

Our ref: MMC/GHR

09 February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

What a fantastic half term. We have had record numbers of applications for job roles and have recently had confirmation that applications for our year 7 cohort are the highest that they have ever been. These indicators, alongside this summer's results that were the highest the Academy has ever achieved, are all real indicators of the progress that we are making towards our vision.

We have exciting plans for our enrichment programme next year and, as you will read below, these have been in part shaped by your input.

Teaching and Learning

We have seen some exceptional gains in the completion of Y7 homework over this half term as students have received fortnightly prizes in tutor time to acknowledge 100% completion of their homework. We will be continuing to review students' feedback on homework rewards as we look to roll out a broader homework reward scheme over the next half term.

Thanks to all parents who provided us with feedback on the academy curriculum this half term. We value your thoughts, ideas and solutions and feel incredibly grateful for your engagement with our parental surveys. We will be using your feedback as we shape our curriculum plans for 2024/2025.

Events and Enrichment

Doncaster Rovers sessions

Over this half-term, we have welcomed staff from Doncaster Rovers Football Club to work with our students as part of an intervention. The focus of this intervention is to give students an opportunity to be mentored and supported by professionals who will deliver weekly sessions over the term; focusing on football and study skills. So far, the students have accessed practical sessions, learning core skills of footballing as well as classroom-based sessions, reflecting on the students' investment and future aspirations.

Youth Question Time

On Tuesday, Mr Hawcroft and Miss Gerrard had the pleasure of taking our Sixth Form students to London to attend BBC Question Time, at Westminster Abbey. Students were able to meet political figures and listen to inspiring debates on a variety of social issues. Prior to the trip, students were asked to propose a series of questions to be put forward to the panel; out of the seven questions asked, two of the questions were those composed by our students! After the event, students were able to spend some time exploring the tourist hotspots of London, including Leicester Square, China Town, walking along the River Thames, Borough Market and Covent Garden.



NHS Presentations by Better Learners; Better Workers

Tuesday saw our 10 Better Learners; Better Workers students attend St Mary's Church at Bramall Lane to deliver presentations to NHS representatives on how to prevent strokes. Students stood and delivered their presentations in front of a room full of other students, staff and parents and were all incredible. Over the last few weeks, they have researched how to prevent strokes and produced videos, animations and PowerPoints highlighting how to react to strokes or measures that could be taken to prevent them. All the students developed their public speaking skills.

Standards

Please can we remind parents to check ClassCharts for all the latest updates with regards to students' progress each day. If you have any issues with logging onto ClassCharts, please do speak to your child's pastoral team who will be able to support.

Parent and Community Advisory Board (PCAB)

Be a part of shaping our school's continuous improvement journey by joining our PCAB at the next meeting on Wednesday 28th February from 5.00pm - 6.00pm at STWA.

The agenda will be as follows:

- The new enrichment model
- Planners
- Detention system

You can register your interest on this form <https://forms.office.com/e/vek7YVUXv1>

Yours faithfully

Mr. M McDonald
Principal

