



# Weekly Newsletter

## HEAD OF SCHOOL UPDATE



It staggers me that even with a truncated four-day week, we have managed to squeeze so much in – where does the time go? On Monday, were delighted to welcome Caroline Handley, representing the Q3 Academy Great Barr PACT (Parent Academy Contact Team) – she has been a long-standing supporter of the Academy on social media, offering her advice as our PACT develops. It was wonderful to see both of these bodies come together this week; our team at the Great Barr PACT Quiz a few weeks ago had a wonderful time supporting the fund-raising efforts!

I was very proud to open the Academy to Sodexo, our catering partners, this week, for their management meeting. Mrs. Knowles, Mrs. Icke, Ms. Fletcher and Ms. Snookes, ably led by the wonderful Mr. Alto, do such a wonderful job for the Academy. The food each day is of an extremely high quality, as is the service – they are truly committed to providing the best meals and experience for our students at Family Lunch.

This week saw the visit of Dr. Badyal, who, amongst her countless contributions to the Academy, hosted the Praise Brunch for students, based on their superb Spring Challenge submissions. With our knowledge-based focus on Independent Learning, this is a prime opportunity for students to excel away from the Academy – I thank all parents and carers who supported their children in completing some tasks to an incredibly high standard. I wonder what the Summer Challenges will bring...

Sadly, we had an extremely troubling behavioural incident last week, which has been appropriately sanctioned by our team. At times when students do not meet our high expectations, we will always support them to reflect and improve, always appreciating it when parents and carers reinforce our expectations when students are at home. It is unsettling to consider that students may be sanctioned due to serious behavioural issues at the Academy, with little followed up outside. Since students spend (by far) the majority of their time away from us, not reflecting our expectations runs the risk of undermining what we do at the Academy. Parents and carers are aware of our expectations – we have always been clear – if you feel that you need to speak to us, please contact your child's PLD.

This week saw the release of several roles for next year, relating to Learning Support, SEND and Pastoral. The amount of interest continues to overwhelm us, with many people visiting to look around. Additionally, I enjoyed shortlisting the candidates for the P.E (with EBacc) Learning Consultant role, as I look forward to the upcoming interview day. If you get an opportunity, please share the roles online – the more eyes we have on them, the more likely we are to be able to recruit the calibre of staff we

desire, without being fleeced by exorbitant agency fees!

You may have seen our fantastic team-up with KatiePix on YouTube, to support the Get Into Teaching campaign – even Schools Minister Nick Gibb has been tweeting about it! The video features several students, and the sublime Mr. Anderson. I swelled with pride when watching, as the Academy looks great, the students come across wonderfully, and, most pleasingly, our Lead Professional for Science practically glowed when talking about the Langley journey. I really do work at the best place in the world!

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May sees our Royal Tea Party, hosted by our Excellence Leaders. I'm sure that many people will be involved further, but I would like to specifically thank Miss Smith, Mrs. Wootton and Ms. Dawson for all their input. The bunting has arrived, and the invites are nearly ready to go out!

Additionally, I would like to recognise Isabeli de Oliveira (7D2) for achieving three Star of the Lessons in a single day. It always pleases me when students who have older siblings in the Academy remind them that Year 7 is equally as impressive as Year 8 – in many ways, they actually outperform their elder counterparts!

Wednesday saw our brilliant AVP, Mr. Gee, organise eight PGCE trainees from our Great Barr site to visit the Academy. It was wonderful to speak to these colleagues at this stage in their career, and share the Langley journey with them. Mr. Gee truly is the most spectacular leader of Teaching & Learning – he seems to perpetually be travelling between sites, running sessions, meetings and observations, yet always has time to speak to any colleague about the profession. Langley has already been immensely strengthened by him - I know our Core Leaders cannot speak highly enough about him – I'm thrilled that as of September, he will be with us full-time. Though I understand it is bittersweet to give up the Great Barr work, as the impact he had was huge, mitigated slightly by the onerous travel times, I have no doubt that he will continue to develop us moving forward.

Miss Williamson conducted her CCF group to Great Barr this week, with them looking resplendent in their uniforms. The work she has done to set this up so quickly, and organise so many little things to make everything run smoothly, is greatly appreciated. I also thank Mr. Stabler and Mrs. Wilde for supporting our students with transport to and from our Langley site.

Our INSET day tomorrow means that this address reaches you a day early, with Monday's Bank Holiday giving you an extra day to digest its content – perhaps we will see some more entries into Dale's Dilemma? I cannot wait to see students on Tuesday, at 07:55, as we embark upon our final Assessment Cycle of the academic year – have a terrific weekend!

**Peter Lee**  
Head of School

# STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done to our Stars of the Week, beginning 30th April 2018. They were:



Simran Mudher  
8A1



Manet Kaur Heer  
8C1



Hanna Ali  
8D1



Shahyaan Khan  
8L1



Shanna-Mai  
Taggart  
8S1

## MENU FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY 07/05/2018

<u>Day</u>	<u>Meat</u>	<u>Vegetarian</u>	<u>Dessert</u>
<b>Monday 7th May</b>	<b>BANK HOLIDAY—ACADEMY CLOSED TO STUDENTS</b>	<b>BANK HOLIDAY—ACADEMY CLOSED TO STUDENTS</b>	<b>BANK HOLIDAY—ACADEMY CLOSED TO STUDENTS</b>
<b>Tuesday 8th May</b>	<b>Roast Chicken</b> Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Gravy	<b>Roasted Quorn Fillet (V)</b> Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Gravy	<b>Fresh Fruit</b>
<b>Wednesday 9th May</b>	<b>Chicken Burgers In A Bun</b> Tomato Sauce Seasoned Wedges Baked Beans	<b>Spicy Bean Burger In A Bun (V)</b> Tomato Sauce Seasoned Wedges Baked Beans	<b>Mini Muffins</b>
<b>Thursday 10th May</b>	<b>Pasta King (V)</b> Grated Cheese Garlic & Parsley Bread Slice	<b>Pasta King (V)</b> Grated Cheese Garlic & Parsley Bread Slice	<b>Freshly Baked Cookie</b>
<b>Friday 11th May</b>	<b>Baked Pollock</b> Chipped Potatoes Tomato Sauce Baked Beans	<b>Glamorgan Sausage (V)</b> Chipped Potatoes Tomato Sauce Baked Beans	<b>Freshly Baked Shortbread</b>

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

## DALE'S DILEMMA

The winner of last week's Dale's Dilemma was Jahmari Ashman (7C2). Well Done Jahmari!

**The answer for last week's Dale's Dilemma was:**  
Leonardo Da Vinci.

**The Dale's Dilemma for this week is:**

I was the last of the Plantagenet's.  
Young Princes go missing around me.  
I was last spotted in Leicester Council Car Park.  
Who am I?

Answers clearly labelled and returned to Reception by Tuesday 8th May 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

**INSET Day—Academy closed to students**

Friday 4th May 2018

**Bank Holiday Monday—Academy closed to students**

Monday 7th May 2018

**Royal Tea Party—Invitation Only**

Friday 11th May—2:30pm-3:30pm

**P.A.C.T**

Monday 14th May 2018—7pm

**Parents' Evening 5**

Thursday 24th May 2018—3:05pm-7:30pm

**Half Term**

28th May—1st June 2018

**Summer Fête**

Saturday 9th June 2018—12pm-3pm