

MMC/GHR

5th May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

In the week leading up to the Coronation of King Charles III, Sir Thomas Wharton Academy has continued to provide exceptional learning experiences for our students. Our post-16 Art students have shown excellent investment in their exams this week, and our year 11 students are fully invested in preparing for their upcoming exams. Elsewhere across the academy, our student parliament delivered food and sweet treats in the community to celebrate the coronation, and our KS3 students have been busy demonstrating just how much they have improved in their writing. Read on to find out more about the past week at Sir Thomas Wharton Academy.

Events/Enrichment

Student Parliament Visit

On Friday, five members of our Student Parliament and our Head Student Lottie Slack visited Headingley Court Care Home, and Edlington Community Organisation (ECO). They were there to deliver some sandwiches and sweet treats supplied by Willows of Warmsworth in honour of the King's Coronation for the residents and visitors to enjoy. Our students spent time socialising with the residents and getting to know about the wonderful work undertaken by the volunteers at the ECO. Everyone was truly thankful to the students and the school for providing them with some special food to celebrate the Coronation together.

Teaching and Learning

Well done to our post-16 students who have been taking part in Art exams over the last week, the levels of effort have been exemplary, and we are looking forward to seeing the final pieces next week.

Our Year 11 cohort are continuing to display the highest investment in and out of lessons as they prepare for their upcoming exams. We will be providing students with access to wellbeing sessions over the exam season to help them best prepare with the demands the examinations bring. Please contact Mrs Wileman if your child has not accessed this support previously and you feel this would be beneficial to them.

No More Marking

This week has seen the start of the *No More Marking* assessments. All students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will complete the second round of testing for the No More Marking assessments. This assessment is an unaided writing task in response to a stimulus and will generate a writing age for each student. Students already have a writing age from the first round of testing that occurred in September. The assessment will measure how much progress students have made over this academic year, and it is therefore vital that students invest fully when completing this piece of work. Prior to completing the No More Marking assessment, classroom teachers will set a piece of homework that centres around transactional writing and will help prepare students for the set task. Much like the NGRT reading data, writing ages will be sent home so that parents can celebrate the progress that has been made.

Standards

Uniform standards remain exemplary, and we thank students for following the uniform policy. As part of the high standards set out in the uniform policy, there are expectations for makeup and jewellery. Make-up should not be noticeable and should always be light, natural looking and discreet. Dark highlighted eyebrows, bright coloured lipstick, dark foundation, highlighter, fake tan, painted nails, nail extensions, gel nails or false eyelashes are not allowed to be worn under any circumstances. The only item of jewellery permitted is a watch. This item must be removed for practical activities. No jewellery permitted including earrings, rings, spacer piercing retainers or tongue/nose piercings. No smart watches are to be worn within the academy. Any other items will be confiscated immediately, and parents/carers must collect them from reception between 7:45am and 4:15pm Monday to Thursday or 7:45am to 4pm on a Friday.

Inclusion Partnership

To further encourage all students to reach their potential and to build greater consistency between school and home, we would like to invite parents and carers to our Inclusion Partnership meeting on Thursday 18th May. It is important to us that all stakeholders play a part in ensuring that all our students can flourish in an environment which fosters positive behaviour role models. This meeting will give parents and carers the opportunity to meet with other parents and carers and to feedback to STWA staff about how they feel about behaviour management. If you would like to come to the meeting, please email e.dixon@stwacademy.com or l.queen@stwacademy.com

PCAB (Parents and Community Advisory Board)

Our next PCAB meeting is being held at STWA on Wednesday 12th July from 5-6.30pm. This meeting is your opportunity to find out more about the exceptional learning opportunities on offer at STWA, as well as give your feedback on anything concerning the improvement journey that the academy is on.

Please register your interest with g.harris@stwacademy.com.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mr. M McDonald
Principal

