

WESTON FAVELL ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

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Friday 20th December 2024



Happy Holidays and New Year!

The snow might not be falling fast outside your window yet, but it is unmistakably Christmas! With the final term of 2024 coming to a close, all of us at WFA want to extend our best wishes to everyone this festive season.

We hope your well-deserved break is full of rest and joy, and we all look forward to welcoming you back in the new year!

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Weston Favell Academy



@WestonFavellGAT

A Message from The Head of School

As we end for the calendar year I would like to start by thanking every member of our community for the welcome and support you have given to me since joining in September - it is a privilege to be Head of School at Weston Favell Academy and I look forward to more opportunities to work with you all in 2025!

The newsletter is a great opportunity to share what happens with you and we have packed so much into just 4 months. I would like to formally thank every pupil and every member of staff for their contributions to date. Special thanks to Grace Hales in Year 13 and Danny Fleck, our social media lead, who have produced the newsletter this year.

The end of term brings with it festive joy and celebrations; this week I was so proud of our pupils who performed at the carol service in both St Gregory's and St Peter's Church. They were absolutely amazing and a credit to everyone associated with Weston Favell Academy. Thank you to all staff, parents/carers, other family members and the community who supported the event.

In addition we have had a staff sing-along and our annual Christmas lunch which was enjoyed by many - you will see many of these events featured in our newsletter this week.

Finally, I would like to wish every member of our WFA community a Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Please take the time to rest and enjoy time with your families - we will see you all again in January.

Mr K Beeby

P	Perseverance
R	Respect
I	Inclusivity
D	Determination
E	Excellence

Newsletter Highlights

- Page 4: Attendance Winners
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Term Dates

The Academy will reopen for all pupils on Tuesday 7th January

Lessons start @ 8.40am

Reminder!

We are a nut free school

Please go to our Academy website for more information

Parent Forums

Our new forums will provide opportunities for Academy staff, parents/carers and the community to come together to share what we do, and support your child.

We welcomed you on...

19th December 2024 - Year 11 Parents' Evening

Future dates for the diary...

13th February 2025 - Homework

1st May 2025 - topic TBC

3rd July 2025 - topic TBC

A graphic with the words "Attendance Winners" in a bold, yellow, 3D-style font. The text is set against a purple oval background. There are two yellow starburst graphics, one at the top left and one at the bottom right of the oval.

Attendance Winners

At Weston Favell Academy, we place high value on attendance and encourage our pupils to attend every day. The minimum target for every pupil is 96%.

To demonstrate our support, we have heavily invested in attendance rewards with the aim of motivating pupils and recognising their positive attitude to high attendance.

Our strategy is now embedded and rewards and now in place for weekly:

- 100% attendance
- Tutor group 'highest attendance' award
- Tutor group 'most progress' award

We also complete an attendance draw at the end of each term; pupils will receive one entry for every week of 100% attendance within that term.

Some of our pupils had 7 entries this term and 378 remain on 100% attendance for the year to date!

Our winners chose prizes including a BMX bike, a Nintendo Switch with Super Mario game, Premier League football, NBA basketball, karaoke machine, JBL Bluetooth speaker, driving lessons, Lego sets, vouchers and much more.

Photos will be posted in our first newsletter of 2025!

Christmas Hampers

This Christmas, our community has truly embodied the spirit of giving and togetherness. Thanks to your incredible generosity, we have collected an overwhelming number of food items, toiletries, and gifts for two local charities, EVE and HOPE, who will be supporting those in need over the festive season. Our tables are brimming with goodies, ready to bring hope and joy to families in our community.

Christmas is a time for kindness, compassion, and thinking of others, and this appeal has been a powerful reminder of the importance of giving. Weston Favell Academy is proud of what we've achieved together. Your contributions will make a real difference, spreading comfort and cheer to those who need it most.

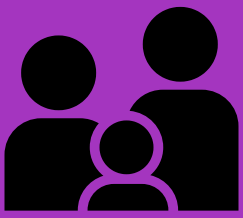
A huge thank you to everyone who donated and to parents and carers for supporting this wonderful initiative. Your efforts highlight the strength of our community and the true meaning of Christmas. Wishing you all a joyful and peaceful festive season.



