

WIXAMS ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2022



Wixams
Academy

WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

As the term draws to a close, I look back on another year filled with positive memories of your children making us proud in so many ways at the Academy, supported by the most committed staff group. It really is such an honour to be the Principal of this Academy.

It has been a challenging year but we are excited to have our new Trust CEO, Hywel Jones and our new CFO, Mr Tony Quinn onboard who will help us further improve our Academy.

It has been a great pleasure to begin to see families coming back into the Academy, firstly for the Christmas show and then with the return of our live parents evenings, a Sixth Form parent evening and a Behaviour Forum in July. We intend to continue as many face-to-face meeting opportunities as possible next year, so that we can work closely and collaboratively with you to give our students the very best education and experience possible.

The end of an academic year brings some sad goodbyes and we are most grateful to the following staff who are leaving and wish them the very best:

Ms Keith
Ms Woods
Mr Morris
Ms Farrow
Mr Ali
Mr Ouaguena
Ms Reilly
Ms Jesus
Ms Little
Ms Higgitt (returning after Maternity Leave)
Ms Loynes

We are also welcoming many brilliant new staff members including:

Mr Rob Mercel	Assistant Principal/ Head of Sixth Form	Mr Roberts	History
Mr Ahmed	Business	Mr Stevens	Maths
Miss Blessing	Music	Mrs Taylor	Design Technology
Mr Byatt	Sociology	Mr Roylance	Science
Mr Craze	History	Ms Hartwell	French
Ms Cunliffe	Business	Ms Boszer	Office
Miss Culley	Geography	Miss Sanghera	Attendance Officer
Miss Della Ripa	Spanish	Mr Mutsekwe	Behaviour Manager
Miss Downing	Law	Mr Nembhard	Behaviour Support Worker
Miss Gosling	English	Ms Martin-Bryan	LSA
Miss Hide	Media	Ms Iantosca	LSA
Ms Junor	Physics	Ms Vale	LSA
Miss Rahman	Criminology	Ms Bowling	Technician

Looking forward to September, exciting developments include extra art and food rooms. September also heralds the opening of our Sixth Form, which is another proud first for the Academy.

Following the successful 'Behaviour Forum' with parents in July, we will be holding similar events termly going forwards and I look forward to seeing many of you at these events in the future.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a peaceful and happy summer holiday.

Paul Spyropoulos
Principal



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

SUMMER TERM 2022

Wednesday 20 April 2022 – Friday 22 July 2022 (last day of school term)

Half term: Monday 30 May 2022 – Friday 3 June 2022

NOTE – The last day of the summer term this year is Thursday 21 July and school will be closed on Friday 22 July in lieu of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

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

Congratulations to Year 7 for reaching the last half term of your first year of secondary education at Wixams Academy and what a year it has been!

On 30 June we had our first Year 7 Subject Review Evening. There was a really positive vibe to the evening and it was so nice to finally have the opportunity to meet many of you in person.

On 6 July, Year 7 had their rewards day. Each tutor group was able to spend some time on the giant inflatables during the course of the morning. In addition to this, students were set a 'Moon Landing' task (where their job was to prioritise items for

survival on the moon), solving clues to identify the murderer in the 'Whodunnit?' and the challenge of building a marble run that could keep a marble rolling for as long as possible - using lolly sticks! Students then had a choice of afternoon activities: rounders tournament, film or art & craft activity. It was a very action-packed day and both the students and the tutors really threw themselves into the spirit of things! A big thank you to Miss Sultana, Miss Longstaff, Miss Crapnell, Mr Davies, Mrs Wincent and Mr Ferguson for their support in making the day run so smoothly.

A big congratulations to Oakley who passed his karate black belt grading earlier this month! He took it totally in his stride - cool as a cucumber! Well done, Oakley!



As I write, our sports days are around the corner and I am looking forward to ending year 7 on a high note with our final celebration assembly. I wish you all a great Summer break, keep yourselves safe and I look forward to seeing you all again in September.

Mrs Biddles



YEAR 8

Well done Year 8 for an excellent year. You have all worked very hard and had great achievements in sports, academics, performing arts and extracurricular activities. I am really looking forward to Year 9 and seeing you grow and mature as you start your GCSE journey. Students have spent a lot of time carefully picking the correct subjects and I know that you will all make the best of the learning opportunities available to you.

We had our first trip out as a year group and they were absolutely excellent, enjoying every minute and making great memories. Don't worry Year 8, we have plenty of pictures of you all on the Ladybird Roller-coaster!

At the end of each term we give out some awards including Values Awards and Head of Year Awards. It is always so hard for me to choose as you are very good at following and showing our Wixams Values. The amazing Year 8 winners this Summer term are:

Value of Honesty: Dusan and Ruby H-S

Value of Responsibility: Sophia G and Giuseppe

Head of Year Awards: Dylan H and Ame C

Have a fantastic Summer Year 8 and see you in September

Miss Stacey

YEAR 9

I am incredibly proud of Year 9 this year and all they have achieved. This was the year groups first full year at the academy without any COVID interruptions and it has been a rewarding one!

