

St Anne's Academy Newsletter

2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We'd like to share with you some of the highlights of this term. The activities included in this newsletter show that our school community has made the most of this term despite the most difficult of circumstances and our students have still been able to learn and develop, think of others, make progress, achieve and have fun.

Thank you for your support this term. I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year on behalf of everyone at St Anne's and we look forward to seeing all our students safely back at school on Monday 4th January 2021. Please take care over the festive period.

Mr Chris Heyes
Headteacher



**The completed shoe
boxes for Operation
Christmas Child**



Our students have taken part in a number of projects this term to give back to the community.

Feeding the Homeless in Rochdale –

Students from the Academy will be organising and preparing around 50 gift bags to be handed out to the Homeless in Rochdale on Monday 14th December. Gifts will include hats, gloves, toiletries and essential items. They will also receive a hot drink and a turkey sandwich.

Operation Christmas Child – This year all year groups will be helping to pack a shoe box for the Operation Christmas Child Project run by Samaritan Purse. They will fill boxes with gifts for boys and girls who wouldn't otherwise receive a gift at Christmas. We will be sending off 31 boxes around the world as part of our contribution.

Love Thy Neighbour Project – This year all Year 9 forms planned an assembly around a global charity they wanted the Academy to raise funds for. This year we will be raising funds for Save the Children charity. To help raise these funds the students were allowed to wear one item of Christmas clothing and donate £1 to the charity.

MFL-Love

Languages

Alisha and Alice in Year 11 are joining the 'Love Languages' programme by Trinity College (Cambridge University)

Alisha and Alice will benefit from masterclasses to learn about the value of learning languages beyond GCSE.

The programme is designed to bring language learning to life, help build their confidence and make learning a language exciting for young people. It encourages pupils to continue with their language learning beyond GCSE and to understand the importance of languages in a global context. Throughout the programme, they will learn about the benefits of being multilingual in the working world, practice using your target language inside and outside of the classroom setting and have a go at learning some other languages on offer at Cambridge University.

The aims of the programme are to:

- Inspire students to continue with their languages beyond GCSE
- Make language learning interesting and exciting
- Demonstrate the value of learning other languages and cultures in the working world
- Build confidence at speaking their target language
- Raise aspirations towards Higher Education
- Show them all the different course options and languages on offer at Cambridge

English Achievements

All years have made an impressive start in English. Year 11 have shown real dedication when preparing for their exams and this has resulted in some very pleasing mock examination results.

Key stage 3 pupils have been creating some beautiful narratives and descriptions based on the novels that they have been reading. The work produced has shown an in-depth understanding of the texts they have been reading whilst adding their own creative flair.

Years 7,8 and 9 took part in a national writing competition run by Young Writers. The quality of writing and level of description was impressive in all the entries sent and Young Writers seem to agree as they have decided to publish 44 of the stories entered in the competition. It is great to see our youngsters getting the recognition they deserve for all their hard work and dedication.



Christmas Lunch

All students enjoyed a Christmas lunch with all the trimmings prepared by our wonderful catering staff. Students were safely brought down in their year bubbles to the decorated heartspace. It was lovely to able to continue this tradition this year.



Science Fun

In science we celebrated Black History Month by looking at influential black women in STEM. Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 were then asked to complete a poster on one of the influential women we had discussed. Lizzy in year 7 created a beautiful poster about Katherine Johnson, an American mathematician whose calculations of orbital mechanics as a NASA employee were critical to the success of the first and subsequent U.S. crewed spaceflights.



Yokani in Year 7 created a presentation about Valerie Thomas, an American scientist and inventor. She invented the illusion transmitter, for which she received a patent in 1980. She was responsible for developing the digital media formats image processing systems used in the early years of the Landsat program.



Adam created a poster about Mae Jemison who is an American engineer, physician and former NASA astronaut. She became the first black woman to travel into space when she served as a mission specialist aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavour.

This half term saw the return of access to a laboratory for all year groups. This meant students were able to access practical experiments within their science lessons. Year 7 have been investigating changes of state with melting chocolate and boiling water as well as watching a demonstration of a can being crushed using only pressure changes. Year 8 have been looking at acids and alkalis and Aliyat and Lexi have managed to make their own indicator to detect strengths of everyday acids and alkalis. Year 10 have been investigating DNA in biology and even extracted some of their own.



Grace and Ellisa can be seen with their extracted DNA.



Charity Champion

On Wednesday afternoon Mrs Lowe collected some items donated through the community.

Julie the Charity Champion at Tesco Kirkway in Alkington has donated 2 trolleys full of hygiene products, biscuits and food for the Homeless project and shoe boxes.

In total it's approximately £150 of items.

Thank you Julie!