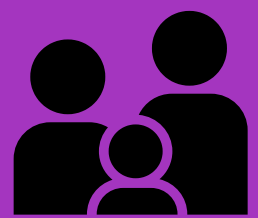


Thank You!





Year 11 Parents' Evening



It's always a pleasure to welcome parents to our school, and Thursday was no exception! Your child's progress is of utmost importance, particularly in the final year until GCSE exams are taken, so we made sure to be as thorough as possible with this Parents' Evening to ensure that each individual knows where to go from here to May in order to ace their exams!



Staff Sing Along & Brass Band



On Tuesday, we were treated with a break time performance from our brass band, performing all the Christmas classics to fill up our Atrium with the sweet sounds of festivity! This was followed by a Staff Singalong at Lunch, giving a wonderful rendition of all your favourites! What a great way to turn up the cheer in our final week; huge thank you to everyone involved in making this possible!





Christmas Carol Services



We had a great time conducting Christmas Carol services at St Gregory's and St Peter's churches on the 17th and 18th respectively. Super proud of all our fantastic singers and brass band who helped spread festive cheer in our local community. Huge thank you to Mrs Furniss, Miss Lyttle, Miss Ellie, Mrs Tingley, Mr Marchbank, Ms Kelly and Miss Roberts.



Sixth Form Chess Championship



While it's getting colder by the minute outside, inside the Sixth Form Centre was heating up as our Annual Chess Championship commenced on Tuesday! Christmas spirits went on the backburner as competitive spirits soared in intense duels between our finest players. Lunchtimes from Tuesday to Friday saw tactful triumphs in close battles. The finalists are Jack and Kieran (reigning Sixth Form Champion). For added suspense, the Champion will be announced in the next newsletter in January.



Synchronised Swimmers!



"We wanted to take a moment to share our excitement about our recent synchronized swimming performance, which we believed went incredibly well. We put in a lot of hard work and dedication, and we truly felt that it paid off.

From the start of the routine, we felt completely in sync, and the smoothness of our movements demonstrated our deep connection and coordination. Our transitions were seamless, and the energy we projected was absolutely captivating.

We felt confident in our timing and precision, and it was clear that all our practice sessions had honed our technique to perfection. The audience's reaction was overwhelmingly positive, which gave us even more confidence as we performed. It was such an incredible feeling to be so in tune with the music and delivering a performance that was both graceful and dynamic.

This performance truly showcased the hours of effort we've put into refining our skills, and we couldn't be prouder of the result. It was a true highlight, and we're grateful for the opportunity to have been part of such a fantastic team.

Thank you for your support, and we look forward to sharing more of our progress in the future!"

Debbie , Mamuzo, Margaret and Sharon – Year 10 Pupils

Pupil Voice – Victor

Victor is a pupil in Year 8 who participated in our Poetry Competition and was one of our winners. We'd like to share his poem and his creative process because we were amazed and touched by his insight into the theme of friendship!

A word from Victor:

"Once I first heard about this poetry competition, I was reluctant to start writing.

However, as I persisted, I began to understand that friendship's meaning is down to every individual's perspective.

My main goal was to try and teach both the younger and older generations to appreciate the privileges that they have.

I want to help them understand that some in the world are not as fortunate as we are. "

What is Friendship?

Friendship can mean many things,
Is it a great listener?
Perhaps it is simply company,
Or a fantastic anticipator.

However, if you were to ask me,
What I thought of this.
My true answer,
Would be to reminisce.

Just think about the times you laughed,
The moments when you smiled.
Who were the people who stood up,
When things became wild.

