

Our ref: MMC/NWI

26 June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been another fantastic week at Sir Thomas Wharton Academy, celebrating the achievements and dedication of our students. We have proudly marked the end of an important chapter for our year 11 and year 13 leavers and look forward to welcoming future year 7 students through transition activities next week.

Our students continue to demonstrate resilience and commitment in their studies, while also embracing opportunities to contribute to the wider community. We are especially proud to have been recognised nationally with the TES Community Initiative of the Year Award, reflecting the positive impact of our students and academy beyond the classroom. As we look ahead to our Academy Awards Evening and other exciting end-of-year events, there is much to celebrate across our school community.

Teaching and Learning

Year 13 A Level Results Day

A Level Results Day will take place on Thursday 13 August. A communication detailing all the relevant information has been sent this week via ClassCharts. If your child is unable to collect their results, they must email the examinations team (b.butler@stwacademy.com) if they wish to nominate an alternative adult who can collect them on their behalf. Please note, this must be submitted and signed by the student before results day, and the alternative adult must bring photo identification with them.

Year 12 Induction/Course Launch

On Monday 6 July, we will be holding our year 12 Induction/Course Launch event. All year 11 students with a confirmed place in our sixth form have been invited to attend for a full day of fun and engaging tasks, starting from 8:20 am. The day will conclude at 2:30 pm. We hope students are looking forward to this exciting day as much as we are.

Year 11 Black and White Event and Prom

Our final year 11 events took place on Thursday 18 June, with the vast majority of the year group returning to the academy in the morning for our Black and White Event, which featured numerous awards and videos, as well as a look back at students' highlights over the last five years.

In the evening, over 130 students attended our Prom at the Hilton Garden Inn, Doncaster and looked incredible in their formal dresses and suits. After presenting our final awards of Prom King and Prom Queen, students enjoyed the buffet, mini golf and photo booth while dancing the night away.

Year 11 GCSE Results Day

GCSE Results Day will take place on Thursday 20 August. If your child is unable to collect their results, they must email the examinations team (b.butler@stwacademy.com) if they wish to nominate an alternative adult who can collect them on their behalf. Please note, this must be submitted and signed by the student before results day and the alternative adult must bring photo identification with them.



Year 10 Trial Examinations

Year 10 trial examinations started this week, with students following the same processes that will be embedded by next summer, including morning Achieve sessions, trial exam briefings and our marginal gains programme of sweets and water. As always, we stress the importance of 100% attendance, as these examinations are a vital opportunity for students to develop and refine their examination technique while also receiving feedback about their current attainment. Students will receive the results of these trial examinations in the final week before the end of the summer term.

Tassomai

A reminder to parents that students should achieve their weekly goal for each of the subjects that are assigned on Tassomai. This will support year 10 students to complete retrieval practice, which will be crucial as they complete trial examinations this half term.

Sparx - Mathematics

As an academy, we have completed over 9000 hours of personalised learning, answered 1.2 million questions correctly and over 320 students have improved their times table fluency this year.

Students in year 10 should continue completing weekly mathematics Tassomai tasks. This creates the “little and often” revision needed for success in mathematics. This, along with our period 4 preparation tasks, gives students a great boost to revision ahead of year 10 Trials.

We thank every parent and carer for their continued support and encouragement in completing mathematics home learning tasks.

Transition

Primary School Visits

Miss Preston, our Transition Leader, has continued her annual visits to primary schools this week, with visits to year 6 pupils at some of our main catchment area schools. The students were impeccably behaved and engaged in their learning, and we are looking forward to welcoming them to Sir Thomas Wharton Academy as year 7 students in September. Primary visits will continue up to our year 6 Induction Days taking place from 8 July. Transition information packs will be sent out to year 6 parents next week detailing the logistics and key information of the three days. Please also be aware that the year 6 Parents and Carers Information Evening will be held at Sir Thomas Wharton Academy on the 7 July from 6:00 pm, this event is for Parents and Carers only.

Careers

Better Learners Better Workers

This week the ambassadors on the BLBW programme in year 9 saw their last enrichment day of the year, working in partnership with the Army. Students developed skills in problem solving, leadership, critical thinking, communication and teamwork in an activity filled day. We look forward to welcoming parents at The Cutlers Hall for their upcoming graduation on the 8 July.

CoacHE

Some of our year 9 boys embarked on the CoacHE programme at Sheffield University which is aimed at enhancing access to higher education for students from disadvantaged backgrounds. The two-day event focused on coaching and meta skills to help students overcome their barriers in education and improve their participation rates.



A Day in the Life

This week, our year 9 SEND students attended an exciting opportunity to work with Speak Up and learn about how to thrive in the workplace and to understand what support is available in the world of work to help students exceed in life.

UDON Accident to Recovery

Students taking GCSE Health and Social Care had a great opportunity this week to visit UDON as an introduction to the subject area. Students engaged with an interactive workshop that showed the patients' journey from accident, all the way through to recovery, giving an insightful look at the job roles involved in the process.

Work Experience

From Monday 6 to Friday 10 July, all students in both years 10 and 12 will be participating in a week of work experience. We are pleased to announce that 189 young people will have an in-person work placement.

Please refer to ClassCharts for Mrs Pickering's message around safeguarding and attendance whilst on placement.

Personal Development

This year, Sir Thomas Wharton Academy was shortlisted for two national TES Awards: **Community Initiative of the Year** and **Mental Health Initiative of the Year**. Being shortlisted in both categories was, in itself, a testament to the hard work, dedication, and passion of our academy community.

We are incredibly proud to announce that, on Friday 19 June, at a prestigious event held in London, we were awarded **Community Initiative of the Year**!



