16th September 2022



Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to our weekly roundup where we share news from around the academy.

Yesterday we paid our respects to Dave McFall by lining Dallam Avenue as the funeral cortege passed the school. It was an incredibly moving occasion, and when the cortege passed the school, the whole crowd was in absolute silence. I was immensely proud of the response from our pupils.

Please do not forget it is the State Funeral on Monday so school is closed. On Wednesday we have our Open Evening and school will close at 1pm in order to get ready for the evening.

Have a great weekend

Gavin Gomersall Principal

Behaviour Update

We have had a very positive week in school, students have really stepped up to meet our standards: they are dressing with pride, behaving in a respectful manner-being punctual to lessons and that they are disruption free-and learning to show kindness to others. We are very pleased with the start they have made to the new year it's been a great start.

In this half term we are focusing on building our value of "Belong" within the academy community, in the last 7 days we have seen excellent examples of students being kind to others and doing the right thing for the benefit of all. Starting with the little things such as the showing of manners, putting litter in the bin or giving a compliment to others. But equally impressive was how our Year 11 students received the guest speaker who delivered a session to them so that they can meet the challenge of the year ahead and effectively prepare so they are ready for their GCSE's in May.

Similarly, despite three defeats, the Y9, 10 and Y11 rugby teams showed great spirit in challenging and competing against the more established Lancaster Grammar School teams on Wednesday afternoon. Finally, as Mr Gomersall has stated, the absolute respect that was shown by all of our community to Mr McFall's funeral cortege.

We are very proud of our students.

Mr Senior Vice Principal

Praise Points

Now that we are fully back into the swing of things at the start of the new academic year, students have started to accumulate praise points. Lots of praise points!

Students receive praise points for hard work in lessons, for pushing themselves out of their comfort zones and really making an effort to make the most of learning time. As last year, students will be rewarded for their hard work. Students will receive badges and other rewards when they reach certain milestones. Form groups will be awarded prizes based on a cumulative team effort. Students can also win vouchers in prize draws that will be taking place each term. The more praise points students have, the more chance they have of winning.

You can check how many praise points your child has using the Synergy login. Remember, every praise point is a pat on the back to say "well done, great lesson".

Mr Adam Johnson Assistant Principal

Year 11 Speaker

At the start of what is to be a very important year for year 11, they had a guest speaker from Made Training in school on Wednesday to deliver a two-hour session called 'exams made easy'.

The aim of the session is to give students the opportunity to learn and practise some new techniques for revision so they can front load their study and get prepared early for the year ahead. The session included how to plan their revision time effectively to maximise their memory and recall of information across all subjects.

We continued into the evening with a parent workshop and information evening to maximise support for the students, so home and school can work together. All the information on upcoming coursework deadlines, recommended revision materials and school interventions will be added to the website and a link sent out via text to direct you to where they are.





Students will also receive a 1:1 career interview with our school careers advisor for some impartial advice on post 16 opportunities. School intervention sessions begin next week for Maths, English and

Science, if your child is invited, please encourage them to attend. We know our students will succeed in the summer and are very proud of their attitude at the beginning of what could be a stressful year.

Mrs Thornton Assistant Principal