Thank you

On behalf of St Anne's Academy, we would like to thank the following individuals and local businesses for supporting some of our children and families in need this Christmas.

Munchies Cafe, Our Lovely Customers, Harvey's Jewellers, Simon One, Platts Jewellers, VK Mobiles, Wynne's Flowers, CEX, Cash Generator, The Works, The Bloom Room Florist, Kerry Ormerod, Gary Perry and Russel.

Christmas time is often a challenging time for many, particularly this year due to current circumstances. Providing gifts for children is a financial strain on those most in need and can often result in debt being accrued, increase in stress related illness and a decline in mental health and wellbeing of parents and carers.

Thanks to your generous cash donations of gifts, together, we have been able to ensure that some of our families will have a stress free and enjoyable Christmas. We feel it is important to pull together as a community – now more than ever. Your contribution to our school will make such a difference to those in receipt of your kindness.



Christmas Cheer!

Twenty five families (five from each year group) were gifted a box of supplies to support them this Christmas. After a difficult few months due to challenging times that our whole country has faced, we hope this will ease the burden.



Greater Manchester Higher Gateways Project

Students from Years 8 and 10 enjoyed an interactive workshop with the Gateways Project from the University of Manchester. Students gained the opportunity to



experience university life and to prepare them for their future applications to university. The day included information about higher education courses and career pathways, a virtual guided tour and several activities. Feedback was very positive and students' comments suggest that they now know more about university life and what it means to be a student.

Drama Delight

This month was the Year 11 Performing Arts exam and they have all done a wonderful job. Mr Appleton and Miss Prince were blown away with each of your performances. It truly was a delight to see all their hard work, dedication and commitment pay off with superb performances. Keep your eyes peeled Middleton, I think we may see some of these students on the red carpet in years to come!



Next Steps for Year 11 Students: Sixth Form, College and Apprenticeship Presentations

This term we invited local post-16 providers to present to Year 11 students about the various pathways they may take after they finish their studies here at St Anne's. Students enjoyed presentations exploring the options from a range of institutions including Rochdale Sixth Form College, Hopwood Hall College, Cardinal Langley High School Sixth Form, Bury College, Holy Cross Sixth Form College, Manchester College and ASK Apprenticeship Providers. We believe it is important for our students to make informed choices about their next steps and we promote a broad range of options they may take.



Information For Parents and Carers

- If parents/carers wish to accompany your child to an appointment with our careers adviser please contact us. Appointments are available on Tuesdays and Fridays.
- If any parents or carers would like to support us with any future employer events, please contact us for more information.
- If you would like more information about apprenticeships, please see our website and watch this video link:

<https://stannesacademy.org.uk/next-steps-into-education-or-the-world-of-work/>

- Students are aware of the deadlines for many local Sixth Forms and Further Education Providers:

Bury College: Priority deadline – 27th Nov

Holy Cross: Deadline – 4th Dec

Rochdale Sixth Form: Deadline – Extended to 17th Dec

Oldham College: Priority deadline – 18th Dec

Hopwood Hall College: Priority deadline – 18th Dec

Loreto College: Priority deadline – 8th Jan

Xaverian College: Priority deadline – 15th Jan

PE News

Although it has been an extra-curricular free term at St Anne's it has been far from quiet in the PE department. We have had to adapt our activities and want to thank all our students for your efforts in some unfamiliar activities such as 'Disc Golf'... we hope you have enjoyed it! The department are launching a number of projects over the next couple of months based around improving the wellbeing of our students and we hope that those of you in Years 8, 9 and 10 will take advantage of the opportunities that are going to be presented to you. Of course we know that many of you are desperate for the return of extra-curricular PE and the wonderful feeling of competition, pride and achievement that it promotes and we assure you we are doing everything we can as an Academy to get those opportunities to you as soon as we can. Have a great Christmas and hopefully 2021 will be a great year of sport!



My Week of Work

Workplace Opportunity Week

In November all form groups in years 7-10 had the opportunity for employer engagement live from their classrooms! In partnership with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, students got to hear from local businesses and recruiters about the ever-evolving landscape in a variety of careers sectors across Greater Manchester. These included manufacturing, health and social care, wholesale distribution, financial services and the digital industry.

Year 11 Maximize Event

An excellent morning was had by all at our Year 11 Maximise event on Friday 16th October. Students were 100% focused and ready to start their preparation for their upcoming College Application Examinations.



Sign Along with Us

Millie and Maddison were invited to breakfast with the Headteacher and Mr Glenister to acknowledge their achievement as part of the Sign Along With Us group who finished runners up in the Britain's Got Talent competition. St Anne's Academy are so proud of them for their accomplishment!



Year 9 Awards

Huge congratulations to all our Year 9 students who have successfully completed their Archbishop of York Young Leaders Awards.

Well done everybody!