Community Engagement Initiative of the Year

Sir Thomas Wharton Academy

Sir Thomas Wharton Academy presents its own impressive Youth Council model – essentially described as a student parliament – that has been built and designed by the students themselves.

The level of rigour and intentionality that has gone into developing the Council is impressive. Specifically, the quality and quantity of ongoing training given to the young people in order to ensure they can meaningfully participate and exercise legitimate, authentic power.

By "extending education beyond the classroom and embedding real-world civic engagement into their development," the Council provides young people with the opportunity to be agents of change within their community. This also reflects the long-term vision of the initiative, which is designed not to be a one-off consultation exercise but a sustainable, cross-sector collaboration that will no doubt continue to impact the community for years to come.

Judge Mei Lim said: "If only every community had a youth council model as credible and powerful as the Edlington Youth Council!"

This achievement is a proud moment not only for the Edlington Youth Council but for the entire Edlington community. It reflects the strength of our partnerships and demonstrates what can be achieved when schools, organisations, and local services come together with a shared commitment to improving opportunities for young people.



While this recognition celebrates the exceptional leadership and contribution of our young people, it is also a testament to the powerful partnerships that have helped create a culture of aspiration, inclusion, and civic pride across Edlington.

As TES judge Mei Lim commented: *"If only every community had a youth council model as credible and powerful as the Edlington Youth Council."*

This award is further proof that Sir Thomas Wharton Academy places its students and community at the heart of everything we do. because that is what matters most.

Sports Fixtures

KS3 Softball Cricket

On Monday 15 June, STWA played The Hayfield School at home and won by a total of 33 runs! The team played brilliantly and are still unbeaten this year! The team are looking forward to the reverse fixture in the coming weeks.

Events

Maltby Learning Trust Athletics Evening

On Wednesday 17 June, we visited Wath Academy to compete in the MLT Athletics Evening. Although we finished as runners-up, we were within touching distance of being crowned overall champions and are now firmly applying pressure at the top. We saw some outstanding performances across years 7, 8 and 9, and our students conducted themselves impeccably throughout the evening. Having 51 students willingly give up their evening to represent the academy speaks volumes about their commitment and enthusiasm and is a real credit to both the students and the PE team.

Sports day

On Friday 19 June, we held our annual Sports Day. It was a fantastic day showcasing high-quality sport, participation and house spirit.

Annual Doncaster and District Athletics Championships

This week, we attended the Doncaster Athletics Championships, taking years 7 and 8 on Monday and years 9 and 10 on Tuesday. The event was held at the Ecopower Stadium and saw all 19 secondaries in the borough compete across track and field events. Our students not only showed great attitude, resilience and determination when competing but also respect to their competitors and venue, alongside some truly impressive performances. Our year 7 boys' and girls' teams both secured 3rd place, while the year 9 boys' team achieved an outstanding 2nd place finish. Seeing our students compete, succeed and thrive in such a challenging environment makes it incredibly worthwhile.

The opportunities we are able to provide would not be possible without the support of academy staff and parents and carers; together we continue to create experiences that our students will remember for years to come.

Doncaster Racecourse Mathematic Visit

Today a group of KS3 students had the opportunity to explore the mathematical features of the horse racing industry. They were able to view several races in today's meet, whilst learning the specific weights and distances that are used. They engaged really well with the activities and we are very proud of how they represented the Academy.



Academy Awards

Our fifth annual end of year Academy Awards event will take place next week on Thursday 2 July 2026. The event aims to acknowledge and celebrate our outstanding students' achievements.

House Update

Everything is still to play for within our House System with students competing to win the end of year House Trip to Alton Towers. Wentworth have edged into the lead this week with over 68000 house points, Brodsworth are in second place with 67,370, Cusworth are in third place with 67,215 and Chatsworth are in fourth place with 64,650 house points.

Our Extended House Project for this half term centres on Malala Yousafzai, with students being challenged to explore the impact of Malala's contribution to the world of education and women's rights. Students have until the final Friday of this half term to hand in their creations to earn their house points.

As we progress into the summer term, there are an array of house activities and challenges where students can earn house points to secure their place on the end of year trip to Alton Towers. Students in the winning house need a minimum of 50 house points and less than 50 negatives to secure their place!

Standards

Following the week of warmer weather, we will return to our normal uniform expectations from Monday. We would like to thank all students, parents, and carers for their support this week in maintaining our usual high standards, apart from students not being required to wear blazers.

Within the school building, temperatures are kept relatively cool compared with those outside, helping us to provide comfortable learning environments for all students. Students coped exceptionally well with the additional challenge of the hot weather and approached the week with maturity and resilience.

As highlighted in last week's newsletter, please continue to check your child's uniform carefully. In particular, we ask that you ensure students are wearing full-length socks and not ankle socks, as these do not meet our uniform expectations.

Attendance

It has been fantastic to see students in key stage 3 getting involved in the Attendance World Cup. Each tutor group has been randomly assigned a team competing in the World Cup and is now competing against other tutor groups. Whenever their team plays a group-stage match, attendance on that "Matchday" is compared with that of their opponents. The tutor group with the higher attendance is awarded three points. Some matches have been decided by just one student being absent, which has encouraged everyone to attend and help their team secure the win.

We would also like to say a huge thank you for your support with attendance this week. We appreciate that the high temperatures can create additional challenges for families. However, it is vital that students attend school every day and that attendance remains a priority. Even short periods of absence can have a significant impact on students' learning and progress, and the effects can extend far beyond a single week of warmer weather.

We have measures in place to help students remain comfortable during hot weather, and temperatures within the school building are comparable to those that students would experience at home. We greatly appreciate your continued support in ensuring that students attend school and make the most of every learning opportunity.

Yours sincerely

Mr M McDonald
Principal

