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TOLL BAR
SIXTH FORM





Waltham Toll Bar

Academy Newsletter

Mr Whittle



It might be the end of the term (and year) but the plethora of opportunities given to students have continued to be unrelenting.

I reflected on the staff team's collective achievements at an end-of-term get together.

I recalled one of my walks around school last week.

On that day there was a trip to Rome; a visit to the Northern School of Contemporary Dance in Leeds; the Year 11 boys' football team playing in a cup final; trials in badminton and swimming; mentoring specialists Inner Drive working with Year 11s and their families; Year 6 pupils from Waltham Leas on a visit; and rehearsals for our big production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

It provided a snapshot of what we are working to achieve. On the same day, the validated results from the summer were published, with the academy comparing favourably with others locally.

We had the second highest percentage (42.9%) of Year 11 achieve grade 5 or above in English and Maths, 10% above the local authority average.

The academy topped the table for positive destinations, with 98% of our large cohort going on to further education, securing an apprenticeship or gaining employment.

These statistics are a credit to those Year 11s and their families and staff team who have supported them.

The second Year 11 Maximise evening was very well attended.

Inner Drive gave sessions to families explaining their work with the students around motivation, resilience and organising time ahead of mocks and GCSEs next year.

I saw another perfect example demonstrating our efforts around aspiration in the Sixth Form College this week.

There, a good-sized group of Year 11s gave up time over lunch to attend a webinar by an adviser from the University of Cambridge. It came about because of the numbers of Year 10 and 11s attending an initial session in the lecture theatre.

The university's representatives were so impressed by the numbers and questions they offered the exclusive webinar.

It was a pleasure to invite a representative group to my office to hear their feedback.

Ilyn, Matthew and Martha were a credit to their year group. Focused on their studies, they were also clear about their future paths.

The live stream, in which they asked questions, had been invaluable and, in one case, had meant an immediate change of heart in terms of potential A-levels. Thank you to Mrs Clorley for organising what had clearly been an inspirational session.

Elsewhere, congratulations to those Year 8s and 9s who finished first and second out of 60 teams from across the Humber, Yorkshire and the Midlands in one round of a live, online Christmas Quiz hosted by the Advanced Mathematics Support Programme.

Well done also to the following students who have achieved these totals this half term:

Fantastic work: Cip V (10E), 37 times; George D (10L), 35; Dylan K (7E), 33

Outstanding effort: Tyler C (7I), 28 times; Jessica T (7A), 26; Savannah R (7I), 25.

Learner of the lesson: Dhruv S (9J), 10 times; Niranjana S (7B), 9; Oscar C (7C), 9; Georgia H (7J), 9; Ruby T (9E) 8.

Postcard home: Lily-Rose S (10C), 10 times; Cody K (10A), 7; Oliver M (10C), 6; Jacob H (10C), 6; Lauren H (11E), 6; Dawid S (9F), 6.

Finally, thank you to those who performed in the annual Christmas Concert at All Saints Church in Waltham.

Staff and students received some terrific feedback and I note it has been well received on Facebook and Instagram. Thank you to Mrs Carter and the team for organising.

It remains to wish all our Waltham Toll Bar Academy community a merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and successful New Year.

Mr N J Whittle
Principal



Waltham Toll Bar Academy Newsletter

Inner Drive

It was great to have Inner Drive in the academy to work specifically with our year 11 students on exam performance. Inner Drive are a coaching mindset company who produce their methods based off data and research. Inner Drive delivered two assemblies to our Year 11 cohort and two specifically targeted workshops for our students as they prepare for their upcoming mock examinations and GCSE exams. Feedback from students and staff was extremely positive.



The School Scribble

Students have worked hard to create the final edit of the School Scribble. Students have come to each session with a range of ideas showing their pride in both the local and school community. They have created an impressive range of articles on topics including a spotlight on local, global and the LGBTQ+ community. Developing their interview techniques students have posed a range of questions to many people allowing them to write remarkable articles which have developed their literacy and editing skills. Members of the School Scribble are looking forward to seeing their final published copy around the Academy soon!



December 2024



Meet Our Principal!

Members of the School Scribble had the opportunity to interview Mr Whittle, selecting intriguing questions to discover more about the Principal of Waltham Toll Bar Academy. Students, donning their Waltham Toll Bar press passes, were welcomed into the Principal's office to take a seat.





