



# Newsletter

## 10 May 2024

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**TOLL BAR**  
SIXTH FORM





## Mr Whittle

As the first full year group examination takes place today, I wish the very best of luck to all our Year 11 and Year 13 students taking GCSE and A-level exams over the next few weeks. I have seen at first hand this morning the exemplary preparation and revision students have put in to these exams and could not be prouder of them.

A message directly to students taking examinations - we appreciate this is a challenging and nervous time but you have worked so hard and, hopefully, you feel very well prepared. I hope you also feel incredibly well supported at school. Please do not hesitate to talk to your teachers and pastoral team about any issues you may face or anything that is worrying you. Do your best and you will get the outcomes you deserve.

Earlier this week, it was a pleasure to host colleagues from another group of schools based in Sheffield, on Wednesday morning.

Specifically, they came to look at behaviour at our academy and their visit followed a talk I gave recently at Cambridge University.

They spoke to staff about how our behaviour policy works but I was particularly proud to introduce them to a group of students who have benefitted enormously from our consistent approach.

Our guests left with a fantastic impression of our academy and young people. They were bowled over by how calm our school is and how polite and respectful our young people are. Thank you to all who spoke to them and left such good impressions.

Visitors are always welcome at the school, whether from away or closer to home.

It is why, for the very first time, we are holding open mornings for parents whose children are at local primary schools in Years 4 and 5.

They will be held on Wednesday, 25 June, and Wednesday, 17 July. Leaflets with more information will be distributed across the area's primary schools and the events will feature across our social media channels.

We will be holding our normal Year 6 open evening in September but this is a chance for prospective parents to see our academy in action during a typical, normal day.

I am sure they will see at first hand why I am so proud of the progress we have made at the academy over the last two years and experience for themselves our fantastic teaching and learning environment.

I hope many parents take up the invitation and I look forward to welcoming them.

Year 5 pupils themselves will have an opportunity to experience the academy in a series of taster days in July. We are coordinating with colleagues in primary schools and our thanks to them in advance.

I am certain Performing Arts will be of interest to many of those pupils and we are excited about our forthcoming production of *Matilda the Musical*. This year, we have introduced Drama and performing arts in to the curriculum for the first time and I am so pleased to see how the new arts team have provided such creative and engaging experiences and opportunities for our students.

There are two performances of our first production *Matilda* at 7pm on 26 and 27 June at the Parkway Cinema and Theatre in Cleethorpes. Dropping in on the rehearsals currently taking place is one of my favourite times of the week - the cast have gone from strength to strength and I know everyone who attends will be in for a real treat of a performance in the summer. Tickets can be bought here [Matilda The Musical JR](#)

The ability that will be on show was also apparent at our annual Waltham Toll Bar's Got Talent competition.

I was one of the judges who had difficult decisions to make after a real variety show. Well done to all involved and to Miss Carter and the team for organising it.

I'd also like to congratulate sixth formers Amelia Aston-Ottoy, Amy Frost and Elsie-May Naylor who travelled to Lincoln's Bishop Grosseteste University to pick up their Pre-Teaching Awards in a special ceremony, an achievement highlighted in this newsletter.

Finally, well done to the latest students to have received a Principal's Award Ashton Board, Cora Stead, Evan Wilson, Freya Donner, George Capes, Kian Larkin, Max Ware, Mila North, William Green, William Skivington, Zaryana Prvschepna. I look forward to hosting them in my office.

Thank you for reading the newsletter and your support of the academy.

N.J. Whittle

Principal

### Year group totals:

1<sup>st</sup> - year 7: 185,306

2<sup>nd</sup> - year 8: 176,527

3<sup>rd</sup> - year 9: 107,058

4<sup>th</sup> - year 10: 94,841



## Year 9 rugby

### Teams meet in the final

The A team were victorious winning all of their matches without conceding a try in a truly dominant display of rugby. What was most impressive was the manner in which they carried themselves during the afternoon.

We entered two teams into the tournament so more students could have the experience of school rugby, which can sometimes prove to be difficult to manage logistically.

However, the maturity of the members in the A team, particularly Sam Chorlton and Jacob Hood, was amazing to see. The team chose their own line ups, rotated their substitutes and playing time and showed real independence to effectively manage their afternoon. Even as an academy member of staff, their maturity was above and beyond all other schools at the event.

The B team only lost one match, which was to our A team, and whilst I offered them more guidance and knowledge due to their inexperience, they were an absolute delight to have that afternoon. Whilst only one Waltham Toll Bar team could win the trophy, both sets of players deserve equal recognition.

Well done to all!

Mr Cowie





## Free GCSE breakfasts

We are providing all Year 11 students who are taking a morning exam, a free breakfast! Year 11 students should aim to arrive at the academy for 07:45am, to prepare for their morning exam.

We are aware that there are numerous traffic works around the town at present, so please take the opportunity to come early to school on those days, enjoy a good free breakfast and ensure you are in plenty of time.

## Debate Mate regional competition

Students from across the region travelled to Franklin College to compete in the Debate Mate Cup, a competition against other secondary schools following months of preparation in our popular personal development Debate Club.

The Waltham Toll Bar Academy Team was Leo Fell (Year 8), Peyton Collins and Evelyn Garnett (Year 9) and Damion McCrory and Freddie Chappel (Year 10).

The team competed in a range of debates on topics as diverse as social media, music, the environment and work/life balance. All students showed fantastic knowledge, forethought, thinking on their feet and style.

