



***Welcome to our second newsletter of the academic year. This term has seen Y5 attend an October Festival; fundraising for Children In Need; Y5 mastery classes in English and Maths; Sport after school for Primary students supported by Year 10 Sport Leaders; Y9 trip to the World Skills Show; Y9 Animals In Hands; Y11 Geography Field Trip and the Christmas Lunch to name but a few.***

***Please enjoy the read.***

***Mrs C. Robson (Head of School)***

#### STUDENT FEEDBACK

As Head of School, I regularly meet with students to ask for their views on their everyday experience here at Amington. The students are selected at random and I feedback their opinions to students and staff.

#### Year 11 Feedback

- Students felt behaviour has changed for the better. It has particularly improved in lessons. Students said this was down to maturity and a feeling that the older years are more important.
- Students said it was stricter which was a good thing. There is more of a focus in Year 11.
- Students noticed more work completed in silence. It has always been there but they can feel it more now.
- Students explained how 'Exit Tickets' in lessons show how to improve and found them useful.

#### Year 8 Feedback

- Students felt the work was getting harder.
- Students said the behaviour was good in lessons and in social time.
- Students said they get about 3-4 piece of extended learning a week and have lots to do on Sam Learning.
- Students said they really liked Personal Tutor time as they have met older students. They said that student-teacher relationships were particularly very good.



## YEAR 5 OCTOBER FESTIVAL

Over 200 Year 5 students had a fun-filled day of activities on Monday 16th October.

Students took part in Art, Science, Technology, PE, ICT, Mathematics and Drama



***“I have thoroughly enjoyed these sessions as much as my son. I’ve learnt lots too!- Parent of Year 5 in the English Mastery class***

### PARENTS’ EVENING DATES

Following feedback from parents, we are now rolling out Parents’ Evenings to all year groups.

Evenings will run from 5pm to 8pm and parents can book appointments via an on-line booking system. Information will be sent out by post in advance of each evening with guidance on how to book appointments.

Y7—24th May 2018

Y8—10th May 2018

Y9—8th March 2018 (including guided choices for KS4)

Y10—25th January 2018

Y11—12th October 2017

All parents may contact their child’s Personal Tutor at any point to have a consultation about their child’s progress at the Academy.

## YEAR 5 MASTERY CLASSES—ENGLISH

Over three exciting sessions, some fantastic Year 5 students were tasked to explore a wide range of poetry as a stimulus for their own writing. In the first session, we explored the brilliant ‘The Pig’ by Roald Dahl and considered how he uses anthropomorphism as well as a range of other techniques. The second session took a different direction with the rebellious ‘Six O’Clock News’ where the writer uses phonetic spelling to express a Glaswegian accent. Finally, students explored ‘Blessing’ by Imtiaz Dharker, helping widen their understanding of the world through the use of extended metaphor. These brilliant students rose to the challenge of writing their own poems in each different style and we held a Poetry Jam each week to celebrate them.

Some parents commented:

*“I have thoroughly enjoyed these sessions as much as my son. I’ve learnt lots too!”*

*“My daughter has loved these sessions. Thank you so much.”*

Miss Wain—Curriculum Leader for English

## YEAR 5 MASTERY CLASSES—MATHS

A selection of wonderful Year 5 students, from a variety of schools, came to the Academy and completed four Maths Master Classes - where they completed many thought-provoking problems with resilience and verve. During the first session, they learned about indices and are now able to calculate questions such as  $2^5$ . In the second session, they discovered how the order of operations is extremely important when performing calculations; all students made amazing progress and were able to correctly calculate  $(14 + 4 \times 2) \div (10 - 2 \times 1 + 3)$ ! Throughout the third session, we discussed divisibility rules and how these quick tricks can help us readily see if a large number is prime – they were all extremely speedy to decide that 53256 is divisible by 3 and 2. In the fourth session, we learned how to multiply decimals such as  $2.32 \times 4.3$  and enjoyed a competitive game of bingo to finish!