Some of our achievements in Year 9

As an Academy we have been following Elizabeth's BMX Competing Journey since joining us in Year 7. Following a serious injury only 7 weeks ago Elizabeth has shown resilience and determination by getting back on the bike to compete at Peckham National. Elizabeth is competing with others a year above her and got a podium place by achieving 3rd place!

We are incredibly proud of you! Good Luck at the World Championships Elizabeth, we are all behind you!



Year 9 Fundraisers

Naima and Emma have raised **£860.97** for period poverty in Bangladesh. They were also part of the team alongside Thomas and Naya who raised **£220** for Ukraine.



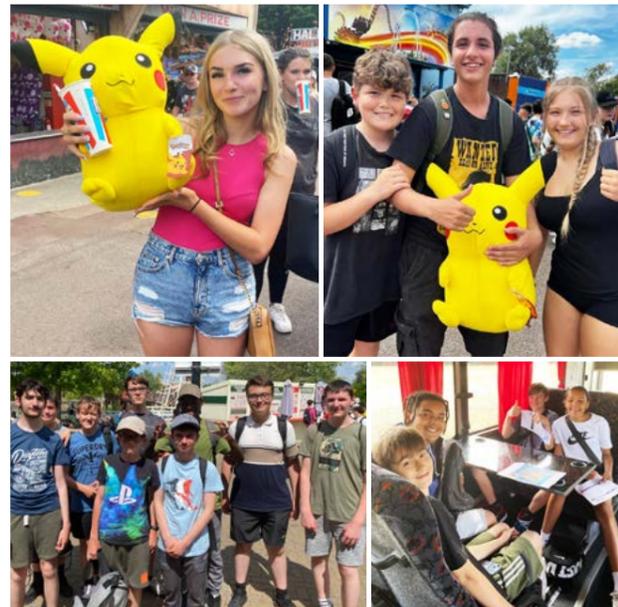
A huge congratulations to all of those who took part in the Duke of Edinburgh Expedition. It was tough but you all showed great resilience and determination. Well done!



Thorpe Park: We had a brilliant time at Thorpe Park for our end of year trip. The students made the academy proud and had a great day!

I look forward to continuing as your Head of Year into Year 10. Have a wonderful Summer & see you in September!

Mrs. Davies



YEAR 10

As I write this we are 3.5 days away from the end of Year 10 and I actually can't believe we are heading into our final year the last 3 years that I have been their Head Of Year has flown by! This last half term as always has been a busy one with work experience, trips, DOFE and sports day to name just a few things. I was extremely proud of all of Year 10 on work experience, they all demonstrated real maturity and worked so hard. We received some great feedback from employers and students.

As you know Mrs Davies and I took Year 9 and 10 to Thorpe Park and despite how busy it was and all the queues they had to stand in the students really did us proud and were amazing and we hope they enjoyed themselves.

I won't talk too much about Year 11 now but what I will say is that as we head into Year 11 I am sure there will be mixed feelings amongst the students but as always please know we are always here to support them.

I hope you all have an amazing summer and I look forward to seeing all the students in September.

Mrs Mountain

YEAR 11

Year 11 have now completed their GCSE's and are enjoying a well-deserved rest! They all worked extremely hard through the exam period and I am immensely proud of all of their hard work and effort.

It has been an emotional few weeks saying goodbye to our founding members with lots of memories made. To celebrate their hard work and the end of their journey at Wixams Academy we enjoyed a couple of days of leavers activities and celebrations including shirt signing, an ice cream van, leavers assembly and the eagerly awaited Prom.

I feel very privileged to have been part of their journey and miss them being around the Academy! They have all grown to be such amazing individuals and they all have a bright future ahead.

Thanks again to parents and carers for your kind messages and gifts, they are greatly appreciated.

I look forward to seeing you all on results day, in the meantime I hope you all have a wonderful summer.

Mrs Maddox



DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

CAREERS

Year 10 Work experience

It was fantastic to see all of our Year 10 students out on Work Experience at the start of July. This was quite an achievement post pandemic, at a time when many businesses (and schools) are not getting involved with Work Experience. Our Year 10's were a real credit to themselves, their families and the Academy and all said they had learnt a lot from the experience.

A huge thank you to all the employers (many of whom were Wixams parents) for hosting - we really could not have done it without you! Special mention to Mrs Farayi Agbame our careers advisor who has been such a support throughout this process, and who very sadly leaves us at the end of the academic year. She will be missed. Our new careers advisor Mrs Katie Bastians begins working with the academy in September and comes highly recommended by Mrs Agbame. They have worked closely together so that the transition will be smooth for your children.

Advance warning to Year 9 parents - we will be asking your child to source their work experience placement from Easter 2023. Now is a good time to begin discussions about what they would like to do, and to speak to any family members/friends who may be able to host a placement! Have a great summer!

