

Open Academy Newsletter – 14 June 2024

Dear parents, carers and students.

The entire country seems to be buzzing with excitement for the upcoming Euros, with streets adorned in team colours, lively conversations filling cafes and homes and a palpable energy in the air as fans eagerly count down the days. Fans are sharing their hopes and dreams for a victorious outcome. We are filled with excitement for the great things ahead. This excitement reminds me of the verse: "For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11). These words fit well with our school at the moment for the championship and for the students themselves.

For our graduating students, moving on from school to new adventures is both exciting and a little sad. They leave us with strong foundations and bright futures. For our other students some are thrilled about camping in a tent for the first time, an adventure that will build their strength and teamwork. Others are about to start their first-ever work experience, an important step towards adulthood. There is so much going on in the coming weeks.

As we look forward to these events, let's think about the words of the famous German footballer, Franz Beckenbauer: "The key to success is hard work, determination and having a dream." Our Year 11 and 13 students left today. They have with them their dreams and our community's kindness and so they are ready to succeed. Beckenbauer's words remind us that while we look forward with hope, it's through hard work and kindness that dreams come true.

As we look forward to the tournament, I am mindful that many of our students and their families have season tickets at Norwich FC and other clubs. They know the passionate calls. Our students are learning German. The German on the GCSE is not the German of the terraces. Here are some quotes and translations for those of you who would like to shout at the TV in another language for a bit of fun!

Saying	Literal Translation	Meaning in a football crowd
Das Runde muss ins Eckige Herberger	Put the round thing in the square thing	Score please score!!!
Schiri	Ref	When shouting at the referee for a non-decision
Hau die Kirsche rein, du Pfeife		Put it in the net
Fallrueckzieher	Bicycle kick	Over head kick
Notbremse	Emergency brake	Deliberately fouling someone so that they can't score
Gib Gas!	Give gas	Run quicker go!

Kevin Ward
Vice Principal

1. Drama is the Best



Mrs Ormosi
Teacher

2. Year 11 Music

Well done to those of you who are still working hard in music. I'm so proud of what you have already achieved! Just a reminder that there is a revision session on Monday morning, starting at 10am, when we will get in the zone for the exam in the afternoon. Please do come if you can!

Ma'am Morgan-Hart
Teacher

3. Year 11

What a fantastic group of students we have had the pleasure to learn with in the past 5 years at Open. It has been humbling to see them develop from fresh faced children into the mature young adults they have become.

The exam season is now drawing to a close, with just a few exams next week. Today (Friday, 14 June) is the last day the whole year group will be in the building together. After their final exam today, they will be rewarded with a look back at themselves in Year 7 with lots of positive comments being made by the staff that have seen them through their educational journey. They will also be collecting their leavers hoodies and gaining any further messages of support from staff in books/shirts.

We now look forward to the Prom taking place next Friday, 21 June at Sprowston Manor. This should be a final chance for the students to really enjoy themselves with their peers in a relaxed setting. Any questions about this please get in contact with the year office. Tickets can still be purchased and then collected on the day/evening.

This will be the last newsletter you will receive from the year team so please let me say thank you from both myself and Mrs Smith for all the hard work, dedication, resilience, support, trust and understanding you have given to your son/daughter and to Open. It is only with your help that each student will make the most of their time at Open.

Mr Pickup (Head of Year 11)
Mrs Smith (Assistant Head of Year 11)

4. 6th Form

<https://www.open-academy.org.uk/our-academy/news/newsletters/>

Exams

Best of luck to all of our Year 13 students who have almost completed their final exams. You will smash it guys. You have all worked so hard and we are so proud of you!

Year 12 PPE3

The Year 12 PPE exams will start on Monday, 17 June. You should all have an exam timetable by now.

Assembly

Despite numerous reminders that assembly is compulsory, a great number of Year 12 students still failed to attend this week. This meant that they had to stay in school for a 30 minute detention. Please make sure that next Monday you are all attending so that you do not get issued with a detention.

UCAS final decisions

It is now time for Year 13s to make their firm and insurance choices for university. The deadline for many of you was last week so hopefully you have all completed this.

If you received your last decision on or before 16 May 2024, your reply date was 6 June 2024 (except if you're using Extra to find a place).

If you receive your last decision on or before 17 July 2024, your reply date is 24 July 2024 (including Extra choices).

Please also make sure that you have applied for student finance. You can [apply online](#) for undergraduate student finance now. Applications for postgraduate student finance is open from June 2024.

Art Competition

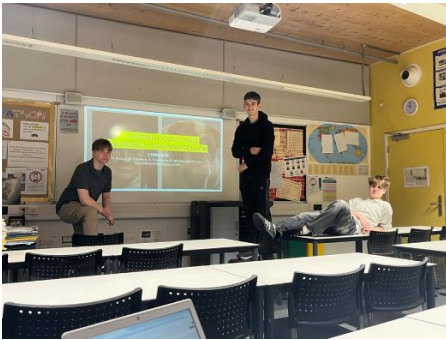
A huge shout out to our wonderful Lisa in Year 12 who has had her amazing artwork shortlisted in the Norfolk Art and Design competition. This will be her first exhibition and will be open for public viewing at Norwich University of Arts in July 2024. So proud.



