



Wath Academy



NEWSLETTER – ISSUE 22

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

31 March 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

Success Stories

Rotherham Finals Day

Last Saturday was great day for our football and netball teams. Our Y8 and 10 netball teams came away as champions, with the Y11 team being runners up. Our 6th Form football team also won their final with both Y7 and 9 narrowly losing out 1-0 in their finals.

It was brilliant to see the students perform so well and represent our academy with such pride.

KEY DATES:

- Year 11 & 13 Easter Holiday Interventions Wks com
- Year 8 Parents Evening Tuesday 18 April

2022/23 TERM DATES
Our term dates and INSET days for this academic year can be found on the academy website by clicking the following link [Wath Academy - Term Dates](#)



If you would like to share your success stories with us, please email us via the following address: achievement@wathacademy.com.



PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Active Travel Ambassadors

Our Active Travel Ambassadors visited Sheffield Town Hall to attend the South Yorkshire ATA Campaign Junction Event. They presented their pitch to several panellists, which will aim to encourage our students to travel actively and safely.

Throughout the day, the ambassadors had the opportunity to speak to the panel including Olympic Champion Ed Clancy and the Sheffield Lord Mayor Sioned-Mair Richards. The students presented a fantastic pitch which resulted in winning the £250 grant that will go towards funding of the campaign.



ASMP Rotherham Maths Feast

This week we hosted the ASMP Rotherham Maths Feast. We welcomed 10 schools to compete in various competitions. It was a great day with our team coming second overall. We are again very proud of the students who represented our academy.



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Staff Appointments

We have been working hard over the past few weeks in preparation for September. We have appointed a new Head of Languages. Mrs Lebon has a wealth of experience, and we are looking forward to her starting in September. We have also appointed Mrs Garcia Arias who will start as a teacher of Spanish after Easter and Miss Tolkukova who will also join us as a teacher of Spanish from September.

Torch Magazine

The latest issue of Torch magazine came out today. It contains many entertaining articles by students and staff, including a cover feature on Movement Evening. Read the new edition at www.wathacademy.com/torch





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PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Toilets

We wrote to parents a few weeks ago about the toilet systems and the rationale behind them. As always we review and refine our systems and over the last couple of days we have trialled a new system.

Rather than being picked up by Active Support, students will now walk to a specific toilet. The system will work as follows:

- Students will have a slip which is filled in by their teacher, the teacher will write on the slip the time they leave the classroom
- They will take this slip to the toilet where they will hand it to the member of staff on duty. The member of staff will note down the time they arrive
- Students have one minute to get to the toilet from their classroom. (The two toilets which are used in this system are placed so that that students can get to them within one minute from any part of the school building)
- Students ID cards are scanned and then they enter the toilet (they are not timed in the toilet – this rumour is untrue)
- Students then collect their slip from the member of staff on duty who will write down what time they are setting off back to class
- Students then have one minute to return to class
- Students hand in the slip to their class teacher
- If they have arrived back within one minute, then the slip is disposed of. If they have taken too long to get back to lesson they will receive a sanction.

This system means that we can continue to ensure the toilets are a safe space for students to use. It also reduces the opportunity for students to be out of lesson for prolonged period of time.

This is currently a trial, and we will review it today to determine if we use it next term.



PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Enrichment

Last year we wrote to parents regarding enrichment becoming part of the school day. The proposed model last year involved an extension of the school day. As you'll be aware we were unable to go ahead with plans due to the financial climate around energy costs and the challenges faced by new bus contracts should we have finished later in the day.

We were extremely disappointed to not be able to move to the proposals, given the overwhelming amount of positive feedback we received. Since then, we have worked on getting to a model that has enrichment in the school day and doesn't mean we have to change the finish time. I'm delighted to say that it has been agreed that we can go ahead with the proposed model.

Over the past two weeks we have presented the model to Staff, Governors, PCAB and then taken students through our proposal. We have asked students to fill in a Microsoft Form which asks for feedback and the types of enrichment they would like to see. Once we have this, we will be contacting parents with a finalised offer and proposal on which we can take feedback.

Although we will provide a much more detailed overview of plans after Easter, I have included the proposed lesson timings below as I know students will have been speaking to parents/carers about this.

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri		
	Time	Length
Period 1	08:25 - 09:40	75mins
Period 2	09:40 - 10:55	75mins
Break	10:55 - 11:15	20 mins
Period 3	11:15 - 12:30	75mins
Lunch	12:30 - 13:10	40 mins
Tutor Period	13:10 - 13:35	25 mins
Period 4	13:35 - 14:50	75mins
Period 5 (Y11)	14:50 - 15:40	50mins



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PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Wednesday		
	Time	Length
Period 1	08:25 - 09:40	75mins
Period 2	09:40 - 10:55	75mins
Break	10:55 - 11:15	20 mins
Period 3	11:15 - 12:30	75mins
Lunch	12:30 - 13:10	40 mins
Enrichment	13:10 - 14:50	100 mins

As you can see, the plan is to move to 4 lessons of 75 minutes a day rather than 3 lessons of 95 minutes. This is on the back of parent and student feedback.

The reason for not sending more details to parents/carers at this stage is that we want to finalise exactly what the enrichment offer is so that you can provide feedback on the whole proposal rather than an incomplete version.

It has been a very busy term; the students and staff are looking forward to a well deserved rest. I hope you all have a great break, and we look forward to welcoming students back to the academy on Monday 17 April at the normal time.

Yours sincerely

Mr Ransome
Principal



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Academy Awards

Following the hugely successful Academy Awards event hosted last year at the Sheffield City Hall, we have again secured the historic venue for this year's event which will be held on Wednesday 19 July 2023.

On the evening we will be rewarding a number of students with a range of awards as well as watching the Academy's best musicians, dancers and actors. Last year Mark Labbett (best known as 'The Beast' from ITVs The Chase) presented awards. We will be looking to secure a celebrity once again to make the event special for our students.

We will be giving out over 2000 free tickets to students, parents/carers and the community for what promises to be an exceptional night.

We would like to provide local businesses with an opportunity to be involved in the event by sponsoring a page in the programme or even a prestigious award. In addition to advertising the business, we would also provide two VIP tickets which include reserved seating and drinks on arrival.

All money raised through sponsorship will be put directly in to making the event even more special. If you would like to sponsor the event in any way, please get in touch with us at academyawards@wathacademy.com.



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Class Charts

From Monday 20 March, all notifications regarding Achievement points, Behaviour and Whole school notifications will be sent via the Class Charts App. When information is sent from the Academy, an email notification will be received. The School Gateway app and Epraise will no longer be used.

The Attendance Team will continue to send messages regarding absence or punctuality via text message.

Satchel One and ParentPay will continue to be used as normal.

Emails have already been sent home to parents/carers with information on how to access the Class Charts App.

If you have any queries, please email enquiries@wathacademy.com

Yours sincerely

Mr A Hopkin
Vice Principal



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