

Friday, 19th November

Dear Parent/Carer,

We're well into the Autumn term now, and routines linked to our 'ABC' - attendance, behaviour and classrooms - are well established for our students. The Academy has been a hive of activity recently, and it's been fantastic to see everyone getting on doing what they do best: working hard, and being nice.

Attendance

As ever, we'll start with attendance, and a huge well done to most people for their fantastic efforts this year. Current attendance stands as below:

Year 7 = 97.2%

Year 8 = 95.2%

Year 9 = 96.1%

Year 10 = 95.2%

Year 11 = 95.2%

With an Academy target of 97%, we still have some work to do, but the start to the year has been impressive. We need to see some greater effort from some students, but the 395 students who have 100% attendance across TCA so far this year should be exceptionally proud of themselves.

Golden Week will run throughout the week commencing 29th November. This is an opportunity for us to continue to reward students with good attendance. Any student who has 100% attendance during Golden Week with no late marks will be entered in to prize draws for Amazon vouchers. There will be £20 for one winner per year group and an overall prize of £50, as well as other prizes including best daily form attendance.

Remembrance Day

We stood silently, reflected and remembered last Thursday in a poignant and moving two minutes after break time. Mr Caddick had prepared an assembly to ensure that students understood the huge significance of remembrance day, and it was impeccably observed. Thank you to everyone.



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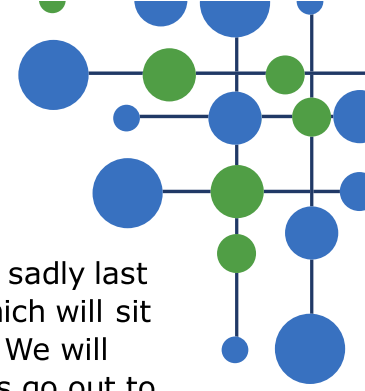
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Mrs Morgan – one year on

We recently passed the one year anniversary of losing Mrs Morgan so sadly last year. Very soon we will be unveiling a permanent memorial to her, which will sit in our Peace Garden where students and staff go to reflect and relax. We will never forget her kindness, warmth, laughter and joy and our thoughts go out to her family and friends, as ever.

Virtual parents' evening

Our first parents' evening of the year was held on Wednesday this year, and whilst attendance was not as I had hoped, those parents who did meet with teachers were grateful for the feedback. Feedback is, without doubt, a gift; it is hugely important, especially in year 11, and we will be in touch with those who couldn't make it on Thursday to ensure you are aware of your child's progress. Should you wish to get in touch, please contact Mr MacFaul on James.Macfaul@sharemat.co.uk.

Year 11 reports

Year 11 reports have been sent home and should have arrived on Wednesday. These will also be emailed. If you need another copy, please do let us know as soon as possible.

Year 11 College Applications

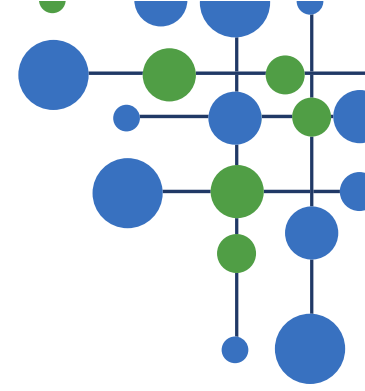
On Wednesday 24th November Year 11 will begin the College application process. They will be introduced to the application platform and will be able to make changes at home.

Year 11 mocks and 'TAG' assessments

The government recently announced their contingency framework for if exams cannot go ahead next summer. The hope (and expectation) is that they will go ahead as normal, but if they cannot, students' GCSE grades will be given as TAGs (teacher assessed grades) again, the same as in 2021. To ensure that we can gather enough evidence for these, should they be needed, students will be sitting a TAG assessment as part of their upcoming mock exam series. These start on Monday, 6th December and run until the end of term. By February, we should be in a position to know whether TAGs will be used again this year for sure, and, if this is the case, further TAG assessments will follow. Students should be revising hard for these important exams, which will replicate the summer exams completely.

Freedom Personal Safety

Over the last couple of weeks, selected groups of year 9 and 10 girls have been working with Julie Tweedale from Freedom Personal Safety around topics linked to empowerment. The sessions have been really well received and hugely important as we help to ensure that our students all leave us as confident, articulate young people ready to make an impact in the world.



INSET Days this year

A reminder that the INSET day which is advertised in the Student Planner is incorrect. The Academy *is* **open** for business as usual on Friday, 3rd December and everyone will be expected to attend as usual. The next INSET days for this year are Tuesday, 3rd May and Wednesday 4th May 2022.

Sports fixtures

It has been brilliant to see sporting fixtures up and running again for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic began, with our year 7 rugby team taking on Ossett Academy and our year 9 and 10 footballers taking part in a seven-a-side tournament at Mirfield Free Grammar, narrowly losing the final. All students taking part in representing TCA will be given a badge to wear with pride.

Year 11 – P7s

Period 7 sessions will be up and running again next week and we expect all students to attend all sessions. Parents and carers with any questions should get in touch with Mrs Delaney-Hudson for information (Melanie.Delaney@sharemat.co.uk), but to be clear, all students should attend every day in the following areas:

Monday Maths
Tuesday Science
Wednesday English

Have a lovely weekend, and thanks for your ongoing support. I'll be watching Huddersfield Town (hopefully) win against West Bromwich Albion tomorrow, and freezing on the sidelines on Sunday morning as my son's junior footballing career gathers pace! Whatever you do, I hope it is enjoyable and restful.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Burton
Headteacher