

Our ref: MMC/NWI

14 November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a truly uplifting week at STWA, filled with achievement, aspiration and community spirit. From record-breaking attendance at our Sixth Form event to outstanding student engagement across enrichment, sport and personal development, our young people continue to embody the values and ambition of our academy. I am incredibly proud of the dedication they show—whether in the classroom, on the sports field, or through their contributions to our wider community. Thank you, as always, for your unwavering support; together, we are creating a vibrant, thriving environment where every student can flourish.

## **Teaching and Learning**

### Sixth Form

#### Year 11

Students have completed trial examinations this week in English, Mathematics and Science. We have been incredibly impressed by the investment of students, with many students opting to attend our breakfast pre-Achieve sessions in the diner to take advantage of free tea and toast, and resources to support their preparation.

Next week, students will move into an Achieve week to complete further assessments in their option subjects, which will determine the grade that students are currently working at, with trial examination results being shared with students in a results assembly in the final week before Christmas.

### Tassomai

Once again, students in years 10 and 11 continued to perform in the top 1% of schools nationally due to their superb investment in Tassomai, which included over 210 hours of quizzing in year 11 and 106 hours of quizzing in year 10.

A reminder that all students are expected to use the app to achieve their weekly goal, which takes an average 15 minutes per subject. Further information about Tassomai and its potential impact can be found here: [How does Tassomai work? — Tassomai](#)

## **Careers**

Last year we reintroduced work experience with an overwhelming 100% success rate. This week we launched the Work Ready Programme with year 10, where students learn skills to help them become work ready. This will end with a 1-week placement from the 6 to 10 July 2025. For this, you can support your child in securing a placement through Unifrog. More support for parents will come in January DTBC.

This week students developed a deeper understanding of the Green Industry as we celebrated Green Career Week and deepened their knowledge of what jobs are out there beyond the obvious.



Please give us a follow on Instagram and spread the word; type in [@STWACareers](#).

## **Personal Development**

### Enrichment Electives

This Wednesday marked the last week of the first block of electives. It was fantastic to see parents and carers in school for the creative showcase celebrating students' efforts and hard work. Block two elective choices are being finalised and will be shared in the coming days. If your child is placed in an offsite elective, please make sure you complete the consent form which will come out on ClassCharts.

### Enrichment Clubs

Enrichment clubs continue to go from strength to strength as we see numbers grow each week. It is so pleasing to see so many of our students attending extra-curricular opportunities; for more information on enrichment please see the Enrichment Brochure which can be found on the academy website.

## **Sports Fixtures**

### Year 7 Girls Football

On Wednesday, our year 7 girls played Rossington Academy and were victorious with a 2-1 win. Not only did the girls have lots of fun, but they also showed great teamwork and resilience – which is what they have been working towards. Miss Cooper is incredibly proud of them all!

Women of the match is Layla.

### Year 8/9 Girls Football

On Wednesday, our year 8/9 girls also played against Rossington Academy's year 10 team and were unsuccessful with a 4-2 loss. The girls should be very proud of their performance; some of them were playing against students two years older.

Women of the match is Phoebe.

### Ks3 Badminton

On Thursday, the badminton team travelled to their first fixture of the year where they came away victorious. Out of the 12 games that were played, STWA won 11 of them! Mr Webb and the students have worked hard at lunchtimes and Tuesday after school, in order to get to this point and this performance is testament to their hard work and dedication to improve.

Player of the match is Kelvin, who demonstrated a lethal serve and ensured that his opponents had absolutely no way of returning it!

Well done boys!

## **Events**

### Pride of Edlington Awards

We are delighted to be supporting the awards which are designed to celebrate Edlington and showcase the incredible people and work which takes place across our community. The PoE awards will recognise individuals, groups and organisations who go above and beyond to make Edlington a better, brighter and more connected place to live. Nominations are open to everyone and fall in the following categories:



