



Weekly Newsletter

HEAD OF SCHOOL UPDATE



We have reached the half-way point of the year – and what a way to arrive, with Ethos Week and Parents' Evening! Our Year 9 parents might be interested to know that today marks the half-way point of our students' journey through Q3 Academy Langley – can you believe that two and a half years have passed already?

Ethos Week has been a fantastic success, with all year groups having a bespoke experience, designed around key foci relating to British Values, Wellbeing, Extremism, Health and Citizenship. One of

the key aims of Ethos Week, beyond collapsing the timetable to deliver sessions on these key topics, is to ensure that our students' horizons are broadened with external visits; I thank Miss Goodbourn for supporting with the organisation of the Year 7 trip to Birmingham City Centre, Year 8 to the Black Country Living Museum and Year 9 to Dovedale. The week would not have been anywhere near the success it was without the commitment of all staff, who have looked after students, and delivered sessions, often outside of their comfort zone. A special thanks must go to Mr. Gee, who has orchestrated the entire week, and our fabulous PLDs: Mrs. Fogarty, Mr. Alexander and Mr. Snell for overseeing their year groups, and Mr. Mills, for all his work with Year 9.

Last week's Governing Body meeting was a lengthy one, with the presence of Mr. Quayle, our Chair of the Board a hugely welcome one. Our Governing Lead for Safeguarding, Mr. Knight, joined us for a discussion hosted by Ms. Cox and Ms. Callaghan, which represented brilliantly the importance of the discourse between our Governing Body and staff team. As ever, their commitment and dedication is greatly appreciated – they give so generously of their time!

We were also thrilled with a visit from Sodexo's CEO, Andrew Wilkinson, who was simply blown away by our Family Lunch model, expressing that it was the most impressive he had ever seen. In fact, when discussing our students' superb conduct, he mentioned that he works with Eton and Wellington College, two of the most prestigious establishments in the entire country – just another example of how we are performing at a ground-breaking level at Langley!

Tuesday's Parents' Evening was a tremendous event, with more additional sessions and workshops being run than ever! I was able to have many conversations with a significant number of parents and carers, as well as witnessing our brilliant PACT running stalls, and observing the deep, rich discourse around Year 9 Pathways and Key Stage Four options – our Pathways Evening is on 7th March, for all Year 9s to attend.

We are almost fully recruited for the next academic year, with our final range of adverts going online after the half-term break – please share these around your social media accounts when they are published. I have been blown away by the calibre of applicants for the roles advertised – so many people are hearing about Langley, and our super students are a key reason why they want to work here! Despite this, one of the most impressive feats of the recent process was the speed-thinking of Miss Pell, who works with our H.R team – she managed to complete a Numbers round of our Countdown-inspired challenge before our candidates – we might have a new Rachel Riley (or for me, Carol Vorderman) in our midst! I am thrilled that successful candidates have already been in contact with their Curriculum Leaders about next year, so excited are they to get started!

We have published information about our Year 5 Taster Days on our website, and also sent fliers and letters to local primary schools. Mr. Willetts, from our IT Team, trialled Eventbrite to book places on the events,

and I am thrilled to announce that all spaces are now filled! If you are a prospective parent who missed out on a place, and would like to secure one, please contact the Academy – we would be delighted to arrange a visit and tour at any time!

Last Friday, our Parent Governor, Mr. Forrester, arranged for European Welterweight Champion boxer Sam Eggington to visit the Academy, to deliver an assembly to our students. Sam was absolutely fantastic with them, answering a range of questions with honesty, respect and genuine interest, such was the level of the questions asked. It is always fantastic to receive visits from people who have been successful outside of education, because they reinforce the values of hard work, resilience and aspiration, such transferable skills across all careers. My thanks to Mr. Forrester, and to Sam, with our best wishes for the rest of his career.

I was so proud last Friday to hear about the outcomes of the UK Youth Parliament Elections for Sandwell. Q3 Tipton's Mahmoud was elected to the Parliament, along with our very own Josh Jordan (8C1), who was also elected as a Deputy Member of Youth Parliament – congratulations! Not only was this a great achievement for Josh, but I was delighted that Q3 Academy Langley's voter turnout was the highest in the entire Local Authority, and several members of staff went along to the event to support Q3's candidates! Miss Smith, our PLC in Year 7, has done so much with Student Leadership in the Academy; Josh's election is an enormous step for the Academy, and our commitment to British Values is going to lead to our students being excellent members of society in the future.

