



Principal's Weekly Update

Friday 2nd July 2021

National Younger Leadership Event

Pupils and students at The John Wallis Academy have represented the Diocese of Canterbury in a year long National Younger Leadership event with the Church of England and the Archbishop of York Trust. Over the course of the year, delegates discussed issues surrounding equality, ending poverty, eradicating racism and homophobia, and environmental issues. On Wednesday, our pupils and students were presented with their certificates for taking part in this programme.

One of our Secondary delegates said *'We need to get more young people involved in things like equality and environmental issues. By doing this, we may realise that every small step really does make a difference and if we are passionate about something, then we should strive for it. I believe that equality and individuality are extremely important in today's society and we should all embrace our differences. We can do this by: talking to a collective group of young people and by informing them on these issues.'*



As always, our pupils and students have shone. They were the only school representing our Diocese in this prestigious national event. The message that they have given is clear and aligned with our Academy values.

Individuals with different cultures, perspectives and experiences are at the heart of our community and our Academy. We recognise that being a diverse and inclusive institution helps us fulfil our responsibility to make a difference to the lives of our pupils and their families.

We consistently seek to promote a culture of respect and dignity and actively challenge discrimination, should it arise.

Mr McBeath, Principal

A Message from The Chaplain

I am currently reading a book called 'The Ruthless Elimination Of Hurry' by John Mark Comer. It has some interesting concepts to reduce stress and hurry in life and find inner peace. One thing that interested me particularly was a section on patience. It used a story from the Bible, Jairus' daughter, to reflect on our response to something that holds up our day.

In the story Jairus approaches Jesus to come to his house to heal his daughter. On the way Jesus is delayed by another person needing healing. The book comments on the fact that Jairus waits patiently while this takes place. There is no foot tapping, no "Come on, you are with me", no checking his watch (I know they didn't have watches). But the point is, how would we react? How do we react? How patient are we?

Mr Rich, Academy Chaplain (Irish@thejohnwallisacademy.org).

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

In recent times there have been many issues that our pupils have been exposed to online, on TV, in the news and on social media. There have been huge global movements such as the Black Lives Matter Campaign, The #MeTo movement, 'Taking the knee' and reports of sexual harassment being endemic in schools across the UK.

As a school, we take these issues seriously and recognise the impact of school closures on limiting discussions and conversations we would have had with our pupils about these issues as they came up, supporting them in understating and communicating about them appropriately.

Below is a link to a questionnaire that we hope to use to measure our effectiveness as a community in dealing with issues of racism and sexism and to inform our future practice. The questionnaire is not compulsory, and it can be completed with your child, or you may do it alone if you prefer. Thank you for supporting us in ensuring our school community shines its LIGHT for all to see.

[Link to questionnaire](#)

If there are any issues relating to this which you wish to discuss further, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Mrs McBeath, Director of Inclusion

Local Update COVID-19

Ashford

47 cases per 100,000 people in the week 21st June to – 27th June 2021. The average area in England had 122
(source Department of Health and Social Care, via BBC.co.uk)

Student Cookbook

