

7th July 2023

Wixams Academy



Newsletter

Greetings from the Principal

Dear Families,

We are approaching the end of the Academic Year here. This brings much excitement with trips, visits and performances, but we also begin to implement changes for the next academic year and I will be communicating these with you over the next two weeks. For example, you should have received two ParentMails from me today: one is a survey about the affordability of our uniform and the other is the Action Plan, which has come out of the hundreds of you who completed the Parent Survey back in May. Please read both Parentmails carefully and come back to me with any questions or thoughts.

Do enjoy the rest of the newsletter. We have a remarkable trip to the battlefields of France to repatriate a wartime relic; a surprise visit from an old artist friend and an England Footballer and news about our upcoming Art and Performing Arts shows.

Finally, it is a very busy final two weeks, with numerous off site activities, so please read the 'Upcoming Activities' overleaf to keep fully abreast of our calendar.

Thank you

Have a great weekend,

Yours sincerely,



Paul Spyropoulos
Principal

One of the lovely parts of my job is receiving surprise visitors. Here are Bonnie and Mandy showing me Bonnie's amazing artwork!



Upcoming Dates

10 & 11 July	Rearranged Sixth Form Induction Days for internal and external applicants
11 July	Year 10 Geography GCSE trip to MK
11 July	Year 12 Subject Consultation Evening 4.30-730pm
12 July	End of Year Reward Trips
12 July	GCSE Art Show 4-530pm
14 July	Sixth Form Sports Day
18 July	Years 7-10 Sports Day at Athletics Stadium (see separate Parentmail)
19 July	Wixams Academy Summer Show (Evening)
20 July	Last Day of Summer Term. Day will finish after lunch. Times TBC.

A Visit from an Old Friend - Dionne Ible



Dionne is a talented Mosaic artist and was our 'Artist in Residence' when we opened in September 2017. Dionne worked with the whole academy – 100 students and 7 members of staff – to design and create our stunning mosaic, which takes pride of place in our dining room.

ON the left is Dionne in 2017 and the picture on the right was taken yesterday. You haven't changed a bit Dionne!

If you want to find out more about Dionne's work, check out Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/QemamuMosaics/?locale=en_GB and episode 3 of Channel 4's Changing Rooms.

Weekly Progress Pictures

WILLMOTT DIXON
SINCE 1852



Central foundation reinforcement complete and concrete pour in progress.



Central concrete pour in progress.



Building MEWP mat installation in progress.

GCSE Art Show Announced!



ART EXHIBITION

 **Wixams**
Academy

Wednesday 12th July
4pm – 530pm

The poster features several circular images of student art: a still life with perfume bottles, a human torso with a green screen, a peacock, a person with a red mask, a portrait of a person with stars, and a pink flower.

Last weekend I went with my local church to a village on the Somme called Doingt to take back a cross that had been sitting in our church in Rutland since the First World War. It had been rescued from the mud in 1916 by a British Army chaplain as the village and local church had been completely destroyed. In 2018 after our Remembrance Day service at our church in Tinwell, this story was recounted and my son Jono checked on Google Maps to see whether it had been rebuilt. It had and so his suggestion was we should return it. Nearly 5 years on and with COVID delaying our plans – the cross was handed over last Saturday and placed back in the church from where it came. We were shown great hospitality and warmth while we were there, and it is possible that our two villages may become twinned in the future!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m001njjs>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leicestershire-66042731>





Chas McDevitt

Teacher of Music

Performing Arts – “Thank you!”



“On behalf of the entire performing arts department, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your incredible donations. Your generosity has transformed our space into a haven for creativity and inspiration. The equipment, instruments, and resources you provided will empower our students to reach new heights in their artistic endeavours. Your support means the world to us, and we are immensely grateful for your dedication to nurturing the performing arts. With your help, we can continue to cultivate a vibrant and enriching environment for our talented students. Thank you for making a profound impact on their lives.”

Miss Vanessa Pereira

Head of Dance



Our students were lucky enough to meet a truly inspirational figure this week, as we welcomed Shelbee Clarke to the Academy on Thursday morning.

Shelbee is an amputee footballer who plays for Chelsea FC and is currently the only female representative within the England amputee football team.

Having represented her club and country, Shelbee spoke to our students about her life and her journey, with key themes such as resilience, kindness and humour shining through.

Shelbee made a wonderful impression on our community and we look forward to welcoming Shelbee back in the future. Thank you to our colleague Calvin Williams (LSA) who helped to organise such a fantastic guest speaker.



**FREE
ACTIVITY**

PARK SPORTS

**Basketball, Tag-Rugby,
Volleyball, Kick Boxing, Ultimate
Frisbee, Circuit Training**

**Kempston Youth Club
Hillgrounds Road, Kempston
Saturday, 2nd & 29th July
and 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th August
3.00 - 5.00 pm**



JOIN US, EVERYONE WELCOME!



For more details contact Wendy 07780 448599 or email
wendymillgate@4ypuk.com



**FREE
ACTIVITY**

PARK SPORTS

**Basketball, Tag-Rugby,
Volleyball, Kick Boxing, Ultimate
Frisbee, Circuit Training**

**Woolpack Hub, Commercial Road
Tuesdays, 25th July
and 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th August**

**Wixams - Lakeview Village Hall
Wednesdays, 26th July
and 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th August**

**Great Denham - Community Centre
Thursday 27th July
and 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th 31st August**

**All sessions 5.30 - 7.30 pm
For ages 11-17 years**



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