

29th April 2022



Morecambe Bay
Academy

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am delighted to be writing the introduction to this newsletter where we are able to share our news from around the academy. It has been a pleasure to meet all of our pupils in assemblies and talk about our expectations in terms of behaviour, appearance and punctuality, aspects of our society that are fundamental to good order. We believe it is essential that our pupils clearly understand what we expect and why these things are essential in our community. Please note that we expect pupils to be in registration at 8.55am. Ideally pupils should be in school by 8.50am to ensure they are not late.

We have made significant changes over Easter to enhance the safeguarding of your children. We have moved reception to the Gatehouse so that visitors no longer come into school to sign in. We have also installed CCTV across the whole site. And we will shortly be going live on a signing in system for sixth form pupils so we know who is in school at any time.

I am keen to get to know more about the community we serve and improve communication with parents. To that end, I will be holding a parent clinic each Thursday morning from 9.00am to 10.30am. At this clinic, you can discuss concerns or other matters that you may have without prior appointment.

Please enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend, remembering that we are closed tomorrow for the Queen's Golden Jubilee.

Keep safe

Gavin Gomersall

Principal

Attendance guidance

You will be aware that the guidance regarding COVID has changed nationally. The updated details are as follows:

- Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school when they no longer have a high temperature, and they feel well enough to attend.
- Adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature.
- In the event that a Covid-19 test is taken, adults with a positive test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice is 3 days.

- There is no longer a requirement for students or staff to return a negative test before returning to school once they have remained at home for the recommended period of time. In school we will be continuing to ensure good ventilation at all times. Students may continue to wear face coverings if they wish.

Changes to our remote learning provision

The temporary provisions in the Coronavirus Act 2020 expired on 24 March 2022. As a result we are no longer required to provide isolating pupils with work. As a school, our main priority continues to be to deliver high-quality face-to-face education to all pupils and remote education should only ever be considered as a short-term measure and as a last resort. Attending school is the most effective way for your child to learn and this is our collective priority wherever possible.

Should your child have a period of unavoidable absence, all our home learning resources will continue to be managed through Synergy. In the first instance, if your child is absent and well enough to complete work, they should access Synergy and look under the relevant subject pages for their year group. Your child will be able to access a bank of learning resources there relating to their current area of study. It is advised that they follow their timetable for the day in question.

Your child may also wish to access other online tools such as Bedrock Learning or the Oak Academy resources where appropriate in order to supplement their at home learning.

We expect pupils to make contact with their teacher via their school email address or upon their return to school to catch up any work missed through absence.

Drama – Mamma Mia Trip



Mamma Mia @Liverpool Empire Theatre 29/3/22

MBA students attended a stunning production of Mamma Mia at the Empire Theatre in Liverpool, amongst a capacity audience of 2500, the Drama enthusiasts were highly impressed by the wonderful singing, dancing, and acting of the professional performers.

The performance will provide inspiration in the upcoming exam for the GCSE Drama students.

English Department - Visit to Ryelands Primary School

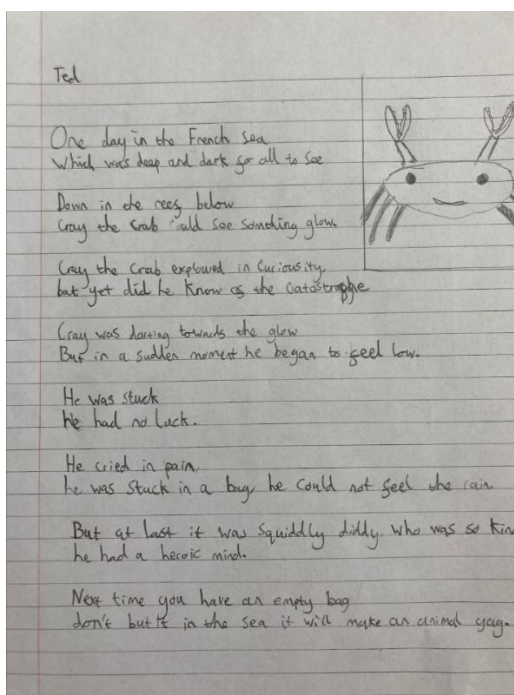
Last Friday afternoon, Mrs Davies from the English Department visited Ryelands Primary School to deliver the first of her poetry workshops to Year 4 students. The students were so enthusiastic and enjoyed crafting their own verse after reading the poems 'Squiddly Diddly' and 'More Pointless Questions'. The poems focus on how we treat animals in the ocean and on the land and certainly provoked some thoughtful discussion,



English Department - Visit to Torrisholme Primary School

As part of the English department's primary partnership programme, on Wednesday afternoon Mrs Davies visited Torrisholme Primary School to work with Year 5 students. Students analysed the language and structure of a poem and then crafted their own verse.