Mrs L Pearson and the Careers team



EXAMS OFFICE

Year 11 - GCSEs

The Exams Team would like to say a big thank you to our Year 11 students for the exemplary way that they conducted themselves during the recent first GCSE season. Our invigilators commented on how impressed they were with our students, in particular how polite and respectful they were. Thanks also go to parents, we know how much you were doing at home to support the students to perform well in their exams. A special shout out goes to home language students Chenay Lima, Joanna Lewandowska and Olivia Pawlowska who sat Wixams Academy's first GCSE papers at the end of April, but also the very last ones after the prom weekend! We are very proud of all our year 11 students, and wish you all the best for your results day on 25th August, and for your next steps.

Exams Office team

PERFORMING ARTS

Year 9 - Map Dance workshop and showcase

Year 9 dance students participated in a dance workshop with a professional company called Map Dance. Mapdance performs diverse repertoire by renowned and upcoming contemporary choreographers. This year the company has commissioned new works by Sarah Golding, Keira Martin, James Cousins as well as the re-staging of Robert Clark's piece 'Closer' created especially for Mapdance 2022.

The students performed their choreography at The Venue at a showcase last term in Milton Keynes, and did brilliantly with not just learning their choreography and technical exercises but with performing them.



Congratulations Dance students

Super well done to the following dance students who are thriving outside on school and deserve a massive congratulations on their efforts.

- Lottie** - Well done for achieving a gold medal in a gymnastic competition.
- Orla'** - Well done for participating in a musical show.
- Chloe** - Well done for competing in a gymnastic competition.
- Kera** - Well done for performing in a play.
- Emily** - Well done for completing a number of dances with Sophie May School of dance at a showcase on the 9th of July, as well as competing a number of dance exams. Keep up the amazing work Emily!



Drama Year 10 students

Super well done to Year 10, Nadia, Jessica, Kieran and Ella for performing their first drama assessment. They created an amazing informative devised performance based on mental health issues. All students informed their piece with confidence and maturity as they tackled difficult topics; such as anorexia, schizophrenia, bi-polar disorder and post-traumatic stress. Keep up with the hard work!

BTEC HOME COOKING SKILLS LEVEL 1



Last term saw our Level 1 Home Cooking Skills practical assessment for Year 10 and 11. I am exceptionally proud of all of them and what they achieved over the course, and especially on the

assessment day. Alongside gaining some excellent food preparation skills, a good understanding of food hygiene and safety, recipes and ingredients, they have developed patience, resilience, determination, courage, organisational skills and independence. We have found that things don't always go to plan, but we can learn so much from that too.

On assessment day we had some wonderful dishes prepared including pies, burgers, pizza, lasagne, kebabs and pasta bake. All of it was cooked from scratch! They all challenged themselves in what they chose to cook and executed it safely, so I was happy to taste it. They will receive their results in due course.

I wish our lovely Year 11 students all the best for the future, and I look forward to working with our Year 10 students in Year 11, to continue on to the Level 2 course. Have a fantastic Summer!

Amanda Thompson

ROUND UP FOR NEWS

CASTING CALL!

Coming March 2023!

Matilda
THE MUSICAL JR.

Auditions to be held on
Wednesday 21st September
15:00-17:00 Main Hall

Ernie Ball Music Man guitars in the US, with the offer of an artist's agreement. With the contract now in place, Music Man will provide guitars and accessories to Tommy in exchange for his participation in promotional videos and social media endorsements.

On 3rd September, Tommy will be headlining his own gig at The Soundhouse, a small independent music venue in Leicester, which will be followed by further gigs through to the end of 2022.

Well done Tommy! You are a star!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Our student Eddie is a star! As a basketball player for Wales U15, Eddie played against Scotland U15 twice in Dundee, and Wales won the heated Friday night game 67-71 and the Sunday morning game 46-79. Eddie was captain for both games and will receive his first two junior international caps.



GUITAR IS HIS PASSION

In May, our student Tommy played his first proper gig at a Metal Music fest, held at the Cart and Horses in East London, which was famous for having Iron Maiden in residency during the late 70's. Opening the show, he gave a stunning 45 minute masterclass. You can access to it here: www.facebook.com/tommynewsteadofficial/videos/546802423678295

In June, Tommy was scouted by Robert M Knight, a renowned rock photographer from the US, whose portfolio includes The Rolling Stones, Jimi Hendrix, etc.

In July, following an introduction by Robert Knight, Tommy was approached by the A&R director from



READING CHALLENGE

SUMMER READING BINGO

Complete 1 challenge to receive a Golden Ticket.

Complete 6 challenges to receive a Golden Ticket + prize

Complete 15 or more to receive a Golden Ticket and a prize + entered into a prize draw!

COLLECT A SHEET FROM MRS T IN THE LRC OR DOWNLOAD ONE FROM PARENTMAIL OR SACHEL ONE.

Share photos of you completing some of the challenges

Send them to: athompson@wixamsacademy.co.uk

WE NEED YOU!



We are looking for:

- Experienced cook
- Assistant Cook

.....

Full training and uniform provided

All offers are made subject to an enhanced DBS check and applicant's eligibility to work in the UK.

We are looking for new member of the Dolce family to work with us in our school kitchen.