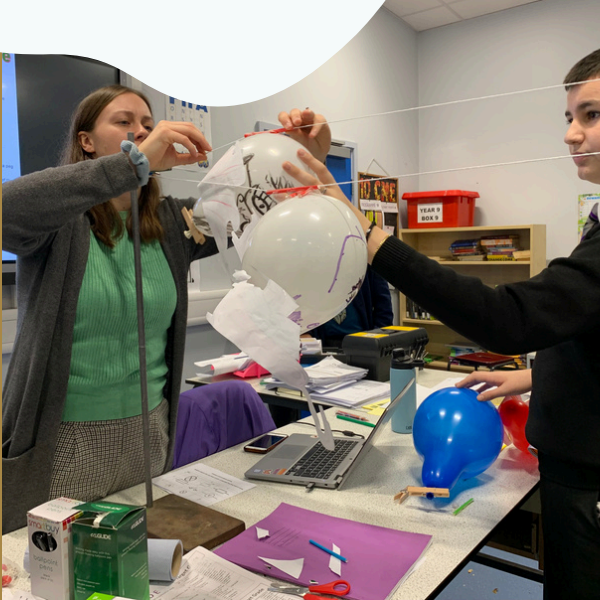
Look back at the days, Before you had any worries.
Just remember being a little kid on Christmas,
Looking out and seeing the flurries.

That's what friendship should make you feel like.
Filled with pure joy and comfort.
A hug that wraps around you,
It keeps you warm and fully encompassed.

Despite friendship having many meanings,
There is one that is the most significant.
It's whoever lets you be you,
And that in itself is quite magnificent.

Thank you Victor for this amazing poem,
as well as Mrs Richards for organising
the competition last week!

Sleighting in Science



In the Science department, Year 9s were tasked with making Santa's sleigh go the furthest down a two track racecourse. Using balloons as the sleigh and straws to secure it, the sleighs would be propelled when the balloons released air. Pupils had to think about what forces would be acting on the sleigh and what factors would affect the distance it travelled.

Bussing Home for Christmas

This week in Design Technology, Year 8 pupils got to work on creating bus shelters from polystyrene and cardboard. It was a learning curve to move away from straight edged design and begin working with new forms and shapes and they managed fantastically!

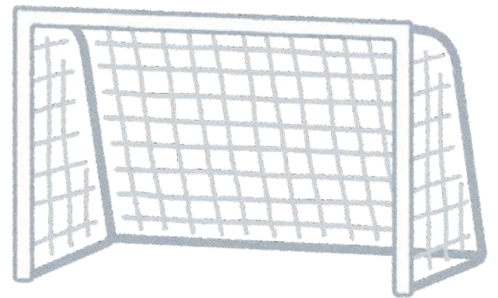


WHAT A WIN!

Our Year 7 Football Team achieved WFA's first win of the season in last week's match against NIA.

The Squad:

**Jae Jae
Luca
Luke
Riley
Caleb
Anopa
Quinton
Tommy
Jesse
Euan**



The match ended 4-0 to WFA with Jae Jae scoring a brilliant brace, as well as Luke and Luca bagging a goal each. Good job lads!

Enrichment at WFA

Key Stage 3 Enrichment

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LUNCHTIME	LUNCHTIME	LUNCHTIME	LUNCHTIME	LUNCHTIME
What: Boardgames Where: Library Who: Miss Howes	What: Boardgames Where: Library Who: Miss Howes	What: Boardgames Where: Library Who: Miss Howes	What: Boardgames Where: Library Who: Miss Howes	What: Boardgames Where: Library Who: Miss Howes
What: Basketball Where: Sports Hall Who: PE staff	What: Basketball Where: Sports Hall Who: PE staff	What: Basketball Where: Sports Hall Who: PE staff	What: Basketball Where: Sports Hall Who: PE staff	What: Basketball Where: Sports Hall Who: PE staff
AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL
What: Music (Choir) Where: PA2 Who: Miss Lyttle	What: Art club Where: D1 Who: Miss Rowlands	What Dungeons & Dragons Where: Library Who: Miss Howes	What: Voiceworx Where: PA1 Who: Ms Ashcroft	What: Creative Writing Where: A5 Who: Mrs Richards
What: Swimming Where: Pool Who: Ms Payne	What: Debating Where: A7 Who: Mr Perez		What: Chess Where: Library Who: Ms Howes	What: Homework catch-up Where: B10 Who: Mrs Patience
What: Drama Where: Drama studio Who: Miss Williams	What: French Where: A17 Who: Mrs Coward		What: EAL Where: A2 Who: Mrs Cusack	DRAMA:
What: Prowess Where: PA5 Who: Mrs Ripley	What: Basketball Where: Sports Hall Who: Mrs Ryder-Wolf		What: Reading (Yr 9) Where: A6 Who: Miss Fullwood	
What: Dance Where: Gym Who: Miss Wiles	What: STEM Where: E4 Who: Mr Abraham		What: Reading (Yr 7) Where: A4 Who: Miss Rogers	
What: Dance Where: Gym Who: Miss Wiles	What: Girl's football Where: Astro Who: Miss Hazel		What: Boy's football (Yr 8) Where: Astro Who: Miss Wiles	
What: Boy's football (Yr 7) Where: Astro Who: Mr Upex	What: Spanish Where: A16 Who: Miss Clark		What: Murder Mystery (Yr 8) Where: B18 Who: Miss Redfern	
			What: Trampoline Where: Gym Who: Mrs Lemm	
			What: Swimming Where: Pool Who: Ms Payne	
			What: Journalism Where: A9 Who: Dr Annab	
			What: ECO Club Where: A12 Who: Team Geography	