Given only 15 minutes to prepare from hearing the debate and which side they must represent, to presenting their argument, the team worked together and made excellent points, using their skills to the best advantage and beating Wintringham.

Scoring third overall, the team was praised for their style and technique by the judges. Notable wins also came from Freddie Chappel who won the prize for the best question asked on the day across all schools present.



The Waltham Toll Bar Academy team also scored the best attendance of any team across the programme and best team spirit for the manner in which they conducted themselves and supported others.

Well done to all involved in Debate Mate 2024 and we look forward to 2025!





## CPSHE - first aid

Students across all year groups have been reminded about online dangers, in particular, sextortion, as has recently been reported on the news. Unfortunately, this is becoming an ever bigger issue for our young people.

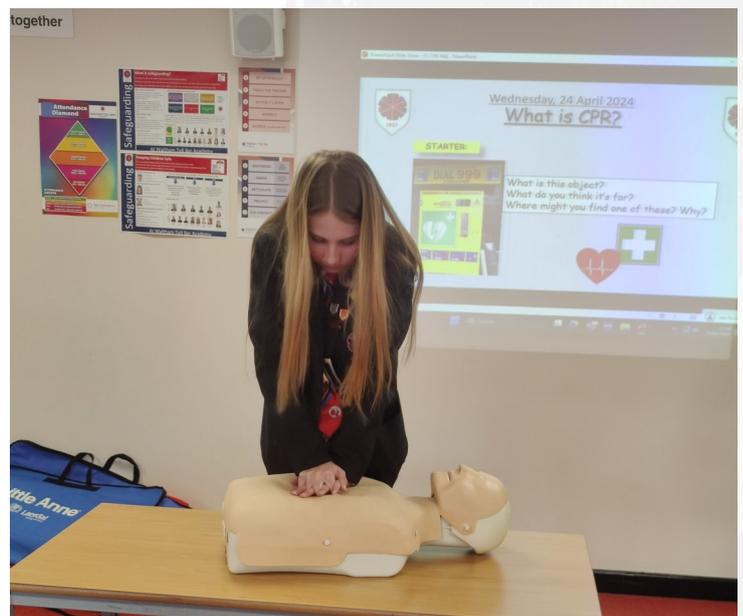
We have encouraged students to speak out if they are concerned about anything online. As well as this, we have explained how sextortion works and given out lots of practical tips to stay safe online.

We have advised students to check their social media settings and to not communicate with people they do not know.

All Year 7 students have been learning basic first aid skills in their CPSHE lessons this term. Students did a fantastic job putting the skills they had learnt into practice. As well as CPR, students have been learning how to treat heavy bleeding, burns, severe allergies and asthma attacks.

The CPSHE team are offering Year 11 students a quiet space during the time leading up to GCSE exams. Year 11 students are welcome to come to the CPSHE office at break, lunch or after school for a cup of tea, biscuits, therapeutic colouring or just a chat and time out.

Year 12 students will be having a special assembly on Monday, 13 May. This assembly comes ahead of the summer break when many students are socialising more or attending end of year parties and festivals. The assembly will be a reminder of the dangers of taking illegal drugs and practical ways to keep away from these, peer pressure and information on tackling difficult situations. It is important all students are aware of the reality of, the presence of, and the dangers of illegal drugs.





## Year 12 Crandale residential

Year 12 Biology students returned from their 2 day residential at the Crandale Centre in Malton on Friday 3 May. The trip gave students the opportunity to study and sample various sites, investigate stages of succession at a local quarry, and test out kick sampling techniques at two river locations with expert ecologists. Students have been able to complete additional ecosystem practicals to support their achievement of their A level Practical Endorsement, in addition to honing their crayfish sampling skills!



The students had a brilliant time learning new sampling techniques and hearing from the centre staff about their experiences in ecological sampling. If any students (16-18 years old) would like additional opportunities to get involved in wildlife conservation and ecosystem studies, applications for the Young Darwin Scholarship are open until 12 May (details on how to apply have been shared with 6th form students).





## Uniform swap

Following the success of 2023's Uniform Swap, the WTBA Eco-Committee are again hosting "Re-Love Your Stuff".

The students of the committee are asking for their peers to bring in any old uniform which is still in good condition which they no longer require.

We kindly ask any uniform donated is in good condition and that no used socks are donated. All proceeds from the event will be donated to a local charity, The Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust.

Any donations must be brought in by 1 July, 2024. Please see the poster (right).

The Waltham Tollbar Eco-Committee and Miss Wright, Environmental Coordinator.

WTBA Eco-Committee presents

### Re-Love Your Stuff Uniform Swap Donations needed

**What can I donate?**  
 Any WTBA Branded uniform  
 School shirts and trousers  
 School shoes / PE Trainers  
 Any general clothes you wish to recycle  
 School Bags/ Backpacks

Donations must be in good condition, with no holes, stains, rips or broken zips!

Hand any donations into reception or students services on your way into school by 1st July, 2024.

Speak to Miss Wright if you have any more questions!

## Safeguarding

As we are very aware, a large part of everyone's job at our academy is keeping our young people safe. With this in mind, and with the summer holidays fast approaching, we wanted to share below the link to our academy Safeguarding Policy.

[child-protection-policy.pdf \(walthamtollbaracademy.co.uk\)](http://walthamtollbaracademy.co.uk/child-protection-policy.pdf)

If you could take a look and if you have any concerns about your child or another who attends our academy please contact our Designated Safeguarding leads Mr Fothergill or Miss Karaolides as stated within our policy. Thank you .