Spreading Christmas cheer!



Our Year 7 French Christmas Choir visited local primary schools in the run up to Christmas. They sang songs in French and shared some interesting facts about how Christmas is celebrated in France with the primary pupils. Their lovely singing (and dancing!) was enjoyed by East Ravendale CofE Primary School, Holton le Clay Juniors, Scartho Academy Juniors, Springfield Primary Academy, Fairfield Academy and Enfield Academy of New Waltham. The Year 7s had volunteered to join the choir and rehearsed over a few lunchtimes in the weeks beforehand, getting to grips with tricky French lyrics sung to some well-known tunes. They all loved singing to the primary school children, especially as some got to visit their old schools, and thoroughly enjoyed being "Toll Bar On Tour". Thank you to all for hosting us.



Thank you all so much for your support with the Year 7 French Christmas Choir over the past few weeks! We had our final visit this week and this photo really captures the moment as they sang their hearts out one last time. Joyeux Noël!

Christmas creations

The well-being team, led by Tamara Susewitz, hosted a wreath-making workshop for staff. The kits provided enabled staff to create some beautiful wreaths, with their wreath-making accompanied by some festive music and Christmas nibbles. Several took them home to finish off their decorations, embellishing their wreaths with lights too. Thank you to all who took part and we hope your homes look gorgeous, festooned with your seasonal creations.





Rome trip



At the start of this month, 39 of our Year 11 and Year 13 students embarked on a 4-day residential visit to Rome. Whilst in the Eternal City, students had the opportunity to explore some of the majestic sights of Rome including the Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain, Papal Basilica of Saint Mary Major and Piazza del Popolo. Students and staff were also treated to guided tours of the Colosseum, Vatican Museums, Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Basilica by charming and knowledgeable guides Richard and Luca.

Many, many, many steps were walked, lots of good food consumed and many memories created during this once in a lifetime trip. A big thank you to all students who took part in this trip and represented Waltham Toll Bar Academy and Sixth Form perfectly and to Mr Tye, Miss Elimlahi and Ms Kuurstra for accompanying Mr Walker on this trip.



Panto time!

55 Year 7 students attended the pantomime at Grimsby Auditorium. The students were taken on a humerus journey through Dick Whittington meets Pirates from the Caribbean. The students enjoyed joining in with the classic pantomime traditions 'he's behind you' and 'Oh no he's not'. A fantastic afternoon was had by all.





Christmas performance



Our annual Christmas performance took place at All Saints Church, Waltham. The festive performance featured a variety of pieces.

We started the evening with our choir singing The First Noel which was a beautiful opening to the performance. We then heard a range of other classic Christmas carols such as, Jingle Bells, Carol of the Bells, and Away in a manager. Our violinist helped to get the audience in the Christmas spirit playing Fairytale of New York. Key

stage 3 students reminded us of the true message of Christmas when performing How the Grinch Stole Christmas. The A Level Dance students then wowed the audience with their Bob Fosse influenced performance to a Michael Bublé Christmas classic. We were taken back in time with Year 10 Drama students to watch a devised performance of Twas the Night before Christmas. Year 10 Dancers then performed in the aisles making the audience feel as if they were part of the action. The performance closed with the audience participating in the singing of White Christmas.



Shoe box appeal

Year 9 have been busy organising and preparing shoeboxes for the Shoebox Appeal this year. 9G contributed 12. Well done 9G!





Maths kahoot



Some of our students took part in AMSP Mathematical KS3 Christmas Quiz. This is a live online event for Year 8 and 9 pupils across Yorkshire, The Humber and the East Midlands. The event takes place over a couple of days so, while we do not know where our teams have finished overall, our students had lots of fun answering accurately mathematical questions against the clock.



In this round, there were more than 60 teams that entered and Waltham Toll Bar Academy had teams that finished first and second.

Congratulations to those students who participated.

Christmas Jumper Day

Students and staff celebrated Christmas Jumper Day by wearing their festive jumpers. The day was a great success and raised £213.44 for Save the Children.





CPSHE



Students have worked extremely hard this term and thoroughly enjoyed the range of topics explored.

Year 7 students have completed their puberty topic and engaged in this with a mature attitude.

Year 8 students have been learning about UK law. They have engaged in debates about the justice system, discussed the possible reasons why crime is committed and the purpose of punishment. Students also learnt how young offenders are dealt with and the reasons for this.