*Miss Coley—Assistant Curriculum Leader for Maths*



Student feedback:

*“I have enjoyed learning new techniques about sums that I do in different ways” - Student—Glascote Academy*

*“I feel more confident in attending secondary school” Student—Florendine*

*“It was very useful and enjoyable. The teacher is very approachable and friendly” - Parent*

## 100% ATTENDANCE

An amazing 522 students have attendance at 95% or above. 188 students are still on 100%. Any student achieving 100% for Term 2 will be receiving extra rewards points for the Learn 2 Earn scheme. They will also receive a ‘jump the queue’ voucher for the restaurant and can book out a space at lunchtime.

## ART MURAL—TAMWORTH CORNERPOST

Tamworth Corner Post approached Amington and asked if any students would help create a ‘den’ to aid learning. Year 10 Artists with Miss Brennan jumped at the chance and spent a day at Tamworth Corner Post creating a magnificent piece of work.



## REMEMBRANCE SERVICE



On Friday 10th November, all staff and students honoured those who lost their lives fighting in the World Wars by having a 2 minutes silence at 11am. Amington students who attend cadets wore their uniform for the day.

## ASPIRATIONAL AWARDS EVENING

On Thursday 23rd November, Amington held its annual Aspirational Awards Evening. Over 70 prizes were awarded to students for academic progress and exceptional effort. This was combined with the presentation of the Y11 GCSE Certificates from the previous cohort. The Sports Hall held over 400 students, staff and parents.



Joshua Jones was awarded the 'Alan Cooper Prize' for achieving the highest number of attainment points in the Y11 cohort.



Georgia Barlow was awarded the 'Renee Richardson Prize' for having the most staff nominations for 'exceptional effort' throughout her time at Amington.

## CHILDREN IN NEED



On Friday 17th November, a non-uniform day was held to raise money for Children in Need.

Staff also were in fancy dress just to add to the occasion.

A fantastic £800 was raised.

## SPORT CELEBRATIONS

### **Year 7/8 Rugby**

After having the opportunity to work together and gel as a team in Term 1, Y7 and Y8 rugby players have managed some excellent results this term. They have played against Rawlett and Lichfield Cathedral School both home and away and managed a solid win against both schools when playing them at home.

Try scorers this term: James Dickie, Spencer Smith, Matthew Dugmore, Charlie Collins, Billy Jacques, Harley Owen, Oliver Riley, Brodie Orton, Stan Hoult

### **Boys Football Round Up**

Y7 and Y8 are both currently sitting in second place in the TSSA league (Tamworth School Sports Association) with Y9 and Y10 sitting at the top of their leagues.

Within the County cups both Y7 and Y11 have progressed through to the next round which is due to be played in the New Year. Y7 are in the semi-finals and Y11 are in the quarter finals.

The Y8 football team have done exceptionally well in making the National Cup 5<sup>th</sup> round (the last 64), but unfortunately lost out early on in the game to a team with 5 Academy players. The team did, however, show a spirited performance in the second half.

### **Netball Round Up**

The first round of the TSSA tournaments have taken part for most year groups, but weather conditions prevented the Y8 & Y9 tournaments from being played.

The Y11 team finally managed find their feet and won their tournament. The Y10 team unfortunately missed out to Rawlett on goal difference and finished in second place.

The Y7 squad entered 3 teams and with the majority being new to the sport did exceptionally well and finished in 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> positions.

## SPORT CELEBRATIONS—CONTINUED

### **TSSA Badminton**

The annual TSSA Badminton Tournaments took place at both Landau Forte Amington & Landau Forte QEMS. The competition is for a KS3 team and a KS4 team. The results are:

KS3 Girls- Team: Tia Fitzpatrick, Jessica Barber, Alex Shilton, Grace Jenkins. Finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place

KS3 Boys- Team: Jake Lear, Ethan Russell, Reinis Baltins , Louie Barrett Finished in 5<sup>th</sup> place

KS4 Girls- Team: Paige Austin, Sophie Cross, Amelia Kennelly, Rebecca Hallam. Finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

KS4 Boys- Charlie Pegg, Alex Mills, Ethan Perks, Haydn Bath. Finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place

### **GCSE Rock Climbing**

Some of the Y11 GCSE PE students took part in a very successful two days of Rock Climbing in Skipton, where they were assessed as part of their GCSE practical assessment. It was a very cold two days, but they all battled on and managed to gain some good marks from the trip.



## FOOD BANK

On Tuesday 19th December, a non-uniform day took place. Students could bring in items for the local food bank.

The students once again gave generously.