1. **Community Champion Award**  
Honouring an individual who consistently goes above and beyond to support others and make a positive difference in the lives of those around them.
2. **Young Star Award**  
Celebrating a young person (under 18) who is making a meaningful impact in their community through kindness, leadership, or initiative.
3. **Volunteer of the Year**  
Recognising someone who has shown exceptional dedication through voluntary service, giving their time and energy to help others.
4. **Unsung Hero Award**  
For someone who works quietly behind the scenes, making a big difference without seeking recognition.
5. **Cultural Contribution Award**  
Acknowledging those who enrich Edlington through arts, heritage, or cultural activities that bring people together and celebrate identity.
6. **Safer Neighbourhoods Champion Award**  
For an individual or group working to improve safety and wellbeing in the community, helping to make Edlington a safer place for all.
7. **Beautiful Edlington Award**  
Celebrating efforts to enhance the local environment - whether through gardening, clean-up projects, or creative beautification.
8. **Business Making a Difference Award**  
Recognising a local business that goes the extra mile to support the community and contribute to positive change.
9. **Community Project of the Year**  
Highlighting a project that has had a significant impact on local lives or spaces, improving Edlington for the better.
10. **Carer of the Year**  
Honouring someone who has taken on a caring role, dedicating time and compassion to support a family member, friend, or someone in the wider community.
11. **Caring Neighbour Award**  
For those everyday heroes who go out of their way to help others - whether it's with errands, companionship, or simply being a friendly face in the neighbourhood.

Please scan the QR code to make your nominations, you have until Friday 19 December to nominate!



On Saturday 8 November, our PE department took a group of 28 students to watch England vs Fiji in the Quilter Autumn Internationals. The pre-match entertainment did not disappoint with pupils and staff participating in the outstanding lights show/fireworks, proudly singing the National Anthem and showing respect for those who had served in a moments silence for remembrance. The game saw lots of offloads, tries scored and was enjoyed by all in attendance.



On Tuesday 11 November, members of our Student Parliament represented the academy at this year's Armistice Service. During the ceremony, they laid a wreath on behalf of our school community and read a poem as part of the remembrance proceedings.

The students conducted themselves with great respect and maturity, and we are very proud of the way they honoured those who have served and sacrificed.

In school we marked the occasion with a minute's silence followed by a musical Lament.

Some of our elective students created a poppy wreath and Parliament students sold poppies raising over £150 for the Royal British Legion. We would like to extend our gratitude to all students and families who continue to support our charity pledge.

### **Youth Mental Health Peer Support Programme**

This morning, we successfully held our first round of the STWA Youth Mental Health Peer Support Programme. Students who have achieved accreditation in youth mental health support have been able to put their training into practice this morning and deliver a superb first session. Both student leaders and attendees have demonstrated excellent participation and engagement as they have met their mentor and covered their first topic--discussing the importance of making new friends within secondary school.

Students have completed mindfulness exercises and had open conversations which will continue as we progress further into the programme.

### **House Updates**

This week, Chatsworth have held onto their lead with over 4000 house points! They are being closely followed by the other houses who are chasing for the top position. As we head towards the end of term one, students are competing for our first house reward which will be a Christmas cinema screening afternoon. All students in the winning house will be offered a ticket to attend, as long as they have a minimum of 20 house points and less than 50 negatives.

This week, we have held our annual Children in Need event where students in KS3 have completed a rowing challenge from Land's End to John O'Groates. Students have been busy collecting sponsorships and competing to see which house can row the furthest distance. We have also continued our Children in Need Extravaganza with our student parliament selling cupcakes throughout the day and also supporting our rowing challenge!

### **Standards**

This week is Anti-Bullying Week, and as part of this, we will be running a series of assemblies focused on helping students understand what bullying is, how it can affect others, and the steps we take as a school to prevent and address it. These sessions aim to reinforce our values of kindness, respect, and inclusion, and to ensure all students know how to seek help if they ever need it. Thankfully, bullying is rare in our school, but if you do have any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact your child's Student Achievement Leader.

### **Attendance**

We would like to strongly encourage all parents and carers to regularly check ClassCharts to stay up to date with their child's attendance. It is important that you are aware of how many days your child has missed from their learning.

Every day away from the Academy represents over 6 hours of lost learning time. Our whole-school attendance target is 97% or higher for all students. This means that students should miss no more than 6 days in a full academic year.



We understand that illness and other unavoidable circumstances can occur. However, missing more than six days of school in a year equates to over 36 hours of lost learning, which can have a significant impact on your child's progress and achievement.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child attends school every day and on time — every lesson counts.

Yours sincerely

Mr M McDonald  
**Principal**