Key Stage 4 Enrichment

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LUNCHTIME	LUNCHTIME	LUNCHTIME	LUNCHTIME	LUNCHTIME
What: Boardgames Where: Library Who: Miss Howes	What: Boardgames Where: Library Who: Miss Howes	What: Boardgames Where: Library Who: Miss Howes	What: Boardgames Where: Library Who: Miss Howes	What: Boardgames Where: Library Who: Miss Howes
What: Basketball Where: Sports Hall Who: PE staff	What: Basketball Where: Sports Hall Who: PE staff	What: Basketball Where: Sports Hall Who: PE staff	What: Basketball Where: Sports Hall Who: PE staff	What: Basketball Where: Sports Hall Who: PE staff
AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL
What: Music (Choir) Where: PA2 Who: Miss Lyttle	What: Art club Where: D1 Who: Miss Rowlands	What Dungeons & Dragons Where: Library Who: Miss Howes	What: Voiceworx Where: PA1 Who: Ms Ashcroft	What: Creative Writing Where: A5 Who: Mrs Richards
What: Business (Yr 10) Where: IT3 Who: Mr Phipp	What: Debating Where: A7 Who: Mr Perez		What: EAL Where: A2 Who: Mrs Cusack	What: Homework catch-up Where: B10 Who: Mrs Patience
What: Drama Where: Drama studio Who: Miss Williams	What: IT (Yr 10) Where: IT4 Who: Mrs Francis		What: Journalism Where: A9 Who: Dr Annab	
What: Prowess Where: PA5 Who: Mrs Ripley	What: Boys football (Yr 11) Where: Astro Who: Mr Last		What: Boy's football (Yr 10) Where: Astro Who: Mr Harrison	
What: Dance Where: Gym Who: Miss Wiles	What: Girl's football Where: Astro Who: Miss Hazel		What: Trampoline Where: Gym Who: Mrs Lemm	
What: Swimming Where: Pool Who: Ms Payne	What: STEM Where: E4 Who: Mr Abraham		What: Swimming Where: Pool Who: Ms Payne	
	What: Triple Science Yr 10 Where: E5 Who: Mr Barker		What: Chess Where: Library Who: Ms Howes	

Year 11 Enrichment: 3.15pm - 4.15pm

SCAN THE QR CODE TO VISIT THE
'Academy Clubs and Enrichment'
SECTION ON OUR WEBSITE



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL
What: Catering Where: C1	What: Maths Higher Where: B2 and B19	What: Sports Science Where: SFP	What: Art Where: D2 & D3	What: Maths Higher 7+ Where: B10
What: English Literature Where: A8	What: English Language Where: A10	What: Music Where: PA2	What: Geography Where: A12 & A13	
What: English Literature Where: A20	What: English Language Where: A20		What: French Where: A16	
What: Maths aiming for a 5 Where: B20	What: IT (Cwk/Exs) Where: IT4		What: Triple Science Where: E5 and E8	
What: Maths Foundation Where: B2	What: Triple Science Where: E8		What: Combined Sciences Where: E1	
What: Child development Where: IT2	What: French Where: A17		What: History (invite only) Where: B14 & B16	
What: DT Where: C6	What: Maths Aiming for a 4 Where: B4 and B6		What: Combined Physics Where: E4	
	What: Drama Where: PA1			
	What: History (invite only) Where: B12 & B17			

RAISING STANDARDS – TRANSFORMING LIVES

WAKE-UP WEDNESDAY!

