



Weekly Newsletter

HEAD OF SCHOOL UPDATE



What a wet and windy start to the week we had! I have to thank our superb site team, our resilient staff team and most importantly, our fantastic students! I cannot tell you how proud I feel, witnessing their superb conduct and behaviour – with our 100-minute lessons, which are usually broken up with some time on the playground, they have continued to embody our ethos all week during many Wet Breaks. With that in mind, I would like to remind students to wear their Macron coats (and possibly

bring umbrellas too), and request that parents and carers support students with this.

I spoke with Mr. Dawes this week, regarding our Literacy Challenge – students were tasked with working some ‘Power Words’ into a story – we were overwhelmed with entries! I am thrilled to announce that Janna White (8A1) and Diana Moradi (7S2) are the winners; their writing was absolutely stunning! In addition, I believe that we have an additional student to mention, who achieved three Star of the Lessons in a single day – well done to Sunveer Kaur (7D2) – what a fabulous achievement!

I speak on a regular basis about how our students are the ‘hardest working in Sandwell’ (I believe there is even a hashtag on social media) – though this is light-hearted message of positivity, I genuinely believe that with our 08:00 start, plus our extra five hours of timetabled learning, that there is some credence to it. In fact, our wonderful Curriculum Director for Maths, Miss Davis, shared some information about Hegarty Maths usage – the thousands of hours logged and questions answered was staggering! I know that she shares my view of our students – having joined us from another school in Sandwell, she knows what she is talking about!

This week saw a friend of the Academy return to us – Sam Gooding from Musta Media. He visited to update some of our promotional photographs, in order to include even more of our current students – I cannot wait to see our new images emblazoned around the Academy. Also, I believe some of our Year 9 students won’t be sad to see photos of them looking so baby-faced slightly fewer and farther between! I thank all students who took part – they really are our best ambassadors!

The blessed news of Mrs. Soma-Jassi’s new arrival came at the end of last week – though we cannot share the name, I can let you know that everyone is doing very well. I hope you join me in sending all our warmest wishes to them – we hope to see them all very soon!

Thursdays continue to be an utter delight, as the enormous range of Enrichment activities provide your children with the kinds of opportunities they simply wouldn’t all be able to access in other schools. I thank Mr. Brennan for bringing his Rock Band to the Academy; the nationally-recognised Mr. Singh for instilling rhythm into our days with Drumming; Ms. Stewart and her extraordinary Hand-made Crafts and Strike Sports, who educate our children through practical and theoretical means, showing them the importance of an active lifestyle. It was especially pleasing to welcome a Sixth Form student, (and someone well known to Q3) Callum Corbett, who supported Mr. Arrandale’s photography session. I urge you – speak to your children about the amazing experiences they are getting – it is sure to liven up the dinner table discussion on a Friday!

In terms of our offering to students, we held an exceptionally important

meeting, focused on Assessment, with Mr. Mills, our Curriculum Directors, Mrs. Blake and Miss Murphy (Lead Practitioner for Maths across the QAT), exploring some external assessment options. It is delightful to see such collaboration taking place across the sites – I am told that Mrs. Blake was so happy with the richness of the conversation that she almost felt that all of her questions were answered!

As the year has gone on, our extra-curricular offering has expanded – over 200 hundred students take part in activities each week! I heard that we had some sporting fixtures against local schools – though the football team had a tough time against Sandwell Academy, the Year 9 Netball team picked up an excellent victory against St. Michael’s (well known to some of our staff). I thank the dedication of Mr. Payton, Mr. Davis, Miss Rowson, Miss Deasy, Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Beasley and Mr. Snell – as someone who knows personally how much these sessions can impact on young people’s lives, I am very grateful to them!

Our commitment to philanthropy and Active Citizenship continued this week, as we collected food for our Harvest Food Bank drive. We aim to draw it all together by the time the half-term ends – I can only hope that the minibus, plus the strength of Mr. Mills and Mr. Evans, can transport the weight; last year’s nearly wiped out our AVP’s Saab! I look forward to sharing news of our #WearItPink day, held today, next week!