Mrs Davies was particularly impressed with Ted's use of language and rhyme in his poem about a crab called Cray (see photo). Thanks to Mrs Haine and class 5A for their enthusiasm and hard work. Mrs Davies also gifted the class a copy of her poetry collection 'Lockdown Lines' and encouraged students to keep writing! Maybe they will publish their own book one day too! Anything is possible!



Music – Greatwood Visit

Year 5 from Greatwood visited us on Thursday afternoon (21st April) to take part in session 1 of a music workshop with Mrs Dalgleish. Students were taught to chair drum, some basic Ukulele skills and singing development. All students were fully engaged and had a fantastic time improving their practical music skills. They are back this week for session 2, this session is about creating a musical composition using the software programme mixcraft. We look forward to their creative compositions!

Dance – Primary School Disco



On Friday 22nd April Chloe Heaton, Abby Dixon and Ellie Browning attended and led Nether Kellet Primary Schools Disco. They were absolutely amazing, engaging the whole crowd, demonstrating an abundance of energy by dancing the whole evening and being fantastic role models for our school. They got high praise from all the teachers who said they were fantastic with the children. Well done girls.

Over the next two weeks our Year 11/13s have all their deadlines for their dance work both in practical and theory, we wish them the best of luck and hope to showcase some of their work

before May half term. We are also running a trip this week with the dance students and 6th form to see Beauty and the Beast at Manchester Palace Theatre, watch out in the next bulletin for a review of the show.

PE – Football – District Competition

Congratulations to Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 MBA football teams for making the District finals for 2022, by finishing in the top 2 teams in the District.

Year 8 won their final, 5-0 v Central to become District Champions 2022.

Year 9 play Our Lady's on Wednesday 27th April

Year 10 play Our Lady's on Thursday 28th April

Year 11 play Carnforth on Friday 6th May

Year 7 finished a close 2nd to Ripley, in the District Tournament.

6th Form play in their District Tournament on Thursday 5th May.

PE - Climbing

Year 10 GCSE PE students have been developing their climbing skills on Thursday 21st April, as well as Friday evenings after school. The climbing sessions, run on the school wall, have been an excellent opportunity for students to develop their skills in an individual sport, for their GCSE assessment.

PE - Table Tennis



Bethany Ellis (Year 10) has been selected today to play for England in the Senior Schools Internationals U16's.

It is from her success at the Schools Finals where she placed third representing Lancashire/Morecambe Bay Academy in the U16 age group (she is still 14).

This is being held at Sport Scotland National Training Centre, and she will be competing against teams from Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Jersey, Guernsey and Isle of Man.

Also, well done to Matthew Westworth (Year 13) who also represented the school and the County at the Championships.

Technology – Greatwood Visit

On Wednesday 27th April, 30 year 4 pupils visited Morecambe Bay Academy. The pupils were incredibly excited as they arrived at the school and there were noises of astonishment as they entered the Design Technology Workshop at the sheer size and amount of Machinery we have in the department.

Pupils designed and made bug hotels using biodegradable tubing, pinecones, bamboo, branches, and tree bark. Pupils learnt what a Design Brief is and developed design ideas annotating materials that they would use on their final product.

Miss Mitchell would like to say a huge thank you to Greatwood for being so enthusiastic and well behaved and to Mrs. Willis and Mrs. Walker for preparing all the materials and resources for the workshop.

We look forward to welcoming the next class of pupils next Wednesday.



Maths – Inspiration Yr11 Trip to Leeds Playhouse

We took a handful of our pupils to inspire the next generation of mathematicians. Amongst 350 students from around the country were given talks and interactive shows by real life mathematicians and statisticians, some of whom have worked on recent Covid studies for social distancing, statistics for vaccines and also people who have written books and provide challenges for publications such as New Scientist magazine. The students thoroughly enjoyed their day even making it onto the stage at one point and winning prizes ahead of the other schools!





For our A-Level students a new reading initiative

"Read around your subject" - Books recommended by staff for extended reading around A - Level subjects are now available in the library on a new display. The books have been promoted by staff for every A-Level subject and students have all received promotional leaflets.