



10th May 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I hope this week has treated you well. We have seen the start of formal examinations this week which, as normally is the case, also coincided with the sun turning up. More about the exams below!

GCSE Examinations (Y11 Parents/ Carers)

Formal written examinations started this morning. The students carried themselves really well and were on time and ready for the examination. The exams come thick and fast now so we ask all parents to support us by being aware of when exams are and supporting children with essential preparation and ensuring they are wearing full school uniforms. We would also like to wish all students taking these examinations the very best of luck.

Year 6 SATs (Y6 Parents/ Carers)

Year 6 begin their end of key stage 2 tests next week (starting on Monday). 100% attendance is required from all students next week for these tests. The children (and staff!) have worked so hard for these tests and are ready for them. Children shouldn't worry about the tests, they are simply used to support transition from primary to secondary education and are a measure for the Government more than anything else - all we ask is that the children try their very best next week to show what they have learnt this year. As with Year 11, we wish all Year 6 children the very best with these tests.

Ready, Respectful, Safe (All Parents/ Carers)

In our **behaviour curriculum** this week, secondary students continued with their focus on '**Respectful Language**' and primary remained focused on '**Positive Challenge**' using the Miranda Paul story 'Speak up'. Both of these areas have enabled our students to really focus on the importance of how we are portrayed with the language and actions that we use. Primary children discussed how to challenge someone respectfully as it is actually very difficult to call someone out when we know that their words or actions are wrong. Next week primary children will be learning about '**Table Manners**' using the story 'Table Manners for Tigers by Zanna Davidson and Secondary will be looking at demonstrating a '**respectful tone and volume**' when speaking.

Wow Moments in School this Week (All Parents/ Carers)

The Wow Moments for this week are below. Well done to everyone involved.

- Year 8 students took part in a fantastic BAE systems new technology workshop on Wednesday this week.
- Brogan in Year 10 represented the academy at the pop idol event last night competing against other young people from across the town.
- Year 11 students have taken the start of their formal examinations in their stride this week and we had a good start to the exam season today.



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Primary Newsletter (Primary Parents/ Carers)

Click [here](#) to access the Primary Newsletter.

Reporting Bullying/ Pastoral Concerns (All Parents/ Carers)

If you or your child needs to raise any bullying or pastoral concerns with the academy please [click here](#).

We regularly share statistics with parents/carers regarding the number of bullying concerns raised through this method as staff at school are required to report using the same method. I am pleased to report a continuing downward trend in reports. The data to the end of April shows a 47% reduction in the number of reports from the same time last year. Whilst any report is one report too many, it is pleasing to see the impact of some of our work, particularly about the value of being respectful.

Online Safety Support for Parents/ Carers (All Parents/ Carers)

Click [here](#) to access the link to this week's online safety guide for parents. You can also sign up for The National College for free and view a wide range of resources and videos to support your family with online safety. To do this follow the link below:

[Sign up tutorial video - https://help.nationalcollege.com/parent-walkthrough](https://help.nationalcollege.com/parent-walkthrough)

[Sign up for The National College - https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/unity-academy-blackpool](https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/unity-academy-blackpool)

Yours sincerely,

Mr. S. Cooke, Headteacher