



PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

NEWSLETTER – Week 8

24 October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

As the first half term draws to a close it gives us a great opportunity to reflect on the positive start made to the new academic year. There have been a number of highlights from the first 8 weeks which I have captured within the newsletter. As you will see it has been a busy few weeks with the next half term promising much of the same.

Every year at Wath Academy we commemorate the contribution of British and Commonwealth military and civilian servicemen and women involved in the two world wars and later conflicts.

The Royal British Legion will attend assemblies for every year group, there will be banners and poppies on our railings to commemorate the former Wath pupils who made the ultimate sacrifice, and we will be observing the 2 minutes silence on Armistice Day as a whole school.

We would like to invite parents/carers to observe the 2-minute silence with us on Monday 11 November. The hall will be open for refreshments from 10.20am and then we will go outside just before 11am to hear a reading and observe the 2-minute silence.

Please complete the attached MS form to confirm your attendance.

<https://forms.office.com/e/65qTACstxG>

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of the academy and we hope you have a fantastic half term break.

Yours faithfully

Mr Ransome
Principal

Key Dates:

Friday 25 October
Inset Day

Monday 11 November
Armistice Day

**W.C 18 November –
W.C 25 November**
Year 11 Trial Exams

Tuesday 26 November
Year 7 Parents Evening

Tuesday 03 December
Year 8/9 IEP Reviews

Friday 06 December
Careers Fair

Click here for our term dates
and INSET days.

[Wath Academy Term Dates](#)

Sixth Form Open Evening



**Wath
Academy
Sixth Form**

OPEN EVENING

Thursday 7th November 2024
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm



Half term Round Up

Week 1

In the final weeks of last year, we were notified of the Tour of Britain route, and we felt we couldn't miss the opportunity to get all 2000+ students out onto the street to watch the event, despite it being the first week of term. Seeing the entire academy lining the pavements of Sandygate provided staff with a real sense of pride. The student's engagement in the event and their behaviour was impeccable. It is at events like this that re-enforces the importance of making positive school memories and providing exceptional experiences. The feedback we've received from event organisers and the community was fantastic.



Week 2

Week 2 of the year saw us install brand new audiovisual equipment in the hall. We now have 2 x 96inch TV screens either side of a 5m screen over the stage. Additionally, we now have a surround sound system, the new equipment will significantly improve the experiences of students and visitors for assemblies and events.

Week 3

Each year we engage in a Trust Safeguarding Audit. This year's audit took place with the Trust's Director of Safeguarding heading up the process. The day comprised of meetings with our DSL Mr Davies, our Vice Principal, Mr Hopkin, myself, a selection of staff and a group of students. The day was very successful with the Director of Safeguarding being incredibly impressed by our systems, processes and culture.



Week 4

We welcomed over 1600 people into the academy to showcase what we have to offer for our students. Parents/carers received presentations from myself and Mr Davies before being toured around the academy to each subject area. It was amazing to welcome so many people from our community. We were also so proud to see our students play such a prominent role in the evening, listening to them perform in department areas but also talk with such passion about their subjects was great to see and hear.

Week 5

We welcomed over 30 external providers to the academy from local businesses and further education. Students had the opportunity to visit stalls and ask questions with a view to further informing them of what they may be interested in for the coming years. The event was a great success, and it was a pleasure to welcome so many visitors.



Week 6

Week 6 saw us host our first PCAB (Parent & Community Advisory Board). It was great to see the group grow once more for the year ahead. Leaders presented on enrichment, SEND & Inclusion as KS3 reporting mechanisms. Once again, we received really useful feedback from parents which we will look to implement moving forwards.

Week 7

We welcomed Y11 parents to launch our Y11 revision strategies. Mr Oldfield presented to parents on some key revision strategies and all students received a personalised revision bag. The bags contained revision guides for each of their subjects as well as revision materials such as post it notes, highlighters and flash cards. Thank you to all those who attended the session.



Week 8

On Monday, we hosted our annual Murder Mystery Evening. Year 13 Drama students have worked relentlessly over the last 6 months scripting and directing whilst also organising the soundtrack and props. Well done to all involved and a huge thank you to those who came to support the event.

Better Learners Better Workers

Our brand-new Better Learners Better Workers Ambassadors attended the launch event at Cutlers Hall, Sheffield. Students took part in activities with ambassadors from other schools and were given a VIP tour of the Hall, learning more about its history. Finally, they were officially welcomed to the programme by The Master Cutler, Philip Rodrigo, receiving a special edition badge to commemorate 400 years of the Company of Cutlers.

Holocaust – 360 Experience

Year 10 had the exceptional opportunity to experience the new Testimony 360 programme from the Holocaust Educational Trust. Students were given the opportunity to virtually interact with Manfred, an 84-year-old Holocaust survivor and follow his journey. The VR experience allowed students to experience some of the places pertinent to Manfred and his story.

Torch Magazine

Torch is Wath Academy's student-produced magazine, published every term. Our latest edition is out today! You can read past editions of *Torch* from the last hundred years on our website [Wath Academy - Torch Magazine](#)



Duke of Edinburgh

This week we have completed our annual launch of Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme; the Bronze award (open to all Y9 and Y10 students and the Silver Award to all Y12 students)

The commitment required to complete the award means it is a highly regarded achievement and is looked on very favourably by employers, colleges and universities, as well as being great fun. Students will complete activities from three sections; skills, physical and volunteering and then complete an expedition which involves navigation skills and camping overnight.

Information for all Y9, Y10 and Y12 students will be available on Class Charts with an attached application form.



Goals for Gaza

To support the children of Gaza, we have been raising money for Save the Children's emergency fund. We are asking for a donation, if you can, which can be made via Parent Pay [ParentPay - Leading Cashless Payment System for Schools](#) by Friday 01 November. Thank you to those who have already donated.

Year 13 Summer Ball

The Summer Ball for 2025 will be held at Tapton Hall, Sheffield on Friday 04 July. A letter with further details has been added to our website. [Wath Academy - Sixth Form Letters](#)

Student Achievement

We would like to share students' success stories and achievements in this newsletter each week. If you would like to share your success stories with us, please email us via the following address: achievement@wathacademy.com.