## Year 9 Animals in Hands

All Year 9 students had a fantastic session on Wednesday 6th December. They met and handled animals such as snakes, pythons, tarantulas, chinchillas, large snails and a stick insect to name but a few!



Even the staff joined in!



## Year 9 World Skills Visit

The World Skills Show was held over three days at the NEC Birmingham. It brought together up to 80,000 young people with businesses, government and education. Students had the opportunity to speak to professionals about their jobs roles and participate in activities across a huge range of sectors including, engineering, technology, creative design and business. They also had access to further and higher education advice and information as well as apprenticeships.

## 'Step into the NHS' day

'Step into the NHS' provided Year 8 students the opportunity to find out more about the diverse range of employment within the NHS. They were able to speak to professionals about their roles and have a go at activities like CPR, taking blood (fake) and delivering babies! .

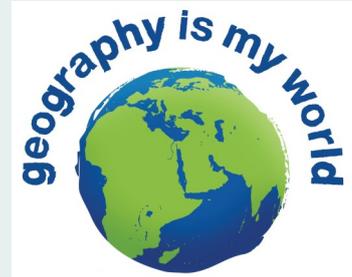


## Year 11 Geography Field Trip

As part of the OCR B GCSE course it is expected that students complete two pieces of fieldwork to support the exam. The Birmingham fieldwork supported the People and Society exam.

Students have to provide evidence that they have completed both pieces of fieldwork and this is submitted to the exam board.

The purpose of the visit was to ensure that students practised a range of fieldwork techniques and are able to write up a piece of fieldwork to ensure they can respond to the fieldwork section of the exam. The title was 'To what extent can Birmingham be considered a clone town?' The fieldwork will be followed up with a write up to help students prepare for their exam in May.



*“Just wanted to give you some very positive feedback following Aspirational awards ceremony. I’ve spoken to several parents who spoke of the evening and how well it was done.” - Mr Crookes— Head teacher Florendine Primary School*

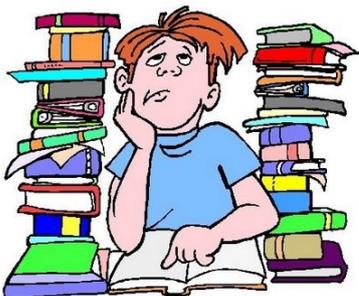
## Assessment Windows—important dates

All year groups have completed assessments by the end of Term 2.

Students will have further assessments this year and a revision list is always sent out in advance.

Please also access our website for the revision list and revision materials.

Year Group	Dates of next Assessment Window (2018)
7	9th April—20th April
8	19th March—30th March
9	8th January—19th January
10	11th June—29th June
11	22nd January—9th February



### Christmas Cards

Students spent some of their Personal Tutor Time creating Christmas Cards for local care homes in Tamworth.

This was organised by Mrs Sterling.

Cards were sent to:

Sunningdale care home in Upper Gungate

Spring Tree Rest Home

Wilnecote Rest Home

Park Farm Lodge



## TERM 3—WHAT'S COMING UP?

4th January —Y11 Consultation Telephone calls begin

8th January —Y9 Assessment Window 2 begins

9th January— Y9 Photographs

15th January—Y9 Outward Bounds Visit

18th January—Parents' Forum—Y11 Revision Skills

19th January—Y10 reports go home

22nd January—Y11 Assessment Window 2 begins

25th January—Y10 Parents' Evening

30th January—Y10/Y11 History trip

1st/2nd February —Performing Arts Production

5th February—Y7 Parental Consultations begin

9th February—End of Term

## KS3 SAM LEARNING

Don't forget, one way that Extended Learning is set is via our on-line platform Sam Learning

[www.samlearning.com](http://www.samlearning.com)

Centre ID: B77LF

Username: 6 digit date of birth plus initial of forename and surname e.g. 020304JB

Password: Same as username unless changed. You can contact the Academy to have it re-set.

### Top 5

Y7—Lewis Tomlinson, Holly Smith, Kingston Taylor-Avery, Mark Szakacs, Isla McGarragle

Y8—Jacob Rowley, Luke Flint, Joshua Moseley, Ronnie Washbrook; Katie Cheneler

Y9—Louise Smith, Christopher Wright, Maddison Orton, Nathan Jones, Liam Gallagher