



Weekly Newsletter

HEAD OF SCHOOL UPDATE



This week has been somewhat abbreviated due to our Inset day on Monday; we were delighted to welcome our new staff and our colleagues joining the Academies Trust at Great Barr. The following day, we welcomed back our students for a series of assessments in English and

Maths, conducted at both sites. I was blown away with the students' commitment, diligence and wonderful attitude, and their focus convinces me that they are going to cope with the rigours of GCSE extremely well.

Our trip to Boulogne was another roaring success. I must express my thanks to all staff involved with the trip, with a special tribute to Miss Goodbourn, whose organisation is second-to-none. Great Barr's excursion tsar, Mr. Price, who was also on the trip, was glittering in his praise of all of the students. A special mention must go to Fabien Jheeta (C1), who is in receipt of a Head of School Commendation for his exemplary behaviour on the trip. I would also like to highlight Jessie-Leigh Jenks (L1), who picked up a sodden piece of uniform from our neighbouring primary school, St. Huberts, and braved the rain to return it to Reception.

Planning sessions are continuing as we prepare for the upcoming academic year – this includes some alterations to the groups some students may be in for their Core and Innov8 (the Year 8 cross-curricular, project-based curriculum). As ever, we do not set students based on ability; any moves are simply because we know the students and how they work, not because they have done anything wrong!

Tuesday was a truly special day, as we welcomed Dr Nira Chamberlain, one of the UK's Top 100 Scientists (as well as the first black mathematician to be named in the Who's Who guide) to speak to the students. In a fascinating talk, he spoke about the importance of Maths in our lives, and embedded a powerful message – the best mathematicians aren't those who are best at Maths, but those who don't give up! That message of stoicism and resilience is one that was

reinforced as he joined us for Family Lunch, where he spoke in glowing terms about our students.

We have had a huge boost in terms of our staff numbers this week: Mr Sahota (Maths), Mr Iqbal, Miss Fisher (both Science) and Ms Hicks (MFL and ACE) have joined us this week - they have experienced a warm welcome from our students, and staff have commented on their excellent attitudes. Ms Cox has put together an innovative and extremely useful programme for them, so they are fully up to speed with the 'Langley Way,' our local area and the needs of our students.

Attendance in the Academy has been on an upward trend over the past few weeks; I thank parents and carers for their support in this area. We, like you, have high aspirations for our students; they can only be achieved if students are in the Academy each and every day. A reminder – our students break up for the Summer Holidays on Friday 21st July, meaning they will have 13 weeks holiday this academic year!

We will be having our final #WearIt day of the year next Friday (14th July). We have decided, since it is Bastille Day, to #WearItTricolore! Students, if they bring £1 into the Academy, may wear anything red, white and blue. As ever, this refers to items such as: socks; tights; hair bands/bobbles; badges; ties and even, if you're Mr Karim, pocket-squares! We are very clear in our approach on this – it does not involve hair colouration or over-the-top items. If you have any concerns, please contact your child's tutor.

Finally, it was a huge personal privilege to welcome Mr Whittingham and Ms Mills from the City Learning Trust, a multi-Academy trust in Stoke-on-Trent, to visit us on Thursday. My former colleague Mr Whittingham, who has always been a firm friend to myself and the Academy, undertakes his inaugural headship in September – I cannot wait to see him in his new setting!

Have a fantastic weekend!

Peter Lee
Head of School

STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done to our Stars of the Week, beginning 3rd July 2017. They were:



Layla Birch



Katie Bayliss



Codie Guest



Daniel Blake



Paige Hadley

MENU FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY 10/07/2017

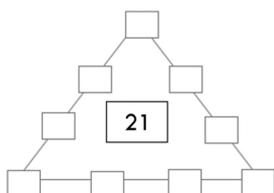
<u>Day</u>	<u>Meat</u>	<u>Vegetarian</u>	<u>Dessert</u>
Monday 10th July	Thai Green Chicken Curry Braised Rice Garlic & Coriander Flat Bread	Sweet Potato & Chickpea Curry (V) (H), Braised Rice Garlic & Coriander Flat Bread	Vanilla Ice Cream Tub
Tuesday 11th July	Roast Gammon Roast Potatoes Broccoli Florets, Sweetcorn Gravy	Ratatouille Bean & Cheese Quesadillas (V) (H) Mixed Salad	Chocolate Cake Chocolate Custard
Wednesday 12th July	Beef Bolognese Fusilli Pasta Bake Freshly made Parsley & Garlic Bread Mixed Salad	Asian Stir Fry Vegetables (V) (H) Egg Noodles	Strawberry Trifle
Thursday 13th July	Chicken in Black Bean Sauce Boiled Rice	Vegetarian Chimichangas Sweet Chilli Sauce (V) (H) Mixed Salad & Coleslaw	Butterscotch Meringue Crunch
Friday 14th July	Fish Fingers Potato Wedges Baked Beans	Vegetarian Calzone (V) (H) Potato Wedges Mixed Salad	Spiced Apple Fool Pot

(H) Suitable for Halal (V) Suitable for Vegetarians. The menu is subject to change at short notice.

SEATON'S SCRAMBLE!

The winner of Seaton's Scramble last week was Deleo Dhesi of Social Design!

Each side of the triangle must add up to 21, using only numbers 1-9.



Remember, you can only use each number once!

Good luck!

Answers clearly labelled and returned to Reception by Tuesday 11th July at 3.00pm. A Mars Bar or financial equivalent will be awarded for the winning entry drawn. The Head of School's decision is final in this matter.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Parents' Consultation Evening 6

Thursday 20th July 2017 - 3.05pm - 7.30pm

End of Summer Term (for current Year 7)

Friday 21st July 2017 - 3pm

Summer Term Rewards Assembly

Friday 21st July 2pm - 3pm

#WearItTricolore Day

Friday 14th July