centre to partake in a workshop which highlighted the importance of foodbanks within local communities. Students were able to listen to inspiring and emotive stories about the help that the foodbank has offered people within our local community and consider what we can do to help those in need. Students were able to take part in a range of activities from preparing the weekly market to designing food packages for families. Students behaved in an exemplary manner and have played a pivotal role in supporting their local community. They should all be very proud of themselves.



## A Christmas Carol Performance

During period 3 on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, our Year 11 students were treated to a performance of 'A Christmas Carol' at the academy. We are proud to be able to provide experiences such as this one to enhance the learning experience for our students. Theatre performances enrich textual studies and help a great deal when it comes to recalling scenes from a text in an exam. Our students were all fully engaged with the performance, and we are sure it will make a difference to their study of this text.

## A-Level Art London Trip

On Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February, our A-Level Art students took part in a curriculum enrichment trip to London to visit a range of museums to enhance their art appreciation. The students enjoyed visiting Tate Modern and The National Gallery before discovering the delights of the British Museum. Students conducted themselves impeccably whilst exploring our capital city and came away with a much deeper understanding of the art that they have been learning about in school.

## House Updates

As we progress towards the end of this half term, it is Cusworth who have taken the lead and jumped into first place with 5657 house points! Wentworth are not far behind with Brodsworth and Chatsworth fighting for the third-place position. Students can still partake in character education activities, weekly wins, box tasks and house activities to earn those all-important house points right up to the end of the term!

## Attendance

We would like to remind parents that secondary schools do not operate under the same rules which many primary and infant schools operate with regards to sickness. If your child has been sick, you are not required to keep them at home for 48 hours. If your child is well enough to come into the academy the next day, please do send them in.

If your child is unwell during the day, we will contact you as per our policy. Please do not come to collect your child if they have contacted you themselves as they will not be released from school.

## Standards

We would like to remind all parents that students should wear full length black socks. We have seen an increase in students wearing ankle socks. Students will be asked to change these if they are spotted. We would also like to remind you that fur hoods on coats are not allowed in the academy.

We would like to encourage parents to contact the school using ClassCharts for all non-urgent enquires to the pastoral team. This means the pastoral teams can pick this up as soon as possible and answer any queries. We may not be able to return calls when requested on the day if these are not urgent.

Yours faithfully

Mr. M McDonald  
**Principal**

