

WIXAMS ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2022



Wixams
Academy

WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

I write to you as we see glimpses of spring and a more settled year ahead. As always, I thank staff, you and the students for your support and hard work in making the Academy such a positive place to be. We have navigated an extremely difficult period in history and I am proud of the resilience and optimism shown by our whole community.

A major focus for us this year is our first set of public exams for Year 11 in the summer. They are working very hard and many will be joining us for revision sessions over half term.

In addition, Year 8 will begin to choose their GCSE Options soon and Mrs Hepburn will be writing home separately about this. This is always an exciting time when students can begin to shape their own educational journeys.

Sixth Form plans go from strength to strength, with us hitting the milestone of 100 applications from 'Lower Sixth' students to join us in September. We can also now confirm that we **WILL** be running all of our advertised courses in September, so there is no risk of your subject being 'pulled'. You can find out more about sixth form on our website.

We are expecting a visit from our friends at OFSTED in the next few weeks. You will be notified the day before they visit. I have circulated a document to you called 'Academy Key Principles', which outlines our ethos and approach to all areas of the Academy. Please have a read and, as always, I would welcome your feedback.

Finally, we have exciting plans afoot with a significant expansion programme on the horizon. There will be a press release in the coming weeks which will explain more.

I would like to wish you all a happy and restful half term break and look forward to welcoming students back on the 21st of February at 8.40am.

Paul Spyropoulos
Principal



THE WIXAMS ACADEMY VALUES
DETERMINATION
RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY
COMMUNITY • HONESTY
COMPASSION

SPRING TERM 2022

Dates

Wednesday 5 January 2022 - Friday 1 April 2022

Half term: Monday 14 February - Friday 18 February

Training Days: Tuesday 4 January, Tuesday 19 April

Bank Holiday: Monday 3 January 2022, Friday 15 April, Monday 18 April

Easter Break: Monday 4 April - Tuesday 19 April

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Dates	Information
Monday 14 - Friday 18 February	School closed for half term
Wednesday 2 March	Year 8 reports go home
Thursday 3 March	Year 8 Subject Evenings 2.30pm-7.30pm SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 2.00pm FOR ALL STUDENTS
Tuesday 8 March	Year 8 Subject Evenings 2.30pm-7.30pm SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 2.00pm FOR ALL STUDENTS
Tuesday 8 March	Year 9 ASDAN Oral Presentation
Friday 11 March	Option Booklets go home
Week commencing 14 March	Year 11 MOCKS
Thursday 17 March	Year 8 Options Evening 4.30-6.30pm
Friday 1 April	Last day of term
Monday 4 April - Tuesday 19 April	Easter Break
Wednesday 20 April	Students return to school - 8.40am

CONTACT DETAILS

Main Office email	info@wixamsacademy.co.uk
Head of year 7 (Mrs N Biddles)	nbiddles@wixamsacademy.co.uk
Head of year 8 (Ms C Stacey)	cstacey@wixamsacademy.co.uk
Head of year 9 (Miss H Stack)	hstack@wixamsacademy.co.uk
Head of year 10 (Mrs C Mountain)	cmountain@wixamsacademy.co.uk
Head of year 11 (Mrs A Maddox)	amaddox@wixamsacademy.co.uk
School Office hours are 8.00am - 4.00pm. Please inform the school office if you have changed any home or emergency contact numbers.	



HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES

YEAR 7

It is hard to believe we are already at the end of another half term. It has been a difficult one in terms of illness and absence, but I am really pleased to say that our overall year group attendance is on the up again. I wish those that are still poorly a very speedy recovery and look forward to welcoming you back soon.

Year 7 have been working hard to ensure that standards are high throughout the year group and the tutor team have been carrying out regular equipment and uniform checks. If parents could support us by ensuring that students have the correct equipment (including a named water bottle please) and that uniform is full and correct, whether it is for PE or a normal school day, we would be very grateful. Please do call or email form tutors to let them know if there are any issues with replacing any items of equipment or uniform.

We have also had a real push on punctuality across the year group and students have made a significant improvement there – well done! Congratulations to 7A for taking the top spot on achievement points for the year group for this half term. Can they stay there for the rest of the term? We shall see!

Sporting success continues to be a real area of strength for Year 7. Keep up the good work! I am delighted to see so many of you taking part in the extra-curricular clubs and representing the Academy. There are so many physical and mental health benefits to participating in sport, as well as transferable skills like leadership, communication, teamwork, etc.

A big thank you to all of the Year 7 parents that attended the Resilience workshop with Miss Stacey on 27th January. It was a really interesting and informative evening with lots of useful strategies. Please watch this space for other similar workshops in the near future.

Year 7 had their full year group photo taken this week to formally mark the beginning of their Wixams journey. Proofs of the photographs taken will be available shortly. I look forward to comparing it with their Year 11 equivalent in a few years' time!

