Year 10 Newsletter Issue 2



Issue 2 - January 2024

Welcome

Welcome to the second addition of our Y10 newsletter. We have had a fantastic start to Y10, with some excellent results in tracking.

Students sat the first of their assessments at GCSE level covering all subjects areas, including the ones they chose as options. Students were very well prepared for this through their dedication in lessons and also during independent study.

Students received their first tracking report in late November in a slightly different format to previous years – in particular them receiving it first before parents/carers. It was brilliant to see the students collect their report, proudly showing it to peers and staff on how well they have performed.

Should you have any questions around tracking, please don't hesitate to contact the year team directly.



Mr Friar

Achievement Leader Head of Year

Find us here:

Achievement

At the end of our first term, over 150 students got to celebrate their efforts and success in school and attended our annual end of term event. This recognised the efforts students put into school focusing on a criteria of excellent attendance, punctuality and behaviour.







On our final day we also celebrated all students success in each subject area, PSHE and also attendance. A number of students were nonrationed in their subject areas for excellent effort and work produced and received a certificate and reward from the year team.

Assessment Focus

Students will sit their assessment week on w.b. Monday 5 February. These assessments will form grades for tracking 2. All work produced during this half term, and also the previous will form the assessment so it is always imperative that students work hard on their current knowledge and also their previous. Students will have access to all previous work covered.

Students will have an assembly this week to focus on preparations for their assessments. The main message we want to send to students is:

"In the weeks leading up to your next set of mock exams, you should be preparing.

1. Your teachers will be helping you to prepare for these assessments in lessons – attendance is key!

2. The 2 weeks before the tracking assessment you will be set Revision homework – completing all homework tasks is essential.

3. There is nothing stopping you from revising independently."

Attendance Matters

As always, one of our main priorities is student attendance to school. We strive that all students achieve 96% and above and work hard with them to achieve this. Your support in getting your child to school each day is imperative – thank you for your continued efforts with this.

Should your child be unwell, please ensure that you inform the Academy ASAP to avoid a truancy call being sent to you.

Reading Spotlight

Year 10 continue to enjoy their reading in Ready to Learn. They selected from a series of excellent titles including "The Poet X" by Acevedo, "The Outrage" by Hussey, and "More Than This" by Ness. If any students would like to read one of the other books at home, please do come and see me and I will loan out copies!

World Book Day is fast approaching on March 7th, and we have organised another Book Fair from Scholastic. Watch this space for more details. The library is open every day with thousands of books available ... it's well worth a look!

Finally, we have launched a new debating club called "Let's Talk". We've already had a large number of students attend and know that it will grow over the next few weeks. Please do encourage students to get involved and see either Miss Guthrie or me for more details.



Very best wishes, Mr Lovelady - Director of Literacy

Trips and Events

On Monday 15 January, our Y10 students watched a performance to support their English Literature.

One of the texts that will be examined in the year 11 English Literature GCSE is the novel 'A Christmas Carol' by J.B. Priestley. To further enhance our students' understanding and revision of this text, we have arranged for a theatre company to come in to the academy and perform 'A Christmas Carol' for our students. We believe that this is an excellent opportunity for deepen their students to comprehension of the novel and its themes.

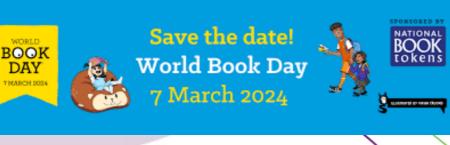
This performance will provide a fantastic revision opportunity for our students as they analyse the story in a visual format, allowing them to gain new insights into the characters, plot, and the overall message of the novel.

Home Learning Focus

As you will have noticed, we put a lot of emphasis on independent learning for our students. Students completing homework is imperative for the subjects they are studying for their GCSE's. Please try and support your child to complete all homework – students do have access to homework club which takes place each day after school in EG02.

Our home learning policy can be found on the Academy website.





Curriculum Spotlight



Students are currently learning new, and revisiting existing knowledge for their new unit, Component 1. This component is called Exploring Enterprises, and is where students will have the opportunity to focus their research on a local SME. This is a coursework unit, where they will continue to use the analytical and evaluative writing skills that were refined in the last term when completing Component 2. The main skill required here, will be to apply the knowledge that they have learnt to the enterprise that they have chosen to focus on. Key new theories include, Primary and Secondary Market Research, and PEST and SWOT Analysis.

Core ICT • • • • • • • • • • • •

Year 10 students are currently completing the OSA Certificate of online safety. The certificate covers essential content, including: online bullying, grooming, radicalisation, sexting, safe use of smartphones, digital footprints, live streaming, gaming, reporting of concerns and more. Students are directed to important advice from the likes of ChildLine and ThinkUKnow.

ICT • • • • • • • • • • •

Year 10 students are working on their controlled assessment to produce an Interactive Digital Multimedia Product. Students complete a range of activities from producing relevant pre-production documents, creating several interactive components, to producing the IDMP itself. They then test and review their work to recommend areas for improvement and further development.

Computer Science • • • • • • •

Year 10 students are developing their practical programming skills using the programming language Python. They are fundamentals focusing on key programming concepts, such as: sequence, selection and iteration to develop their programs as well as incorporating defensive design techniques such as Input validation to ensure their programs are both efficient and effective.