



Principal's Weekly Update

Friday 20th November 2020

Great Expectations

This week I am delighted to share some incredibly exciting news. Mrs McParland has confirmed that this year, sixteen of our Sixth form students have applied for and been accepted onto the Reading Scholars Programme with Reading University.

This exciting scheme aims to give Year 12 students a real taste of life as a University undergraduate, and provides practical support as participants begin their higher education application process.

Last year, we had one student from the Academy accepted onto this programme so to achieve such a higher number really is great news.

On top of this news, more of our students than ever before have applied for a place at University. 94% of our Sixth form students have applied and the offers are now coming back to them.

This year, the students in the Sixth Form are really leading by example in their attitude towards their studies. Year 13 students have achieved 100% attendance for two weeks of this term.

I would like finish today by passing on huge congratulations to the Year 11 student who have just completed their Pre-Public Exams.

Mr Damian McBeath
Principal

*"The meaning of life is to find your gift.
The purpose of life is to give it away"*

Pablo Picasso

Pupil Voice 'LIGHT' Values GENEROSITY

'To be generous, you don't have to do something big, it can be a simple action. You just need to be ready to put their needs in front of your own.' *Teddy Barden, 8MEY*

'When someone goes out of their way to make sure someone else is happy and being there to help them when they need them. It is also when someone can be generous enough to give money when they don't have much, or offer a safe place to go when desperate for help.' *Mia Camenzuli, 8JMA.*

Keeping you Connected

During the present time we are wanting to keep you informed about events and learning within the Academy. I am, therefore, delighted to inform you that on **December 1st** we will be launching 3 new social media pages to keep pupils, students and parents up to date with news and events within the Academy.

Instagram



facebook



twitter



Message from Leadership

At this time of year, our Year 11 students need to start thinking about their futures beyond Year 11. On Tuesday 24th November at 2.50pm, all Year 11 students are invited to meet our teachers in the Theatre to find out all they need to know about the courses we will be offering here at The John Wallis Sixth Form in September 2021. Students will bring information home about different subjects to discuss with parents/carers and they will also receive the Sixth Form prospectus. Parents and students will then be able to watch a series of videos on the website, from Tuesday afternoon onwards, to find out more about the ethos of the Sixth Form and how we prepare our students for their chosen career paths after the Sixth Form.

Mrs McParland, Assistant Principal and Leader of Sixth Form

A Message from the Chaplain

This Sunday, in the Church calendar, is known as 'Stir Up Sunday'. It gets its name from the opening lines of the weekly prayer used in church, the gist of which is "Stir up the hearts of the people to do good works for others". It has also become associated with the tradition of making your Christmas puddings on that day. Something else to stir up.

My name is Mr Rich and I am the Academy Lay Chaplain. If you would like prayer for anything, a group of staff meet each week for a time of prayer where we would be happy to include your requests. For those and anything else you would like to contact me about please e-mail me: irich@thejohnwallisacademy.org

Updates

There are no changes to the risk assessment this week.

Meet the teacher



I am originally from Hackney in East London and I moved down to Kent to teach science at the John Wallis academy since September.

Recently graduating from a degree in Biochemistry from Queen Mary University, I want to show my students why science is so important. This is especially vital in this climate we live in where we need to distinguish facts from misconceptions.

When I'm not teaching or learning more about science (and when the gyms are open) I enjoy Olympic weightlifting. I am also a keen photographer and graphics designer. *Mr Bahcaci, Teacher of Science*



Local update COVID-19

Ashford

129 cases per 100,000 people in the week 9th November -15th November 2020.

The average area in England had 216.

(source Department of Health and Social Care, via BBC.co.uk)