

Open Academy Newsletter – 24 October 2024

Dear parents, carers and students.

No Friday this week so not a full newsletter!

I do, however, want to apologise that we have not been able to clarify the price rises that are due to come in after half term in the canteen as they are still not finalised. We could guess now, but we really need to wait until the new providers take over on the first day of term - so please watch this space. I will email as soon as term starts with the price lists.

We will ensure all free school meal students are provided with their free meal.

For now, I would just like to just wish you a wonderful half term break.

Jon Ford Principal

1. Upcoming Assessments

Year 11/13: Mock exams 1 All Subjects Weeks beginning 18 November

You will be assessed on the following sections of each curriculum:

English Language: Paper 1 content
English Literature: Paper 2 content
Maths: Non-calculator paper (Higher) & Calculator paper (Foundation) on all topics covered
Science: Paper 1 for Biology, Chemistry and Physics
Geography: Rivers (12 marks), Changing Cities (30 marks), Weather & Climate (30 marks), Ecosystems (30 marks)
History: Crime & Punishment, Making of America, Nazi Germany, Elizabethan England
Languages: All content taught to date
Food: All content
DT: All content from Year 10
PE: All content from Component 3
Computer Science: Paper 1 Theory

Start revision now! Use revision guides and online resources including past paper questions. Ideally 30 minutes per night. Make sure you cover all subjects each week.

Use resources on Teams to support your revision. Ask your subject teachers for support where it is needed. Good luck!

Mr Murray Assistant Principal



2. Curriculum Enhancement/Activities Week – Friday, 18 July – Monday, 22 July 2025

"Learning by doing theory is nice, but nothing replaces actual experience." Tony Hsieh

Welcome to our first Curriculum Enhancement Week!

During the last few days of the academic year, Open Academy will be holding its first enhancement week where we arrange a variety of activities and opportunities dreamt up by the staff.

The aim of curriculum enhancement week is about improving students' understanding, skills, values, personal and social development and can act as a vehicle to develop our students' capacity which motivates them to learn more. This is not only about what they learn, but most importantly, how and where they learn. It also broadens the student experience by expanding their cultural capital, whilst learning more about themselves and one another. It is an opportunity for students to develop new and existing bonds with staff and other students, to increase their self-esteem and sense of adventure by trying something new, and having the prospect of testing out their own character traits and virtues.

All activities are detailed in our booklet attached and choices can be made via the Google Docs link on page 3. Please note that the deadline date for making choices is 18 November 2024.

Mrs Molloy Head of 6th Form

3. Chaplain's Update

Care for the Family Website

Please see below a link to a 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 want to start this week's reflection with a quote from the Bible and it says this:

So, let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.

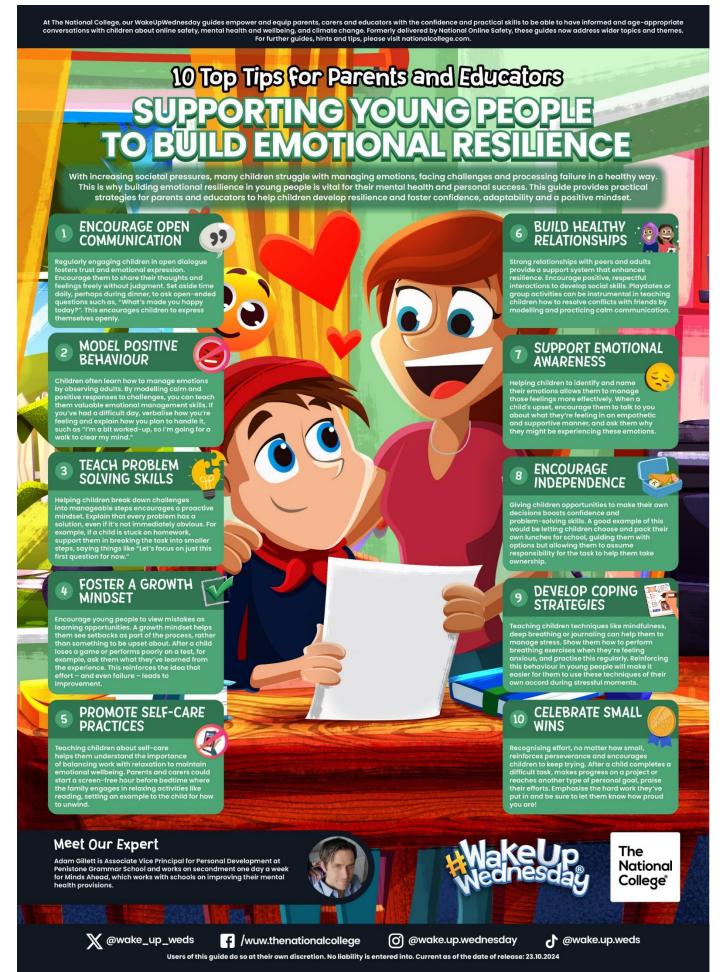
So many times we can get tired and stressed through what we do and all that the world throws at us. The first thing that takes a back seat when this happens, is doing good to others. I want to encourage you to keep doing the good that you are doing because it affects generations for the good. Your goodness pushes darkness away, your goodness changes lives and your goodness saves lives.

So, when you feel bad, do good and see a change come along in your circumstances. It comes back in blessings and goodness. It never fails to happen.

Have a wonderful half term. God bless.

Mark









Wellbeing for children (6 -12 years) | Child anxiety symptoms | PTSD in Children | RISE

The webpage provides resources to support the emotional wellbeing of children aged 6-12, addressing anxiety, PTSD, and behavioural changes. It offers activities for parents to help children express their feelings, such as using worry jars and practicing breathing exercises.

The page also highlights the importance of maintaining playful and empathetic communication (using the PACE model) and recommends books to aid emotional discussions. Additionally, it includes helpful links to wellbeing services and tools for parents.