THIS WEEK: Safety Over The Festive Season

The holiday season is fast approaching and whilst this is a time for celebration, relaxation and spending well-earned time with loved ones, it is also a time where it is vitally important that we acknowledge the need to safeguard the young people in our care over the festive period to make this as safe as possible for them.

However, it can be tricky to know what specific steps we can take to ensure our winter break is calm and risk-free. The poster below offers advice on the steps which can be taken to enjoy a less fraught winter break.

WAKE-UP WEDNESDAY!

ZOOM IN TO LOOK THROUGH

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON

The holiday season, marked by Christmas and New Year, brings joy and togetherness but also presents unique safety challenges for children, families and educators. From busy holiday shopping, traveling and family gatherings to managing digital activity during school breaks, staying safe during this period requires heightened awareness. This guide offers practical tips to help families and educators maintain a more secure and fulfilling festive period.

1 MONITOR DIGITAL ACTIVITY

Children spend more time online during school holidays, increasing exposure to potential dangers such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content and online predators. Balancing screen time, avoiding harmful websites and ensuring children engage positively online can be difficult without proper monitoring tools. Set clear boundaries, encourage open discussions about online safety and use parental controls to manage content exposure and screen time effectively. Regular check-ins and positive reinforcement around digital habits encourage safe online behaviour.

2 PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The incidence of house fires increases during Christmas due to greater use of candles, cookers and electrical decorations. Open flames, electrical overloads and the need for quick response plans can make fire safety challenging. Ensure smoke detectors are operational, keep fire extinguishers on hand and teach children how to respond in case of a fire emergency. Avoid leaving cooking unattended and use fire-safe candles to prevent mishaps.

3 CREATE TRAVEL SAFETY PLANS

More families tend to travel during the holidays, resulting in busier roads, increased traffic accidents and weather-related hazards. Weather conditions, road rage, fatigue and busy airports can all compromise travel safety. Pack emergency kits and adhere to seatbelt laws. Plan routes in advance and allow extra travel time to avoid rushing and mitigate risks on busy roads.

4 BEWARE OF ALLERGIES

Holiday meals often involve many foods that may contain allergens. Cross contamination, unclear labelling and lack of allergy-friendly options can lead to severe reactions. Communicate any allergy needs to hosts, provide safe food alternatives and carry necessary medications like antihistamines or EpiPens. Teaching children how to advocate for themselves and recognise dangerous foods also contributes to safer celebrations.

5 PREVENT THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS

Cold weather and seasonal socialising can increase the spread of viruses like flu and COVID-19. Crowded gatherings, schools out of session and frequent travel can lead to higher infection risks. Emphasise hygiene, encourage vaccination, disinfect surfaces and isolate symptomatic individuals. Communication with children about proper hygiene practices is essential to reduce the spread of illness.

6 STAY VIGILANT ON THE ROAD

Increased holiday traffic heightens the risk of accidents for both drivers and pedestrians. Distracted driving, pedestrian safety and inclement weather can complicate road safety. Encourage pedestrian safety practices, avoid distracted driving and never drive under the influence.

7 MAINTAIN SAFE DECORATIONS

Festive decorations such as Christmas lights and candles can pose electrical, fire and choking hazards if mishandled. Frayed wires, toppling Christmas trees, small ornaments and open flames can be difficult to control, especially in busy households with children. Inspect and maintain decorations, secure Christmas trees, place fragile or small items out of reach and ensure candles are never left unattended. Testing smoke alarms and using flame-retardant decorations can significantly reduce risks.

8 SET BOUNDARIES FOR GIFTS

Some toys and gadgets can present choking, sharp-edge or safety risks, particularly for young children. Ensuring that gifts meet safety standards and are age appropriate can be complex with so many options available. Inspect all toys carefully and ensure any tech devices have parental controls. Setting expectations around safe gift use and discarding packaging that poses a risk also helps to prevent accidents.