Wishing you all a fantastic half term break.

Mrs Biddles

YEAR 8

Well done Year 8 for showing resilience and adaptability when you had to learn from home again this term. You have been brilliant. Thank you to everyone who joined the Resilience workshop on the 27th January. It was lovely to share information and ideas around building resilience and we would like to offer more of these sessions. If you have any ideas on what topics our school community would benefit from then please let us know.

We have a bake off competition coming at the end of February which will be open to all years and in aid of two charities chosen by year 8 students.

Keep being fantastic.

Miss Stacey

YEAR 9

Well done to Year 9 for another successful half-term within the Academy.

Well done to all of those students who have taken part in extra-curricular activities, performances and sporting fixtures throughout this term, you are a credit to the year group.

Thank you to all those students who have joined our new Yoga & Mindfulness club and intervention, it is great to see some of you trying something new!

Good Luck to our students who are taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award, who are going on their first trek on Friday.

Thank you for all you hard work.

Have a wonderful half-term!

Miss Stack

YEAR 10

Well done Year 10 on another great half term! We are now halfway through the school year!

We have had some great sporting success this half term. Well done to the Year 9/10 handball team who were the overall district winners. A big well done to all the year 10's who took part in the school cross country and a special shout out to Nadia (1st), Nick (5th) and Alex L (9th) who have all qualified for the county cross country.

Year 10 this half term have also had the opportunity to attend our future focus event where they have been able to engage with a variety of careers providers to support them in thinking about their future choices.

As always please do not hesitate to contact me with any concerns or questions.

I hope you have a lovely break.

Mrs Mountain



Year 9/10 Handball team

YEAR 11

Well done to all of Year 11 for their Mock Exam results, I am very proud of their hard work and effort, well done to you all!

Following the release of the Mock Exam results, predicted grades and subject consultations pupils now have a focus and are receiving interventions and support for the upcoming March Mock Exams. In the next few weeks pupils will also receive sessions on revision techniques and skills, subject specific revision sessions (including half term sessions) and support around managing exam stress.

In addition to all of their hard work Year 11 have been busy preparing for their next steps Post-16.

Pupils have been supported in a number of ways and have been busy applying for courses, many have had interviews with providers and we look forward to our own Sixth Form interviews taking place shortly.

Preparation for Prom is well underway and the fundraising committee have been actively fundraising to help make the event memorable occasion. Look out for upcoming events.

I hope you all have a restful half term and I look forward to another successful half term after the holiday!

Mrs Maddox



DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

PE

Our extra-curricular achievements so far this year!

- Year 8 Boys Football League Champions!
- Year 7 Boys District Dodgeball Champions and Runners up
- Year 7 Girls District Dodgeball Champions
- Year 7 Boys Football undefeated league champions!
- Year 7 Girls Basketball District Champions
- Year 8 Girls Basketball Second in District
- Year 7,8,9,10 Girls District Rugby Champions
- Year 8/10 Boys District Handball Champions!
- Year 9/10 Boys District Handball Champions
- Year 9/10 Girls District Handball Champions

A massive thank you to our PTA for donating £800 towards our goal in providing new fixture kits for our sports teams! We are seeking sponsors to assist us in meeting this goal. If you would like further information regarding sponsorship please contact Miss Goodwin or Mrs Nash.



MATHS

The NSPCC's Number Day is an annual fundraiser taking place in schools across the country. This year Wixams students donated money to pit themselves against our Number Day Escape Room! Student has already begun the challenges in a tutor time numeracy activity and on Friday lunchtime many turned up to crack our code and escape.

Well done to everyone who took part, and a special thank you to everyone who donated. We raised over £200 to support the NSPCC and Childline.

Congratulations and thank you!

ROUND UP FOR NEWS

ACHIEVEMENTS

Y7 student signs for Aston Villa. Our current Y7 student Curran Chahal has been offered a football Academy contract with Aston Villa FC after 10 week trials. Well done to Curran and of course the supportive family that he has taking him to training and matches. Many congratulations to Curran and your family.



SAFEGUARDING

Safer Internet day took place on Tuesday 8th February 2022 and all years were taking part in activities relating to creating a better internet for all. The theme for this year's event is 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online.'

WELLBEING

February is not all about sending Valentines to others. It can also be about showing compassion and care for yourself which is of course one of our Wixams values. How can you show a little more compassion to yourself? Try this: Speak to yourself in the same way you speak to those you care about.



Don't forget to join our Facebook page too and don't miss out the latest news and activities about your school.
www.facebook.com/wixamsacademy





Tel: **01234 608950**

Email: **info@wixamsacademy.co.uk**

Web: **www.wixamsacademy.co.uk**

