



Weekly Newsletter

HEAD OF SCHOOL UPDATE



This week at the Academy has been a busy one, as we prepare for our first assessments of the Academic year, starting next week in Core subjects (as well as Horizon and Innov8). Independent Learning this week has been set to prepare for these assessments, either through revision of Quest for Knowledge booklets, or with supplementary material from Learning Consultants. We expect all students to complete between 45-60

minutes of Independent Learning each week – with our low-stakes, knowledge quizzing approach already yielding excellent results. It has been fantastic to see students revising and talking about their learning in Family Breakfast and on the playground!

With next week in mind, I must push our focus on attendance – we can accommodate students with ailments and illnesses in the Academy; we have even had students break bones this year, and be in as soon as they can, such is their desire to be in the Academy! I sincerely hope that we do not see an attendance dip towards the end of the half term, when cheap holiday deals seem to hit the market; we have learned lessons from last year. We break up for Christmas on 8th December, a week before most schools, so there is plenty of time to soak up any last-minute sunshine. Sandwell Local Authority have also produced a Parents' Guide this week, which we have uploaded to the Academy website.

Last Friday (after the newsletter had gone to print), we were fortunate to host the Chief Executive of the Black Country Living Museum to address our Year 8 students. They asked fabulous questions, both in the assembly and in the Family Lunch that followed. In addition, we welcomed our long-time friend Surinder Singh, who works tirelessly for democracy in the local community and local schools in Sandwell. It is always great to have external speakers and visitors, to show them the 'Langley' way and hear their feedback.

I am thrilled to update you with some staffing news in the Academy. Mr Alexander, our PLC for Year 7, and a phenomenal Humanities Learning Consultant, has taken over the running of our external instrumental sessions, run by peripatetic staff from SIPS Music Services. Through his passion and drive, it has led to an increased uptake in music lessons by students. I fully urge students to consider learning a musical instrument with us; not only can it lead to enormously positive outcomes later in life, but also thanks to our work, lessons can be secured at a far cheaper rate than elsewhere. In addition, we welcomed Mrs Hassanali to our SEN-D team this week, and Mr Caine as our new IT apprentice, working under the magnificent Mr. Smith!

Next week is the final week of the half term, with Friday hosting our first #Wearit day in aid of Breast Cancer Awareness, a cause close to our hearts. Students may wear, for a donation of a

pound, a pink item on their business dress. Such items may include: socks, ties, hairbands, badges, hair clips pocket squares and such. However, I must stress that this does not include dyed or coloured hair, painted nails, or any form of make-up. Participating students may donate during Family Breakfast next Friday – if there are any issues, please let us know.

Next Tuesday, we are hosting the inaugural Table Football tournament of the Academy Year. Letters have gone out this week, with students selected purely on a first-come-first-served basis. Students will need to sign up with their team in order to secure their place. Unfortunately, I will be with our Governing Body, so the journey to usurping Mr Karim and Zakar Tomkins (8L1) will be an even tougher one...

Our assemblies this week, hosted by Mr Mills and Mrs Meredith, highlighted the issue of haircuts, with many students attending with a 'skin-fade' style cut, or one where the disparity between the shortness on the side, and the length on the top, looked too extreme. We have been abundantly clear on our stance with this – any queries, please let us know.

We hosted our Literacy Week a couple of weeks ago, with Mr Dawes challenging students to include a series of complex words in a story that made sense – a truly difficult task, as it involves not only an understanding of language, but an ability to mould and adjust narrative writing around certain pillars. I am delighted to announce that Omar Mahmood (7C1) was the stand-out entrant, with Mr Dawes remarking at how carefully crafted his story was.

It pleases me greatly to let you know that we will be running our Lille trip for French students on the final Friday of term, in December. I thank the 'fantastique' Miss Goodbourn for her incredible work putting this trip together – the interest has already been huge! With the trip departing very early on Friday morning, we have moved the second Parents' Evening of the year from the Thursday (our usual day) to Tuesday 5th December, to allow staff and students on the trip time to prepare, without a late night. We hope that there will be a Spanish-related trip later in the year, as we continue to embed Modern Foreign Languages at the heart of our curriculum.

I really look forward to seeing you at our Parents' Evening next week, and hope for an equally high turn-out as last year. A reminder – beyond our A.C.E group, and SEN-D requests, this is a Parents' Evening for your child's tutor; I thank you for supporting this event, and hope that you appreciate our commitment to building strong, communicative relationships, with this being the next step on that path. We do host more Parent's Evenings than most schools in the local area; I pay tribute to my staff team for continually going above and beyond that normal call of duty to provide for our students.

Have a great weekend – see you at Parents' Evening next week!

Peter Lee
Head of School

STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done to our Stars of the Week, beginning 9th October 2017. They were:



Rohan Basi
8A1



Jasmine Komeng
8C1



Nathaniel Scarlett
8D1



Ajay Kaila
8L1



Holly Blake
8S1

MENU FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY 09/10/2017

<u>Day</u>	<u>Meat</u>	<u>Vegetarian</u>	<u>Dessert</u>
Monday 16th October	Cheese & Tomato Omelette. New Potatoes Mixed Salad	Baked Potato	Pancakes
Tuesday 17th October	Roast Chicken Roast New Potatoes Carrots Gravy	Quorn Fillet (V) (H) Roast New Potatoes Carrots Gravy	Fresh Fruit
Wednesday 18th October	Roast Vegetable Khobez Flat Bread (V) (H) Mixed Salad Chips	Roast Vegetable Khobez Flat Bread (V) (H) Mixed Salad Chips	Lemon Drizzle Cake
Thursday 19th October	Grilled Peppered Chicken Rice Garden Peas	Reggae-Reggae Three Bean Chilli (V) (H) Rice Garden Peas	Jam Doughnut
Friday 20th October	Breaded Chicken Burger Mixed Salad Baked Beans	Stuffed Jackets (V) (H) Grated Cheese Mixed Salad Baked Beans	Chocolate Muffin

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

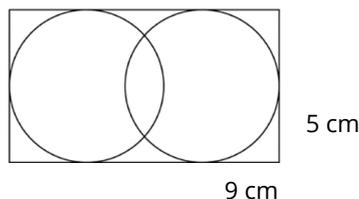
SAHOTA'S SOLUTION

The winner of Sahota's Solution this week was Madeleine Capper (7A1). Well Done Madeleine! The answer from last week's Sahota's Solution is:

There were 20 triangles.

This week's Sahota's Solution is:

The diagram shows two circles enclosed in a rectangle measuring 9cm by 5 cm.



What is the distance between the centres of the circles?

Answers clearly labelled and returned to Reception by Tuesday 17th October at 3:05pm. A Mars bar or financial equivalent will be awarded for the winning entry draw. The Head of School's decision is final in this matter.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Parents' Evening 1

Thursday 19th October 3pm-7:30pm

Assessment Week

W.C - 16th October

#WearItPink

Friday 20th October

P.A.C.T

Monday 6th November 7pm-8pm

Christmas Fête

Saturday 2nd December