9 ADDRESS STRESS & FATIGUE

Holiday pressures can lead to burnout, which affects both physical and mental health. Overpacked schedules and a lack of downtime can cause stress and fatigue, leading to accidents or poor decision making. Incorporate rest, maintain regular routines and seek support to reduce stress. Encourage activities that promote relaxation to create a healthier, happier holiday experience for everyone.

10 DRINK RESPONSIBLY

Alcohol is commonly present at holiday events, raising concerns about safety and supervision. Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to accidents, impaired judgment and lack of supervision for children. Designate responsible adults, limit consumption and provide transportation alternatives for guests. Teaching moderation and modelling responsible behaviour in front of children ensures that celebrations remain positive and secure.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is a chartered health and safety consultant with 10 years of experience in promoting family and community safety. Specialising in risk assessment and preventative strategies, he has worked with educational institutions, public health agencies and community groups to deliver safety education and training.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/safety-over-the-festive-season>



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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 11.12.2024

Get support!



Young Carers Support

We are delighted to announce that we will be relaunching the support programme for young carers within Weston Favell Academy.

We will be working closely with Northampton Young Carers Service (NYCS) in assuring that our pupils are supported both at the Academy and at home.

If you believe that your child or a child within your family who is a pupil at the Academy is a young carer, please scan the QR code for more information.



Scan the QR Code.

Job of the Week

Mental Health Therapist



Scan the QR Code.

The Job of the Week section is designed to help you with finding careers. Over the course of these newsletters we have been going from A-Z with different jobs to give you inspiration and help you find something to aspire to.



Stars of the week

Year 7- William K

Year 8 - Eliana F

Year 9 - Gabriele J

Year 10 - Panashe M

Year 11 - Nikita P

Sixth Form - Yusuf S

Congratulations!

All 'Stars of the Week' are entered into our termly prize draw - the winner will receive a £25 voucher.

For your diary

FIRST WEEK BACK 2025

6th January

Teacher Training Day

7th January

Back to School



Don't forget to spend your ClassCharts points!

Key Contacts

Safeguarding Team

Use the QR Code to meet the Safeguarding Team.



Contacting the Academy

Academy reception is open from 8:00am - 4:00pm

Tel: 01604 402121

admin@westonfavellacademy.org



Working together

Key Contacts

Year 7 Team

[Mrs A Carpenter](#)
[Miss C Novakovic](#)

Year 8 Team

[Mr C Harrison](#)
[Miss H Coyne](#)

Year 9 Team

[Mrs S Edwards](#)
[Ms A Moran](#)

Year 10 Team

[Miss S Kyle](#)
[Mrs M Parrett](#)
[Mrs N High](#)

Year 11 Team

[Mrs C Fleming](#)
[Mrs K McNee](#)

Sixth Form Team

[Mrs L Mann](#)
[Mrs P Souster](#)
[Mrs B Whelan](#)

We are here to help



Weekly Prize Draw.

Every week, pupils who achieve 100% attendance can win a £25 voucher.



One pupil from each year group will be selected at random from now until the end of July.

Attendance Matters!

Evidence tells us that high attendance correlates to strong academic performance.

Simply put - pupils that are in the Academy every day will achieve better than those who are not.

Those who miss less than 1% of their learning time in Y10/11 make 3.5 times more progress by the end of KS4.

High attendance also:

- Increases engagement
- Improves social and emotional wellbeing
- Reduces gaps for disadvantaged groups
- Increases chances of future career success.

This week's winners were...

Year 7 - Tyler-Jay E

Year 8 - Angel-May J

Year 9 - Eve M

Year 10 - Kai T

Year 11 - Lacey D

Sixth Form - Areefa H

Congratulations!

ATTENDANCE WINNERS!



Week Beginning 9th December

Attendance Progress Winners!

This prize is for the tutor group that has made the most progress in their weekly attendance.



7MMU

Highest Attendance Winners!

This prize is for the tutor group that has achieved the highest weekly attendance.



7HCL



See you in
the New Year!

