

Dear Parent / Carer,

Thank you for all of your support for this term, we have seen a lot of activity going on in and out of the Academy. After a difficult term for our staffing we are delighted to inform you that after Easter Mrs Berry (RE), Miss Shelley (English) and Miss Hanlon (English) will be joining our team.

We have recently achieved the Inclusion Quality Mark. The assessor was so impressed that we will be a centre of excellence for inclusion. More detail about this will be released when the report is published after Easter. Thanks to everyone who was involved in this process, especially parents and students. The assessor was highly impressed with our school and our community.

Thank you for your patience regarding the current building works, especially the parking situation. Your continued support is appreciated. Please see the picture below of the ongoing works. Whilst it doesn't look great at the moment, we are assured there will be a brilliant and larger bistro for the students come September.

We would like to thank Martin Hyman for his presentation to Year 11 students during Holocaust Week. It was really interesting to hear about his family's journey from Poland, through Austria and then onto England during real times of challenge and persecution. We also thank the Dan Fox Federation for coming in to speak to a range of year groups about knife crime in Liverpool and his personal experience of this topic. We are also very grateful to Sale Sharks, Wigan Athletic and all of our local colleges and training providers who have continued to support a wide range of students in school with skills workshops and assemblies about post 16 choices.

Over the past few months we have been in a privileged position regarding our trips and experiences which have included the Jewish Identity Workshop in Wakefield during March, the central Outwood Grange Academies Trust Student Voice conference at Leeds United Football Club and the St Helens Big Chat at the Totally Wicked Stadium where students had the opportunity to talk about experiences of SEND education and how they felt supported with their learning and opportunities to experience workplaces.

We are also very pleased to announce that a group of Year 10 students are also taking part in The Brilliant Club - a scholars programme that provides University PhD graduates who work with students on study skills whilst giving them insight into University tutorials and programmes of study. Tutorials start this week and will give students the opportunity to work collaboratively on a range of topics as they prepare for their final, 2000 word, assignment.

It has been a true delight to see the continued attendance of students at enrichment sessions after school. We have a thriving darts club who meet every Friday and are looking forward to their tournament with Outwood Hindley after Easter. Our performing arts department are also very busy preparing for the Summer show of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang and all of the hard work and effort that this group has put into their preparation is outstanding. Our Young Designers did brilliantly to qualify for the V&A finals with an eco-friendly entry that celebrates St Helens Glass Futures scheme.

Our sports teams have had an extremely successful term on many fronts. The KS3 Girl's Rugby Team won the North West Champions Schools Qualifying Tournament resulting in qualification for the North West Counties Final and qualification for the National Cup. The Year 8 Boys Athletics finished in 2nd place in the St Helens Indoor Athletics Event resulting in them going on to the Merseyside Youth Games to represent St Helens. They finished in 2nd place from all schools across Merseyside, an outstanding achievement. The Year 8 Boys Rugby Team have continued their outstanding season reaching the final of both the St Helens Cup and the North West Counties Cup Competitions as well as progressing to the knockout stages of the National Cup.

It is impossible to include every event during a very busy term, but I just wanted to give you a flavour of some of the activities the students have been involved in.

Easter is an opportunity to spend time with your family. We wish you all a great holiday and hope to see all the students return safely on Monday 15th April at 8:20am.