Year 9 students have learnt about UK democracy, the voting system and how laws are made. Students explored all the ways they can play an active role in improving their own communities and the roles of members of parliament.

Year 10 students have been looking into medical ethics and had debates on issues such as euthanasia, exploring their own views on the current bill on assisted dying in the UK.

Year 11 students have completed their applications for their next steps at college and have been learning various revision techniques and completing their personal revision timetables.

We will continue to support students with their applications, interviews and any concerns they may have moving forward.

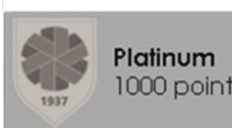
We look forward to introducing a new range of topics in the New Year to all year groups and inviting some speakers in to further bring some important issues to life. Well done to all of our CPSHE students.



Waltham Toll Bar Academy Newsletter

'Celebrating students'

(5th December–19th December)



Congratulations on a fantastic term filled with lots to celebrate! We are incredibly proud of the amount of achievement points our students have received which are very well deserved and reflective of their fantastic contributions and outstanding effort: to see find out more, please follow our social media accounts on Instagram and Facebook.

Class Charts and MyChildAtSchool app:

As we move into 2025, we will longer be using Class Charts to reward achievement points or set detentions. From January, this will all be on one app: MCAS (My Child At School App), keep everything in one place. Please bare with us as we carry over achievement point totals onto the new app, we are hoping totals will be up to date by the end of the second week back (Fri 17th January). If you have any questions or concerns, please email enquiries@tollbaracademy.co.uk FAO Mrs S Brown.



End of Term 1:

Year Group Leader board:

Position:	Year group:	Total Points:
1st	Year 9	174,721
2nd	Year 8	173,403
3rd	Year 7	171,824
4th	Year 10	159,960
5th	Year 11	85,118

End of Term 1:

Current Form Leader Board:

Year Group:	Form Group:	Total Points:
Year 7	7G	16,019
Year 8	8G	20,880
Year 9	9D	18,779
Year 10	10C	18,186
Year 11	11E	9978

Current Reward Badge Totals:

On a weekly basis, achievement point badges are given to students via their form tutors at the start of the day. We are currently in the process of ordering more bronze badges, if you child has not yet received their bronze badge, please reassure them that they will be on their way very soon. Any questions regarding badges, please email enquiries FOA Mrs S Brown.

'Learner of the lesson':

Huge congratulations to all students who have received 'learner of the lesson' which is awarded through Class Charts.

To make this an even bigger reason to celebrate, if your child receives three or more nominations for 'Learner of the Lesson' they will receive a postcard home.

Since our last newsletter, the following students achieved three nominations:

Year 7: Niranjana S 7B, Jessica T 7A, Sienna S 7C, Connor M 7L.

Year 8: Poppy D 8D, Connor B 8J, Can G 8C, Kyla L 8G, Armanie R 8D, Lily F 8B, Tommy S 8I, Aidan W 8I, Freddie G 8G.

Year 9: Dhruv S 9J (7 nominations!), Lily S 9D, Ashar A 9D, Tydan S 9L, Saqr G 9J

Year 10: Ruby A 10B

Year 11: Sophie C 11D, Ruby I 11I, Harry G 11J, Lennon B 11M.



Celebrating Attendance:

To maximise your learning potential, punctuality and high attendance is important to us. Throughout the year, we acknowledge and reward those with excellent attendance and those who have committed to improving their attendance throughout the year: here's how:

Weekly:

Every week, if your child's attendance has improved, they are entered into the year group 'Spin the Wheel' on Monday during form time. Winning names receive a 'Skip the Lunch Queue' pass for a week.

Half Termly:

At the end of every half term, those with improved attendance over the half term will be invited to 'Movie & Munch' in our lecture theatre. Students involved will be informed during their assemblies next week.

Termly:

At the end of every term, students with 97-100% attendance will be invited to an 'Attendance Breakfast' to celebrate this achievement.



Term dates

6 January	Return to school for spring term
13 January	Year 7 Parents Evening
22 January	Year 12 Business Inspire Day—Lincoln University
27 January	Year 13 Parental Consultation Evening
29 January	UCAS application deadline
3 February	Year 8 National Space Centre trip
5 February	Year 10 WEX assembly
5 February	Year 13 Business trip to Amazon