<https://www.norfolkartdesigncompetition.com/2024-shortlist/>

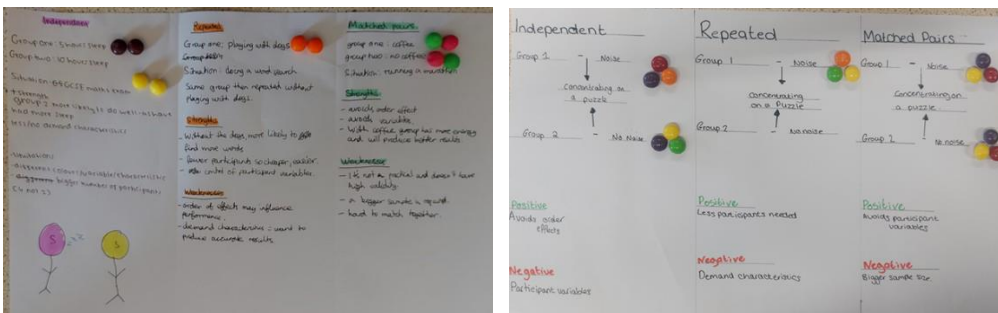
History

Mr Crawford's history students presenting their PowerPoints to their class showcasing their knowledge in conservative recovery. I think we can all agree that the boys casual pose made it!



Psychology – sampling

Using skittle to show how to sample using different techniques! A very delicious lesson.



Key dates

There is lots going on in the next few weeks. A few key dates:

- Friday, 14 June – Year 13 leavers day
- Monday, 17 June – Year 12 PPE starts
- Wednesday, 26 June – Rewards trip to Norfolk Show
- Thursday, 27 June - 6th Form induction day for Year 11
- Tuesday, 2 July – Psychology and Health & Social trip
- Wednesday, 3 July – Year 12 bread baking afternoon
- Monday, 8 July – Year 12 work experience week

Mrs Molloy
Head of 6th Form

5. Chaplain's Update

Care for the Family

Please see below a link to a really supportive website dealing with family issues and family life amongst other things:

<https://www.careforthefamily.org.uk/support-for-you/family-life/parent-support/>

This Week's Reflection

I read this story a while back and wanted share to it with you:

<https://www.open-academy.org.uk/our-academy/news/newsletters/>

“As a man was passing the elephants, he suddenly stopped, confused by the fact that these huge creatures were being held by only a small rope tied to their front leg. No chains, no cages. It was obvious that the elephants could, at any time, break away from their bonds but for some reason, they did not. He saw a trainer nearby and asked why these animals just stood there and made no attempt to get away. “Well,” the trainer said, “when they are very young and much smaller, we used the same size rope to tie them and, at that age, it’s enough to hold them. As they grow up, they are conditioned to believe they cannot break away. They believe the rope can still hold them, so they never try to break free.” The man was amazed. These animals could at any time break free from their bonds but because they believed they couldn’t, they were stuck right where they were”.

The words in this story “they are conditioned to believe that they cannot break away” really stood out to me as we can be the same in our lives. Life can condition us into believing that we can’t overcome difficulties or break away from the problems that we face maybe due to failures in the past. As it says in the story the elephants could have broken their bonds with ease, but it was their minds that kept them there.

God even addressed this in the Bible by saying that “as a person thinks in their heart, so they are”.

Maybe in the past, some words have been spoken over us that have caused us to be tied to insecurity and low self-esteem. It can even be that we have faced so many battles and feel weary, so we are conditioned to believe that in the future, we will always suffer defeat and failure.

I want to encourage you today in saying you can break free from the bonds that hold you back. You have the strength within you to overcome and to push back at the negative thoughts that try to flood your mind.

In closing, some of you may have seen a verse of scripture on the wall in Open Ark which says this. “I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me”. It is just that and He is only a prayer away.

You are most welcome to join me and say this prayer

Dear God

I need strength and courage to break free from the things that are holding me back.

Help me to run free and soar in life.

I ask this in Jesus’ name.

Amen

God bless you all

Mark



STAGE COACH

WILD WEST Workshop Week

5-9TH AUGUST 2024

THORPE ST ANDREW SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM, LONGFIELDS ROAD, NR7 0NB

AGES 5-16 YEARS
ACT - DANCE - SING
CHILDCARE VOUCHERS AND TAXFREE ACCEPTED

£140

WILD WEST

10am-3pm
(wrap around care available)

BOOK NOW:
www.stagecoach.co.uk/norwich

The poster features a dark background with yellow and orange illustrations of a cowboy on a horse, a cowboy hat, a cactus, and a stagecoach. The text is in a mix of bold, sans-serif and handwritten-style fonts.



BARRACUDAS
ACTIVITY DAY CAMPS

RESIDENTIAL CAMP! 2024 #SUMMEROFFUN

2 GREAT LOCATIONS TO CHOOSE FROM

4 OR 7 NIGHT
OPTIONS
AVAILABLE

8-16
YEAR OLDS

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
EGL

The poster shows a young woman smiling in a yellow shirt, with smaller images of people participating in activities like rock climbing and kayaking. The background is red and blue with stars and a compass rose.