It is always a pleasure to hear about the achievements of our students outside of the Academy, with two students coming to my attention this week. Jessie-Leigh Jenns (9L1) brought in a very impressive trophy after sinning the Worcester County ASA 200m Breaststroke. Roan McDermott (8S1) continued his glittering Karate career, coming out of the National Karate competition with two bronzes, one silver (and a few bruises) – these students are tremendous examples of how success and superb attendance can occur with brilliant success outside of the Academy – well done all!

This week, our Cycle Three Quest for Knowledge Booklets (Q4Ks) were distributed, in preparation for lessons after the half-term. I encourage students to engage with the Q4Ks, as they provide key knowledge that will support students in lessons. I applaud the hard work and innovation shown by our Learning Consultants in this, as they elevate the level of learning that our students can achieve in lessons – more and more, they are forming the basis of class work, so I encourage all parents and carers to support learning of them at home!

In a very fond way, we said 'au revoir' this week to one of our founding members of staff, Mrs. Dhansey, who commences her Maternity Leave. As the founding Learning Consultant in A.C.E, and the coordinator of our Accelerated Reading programme, she has brought immense joy, support and impact to the Academy since we opened. We received news early on Thursday morning that she had gone into labour – clearly her little one was ready to join the world! I hope you join me in sending our best wishes and love to her and her husband, and hope that all continue to be healthy and happy!

The upcoming half-term is a key time to recharge batteries and spend time with loved ones – I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 25th February for our return to the Academy, at all of the normal starting times. Have a wonderful, restful break!

Best Wishes,

Peter Lee
Head of School

STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done to our Stars of the Week, beginning 11th February 2019. They were:



Luke
Huckfield
8A1



MacAntony Guta
8C2



Samir Nasiri
8D2



Hannah Khan
8L2



Beth Walton
8S2



Codie Guest
9D1

MENU FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY 25/02/2019

<u>Day</u>	<u>Meat</u>	<u>Vegetarian</u>	<u>Dessert</u>
Monday 25th February	Quorn Burgers (V) Oven Baked Potato Wedges Sliced Burger Cheese Baked Beans	Quorn Burgers (V) Oven Baked Potato Wedges Sliced Burger Cheese Baked Beans	Chocolate Mini Muffin
Tuesday 26th February	American Style Hot Dog Hot Dog Rolls Relish Grated Cheese Seasoned Wedges	Quorn Hot Dog (V) Hot Dog Rolls Relish Grated Cheese Seasoned Wedges	Fresh Fruit
Wednesday 27th February	Southern Baked Chicken Thigh Baked Half Potato Baked Beans	BBQ Baked Quorn Fillet (V) Baked Half Potato Baked Beans	Chocolate Crunch
Thursday 28th February	Chicken Korma Braised Turmeric Rice Oven Baked Naan Bread	Sweet Potato and Chickpea Curry (V) Braised Turmeric Rice Oven Baked Naan Bread	Yeo Valley Yoghurt Pot
Friday 1st March	Quorn Dippers (V) Chipped Potatoes Baked Beans Red Sauce	Quorn Dippers (V) Chipped Potatoes Baked Beans Red Sauce	Chocolate Flapjack

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

BACK IN TIME WITH BINSLEY

The winner of the last week's Back in Time with Binsley was Rehan Imran (8A1). Well Done Rehan!

The answer to the last week's Back in Time with Binsley was:
James.

The Back in Time with Binsley question this half-term is:

On February 12th 1554, Lady Jane Grey, the Queen of England for thirteen days, was beheaded on Tower Hill.

How old was she?
A) 16 years old
B) 21 years old
C) 34 years old



Answers clearly labelled and returned to Reception by Tuesday 26th February 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

February Half Term

Monday 18th February—Friday 22nd February 2019

PACT

Monday 4th March—7pm

Paris Trip Meeting

Monday 4th March—6pm

Year 9 Pathways

Thursday 7th March—16:30-19:00

Parents' Evening 4

(Revised date) Thursday 11th April

INSET Day

Friday 12th April 2019

Academy closed to students.