We have welcomed some new members to the team recently. Mr. Willetts has joined us to support us in I.T and Attendance, and Miss Loxton has received some well-deserved support in the form of Mrs. Kandola, who joins us to support the Administration team. We expect some more arrivals (with a familiar face to our Year 9s) just after the half-term break, before adverts for our 2019-20 team are published – please keep in touch with our website and social media accounts for more information. I really look forward to Ms. Yourell’s innovative and creative interviews – it really helps us understand the characters of those who join us on the Langley journey!

Thursday and Friday saw me in Stratford-Upon-Avon, for the Sandwell Head Teacher’s Conference, which I attended with my Q3 colleagues, Ms Featherstone (Q3 Academy Tipton) and Mr. Arnall (Q3 Academy Great Barr) for some great networking and learning opportunities. The fort was held by my superb Senior Leadership Team – my personal thanks go to Ms. Cox, Mr. Gee, Mr. Mills and Mr. Karim – I am never worried about leaving the Academy in their wonderfully capable hands!

Next week sees two INSET Days, meaning a truncated week. There will be no early finish on the Wednesday, but there will be a Newsletter! Students will return to the Academy at 07:55 (Year 7 & 8) and 08:55 (Year 9) on Monday 5th November. During the break, I am thrilled that some traffic-calming measures will be put in place on Moat Road, hopefully to curb the inconsiderate driving of those who ignore the speed limits (seemingly on a daily basis). As ever, I am indebted to our Site and Administration team, who will be working on internal projects over the break.

I hope that the weather takes a turn for the better, leading to a pleasant weekend. I hope to see all of you at our Parents’ Evening next Tuesday (from 15:00), where you will have a chance to speak to your child’s Tutor, as well as raise funds for our PACT (Parent Academy Contact Team), donate some unwanted items of Business Dress, take our Ofsted Parent View survey or take part in our Parent Workshops! We love how much contact you can have with us, and we have with you – it makes Langley truly special!

Peter Lee
Head of School

STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done to our Stars of the Week, beginning 15th October 2018. They were:



Rihanna Taylor
7A1



Anoopvir
Aulakh 7C1



Sukshaan
Kullar 7D1



Harmanjot
Singh 7L1



Felipe Ramos
7S1



Lucy Forrester
9D1

MENU FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY 22/10/2018

<u>Day</u>	<u>Meat</u>	<u>Vegetarian</u>	<u>Dessert</u>
Monday 22nd October	Macaroni Cheese (V) Freshly Made Parsley & Garlic Bread Mixed Salad	Macaroni Cheese (V) Freshly Made Parsley & Garlic Bread Mixed Salad	Yeo Valley Strawberry Yoghurt Pot
Tuesday 23rd October	Moroccan Shredded Chicken Sweetcorn Braised Rice	Gluten Free Falafel (V) Sweetcorn Braised Rice	Fresh Fruit
Wednesday 24th October	Roasted Chicken in Gravy Bap Seasoned Wedges Mixed Salad	Roasted Quorn in Gravy Bap (V) Seasoned Wedges Mixed Salad	Chocolate Cookies
Thursday 25th October	INSET DAY	INSET DAY	INSET DAY
Friday 26th October	INSET DAY	INSET DAY	INSET DAY

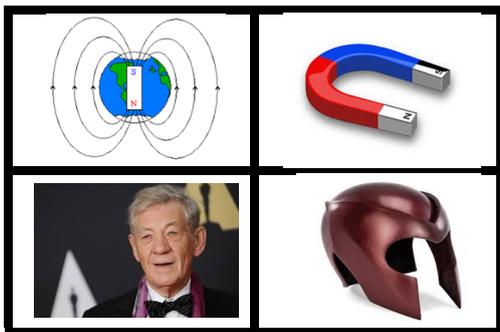
(H) Suitable for Halal (V) Suitable for Vegetarians. The menu is subject to change at short notice.

RAHMAN'S RIDDLE

The winner of last week's Rahman's Riddle was Manpreet Lally (7S2). Well Done Manpreet!

The answer for last week's Rahman's Riddle was:
Star Wars

The Rahman's Riddle for this week is:
Use the images below to identify the name of a famous Marvel character.



Answers clearly labelled and returned to Reception by Tuesday 23rd 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

Tuesday 23rd October 2018—3pm-7:30pm

INSET Days—Academy closed to all Students

Thursday 25th October 2018

Friday 26th October 2018

Half Term

Monday 29th October 2018—Friday 2nd November 2018