



ACADEMY LIFE

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Endeavour
Achieve*



Principal's Update

I always seem to start the newsletter with a reference to the weather, and this month is no different! The sunshine earlier this month meant students could go onto the field at lunchtime - I love this almost as much as they do! We're lucky to have a great deal of outdoor space and it means that when I stand on the field at lunchtime, I can see almost all of our students, whether they are chatting with friends, playing sport or simply relaxing, and the buzz of happy students always makes my day.

As I was writing April's newsletter, there were a couple of great events taking place that just missed out on last month's edition - our Spring term rewards event and our production of Alice in Wonderland. Both were enjoyed by a great many people, and the students have written about them on page 4-6.

Our students proudly represent the voice of students across the city when they attend the Stoke-on-Trent Youth Council. As Stan approached the end of his journey at Trentham Academy, Lily, Artemis and Oliver continue to attend. And it is with huge pride that I pass on my congratulations to Artemis, who was recently elected as Chair of the Youth Council for 26/27.

Continued on next page



Year 11 have now completed 2 weeks of written exams. The students have been excellent – arriving promptly and following all the guidance with few reminders needed. Their timetable has now been amended for the remaining days of the exam season, and we look forward to welcoming Year 11 to their exam prep sessions after half term. We have designed a supportive revision session timetable because we know that students perform best when their revision is structured and there is a teacher to support.



Don't forget, Wednesday 24th June is exam contingency day, and all Year 11 students must be available on this date until all their exams have been completed. Before you know it, the staff will be celebrating with Year 11 at the Leavers' assembly on 25th June and at Prom later that day.

Year 11

A huge well done to all of our Year 11 students on a successful start to their GCSE exams! They have all worked incredibly hard and we are so proud of the dedication, resilience and maturity they have shown.

Year 11 are now almost 50% of the way through their exams – please continue to encourage and support them at home as they keep going. They've got this!

A reminder to parents/carers that a revised timetable for all Year 11 students after half term has been sent out. Please check this carefully and contact the academy if you have any questions.

I have written separately about mobile phones. Please take some time to read through the information and share your views on how we can successfully implement the changes at Trentham. The questionnaire will remain open until Monday 1st June. We are also collecting views from staff and students.

Last week we held our first prefect training workshop. The prefect team arrived early to the academy for breakfast and started their session at 8am. The senior team delivered a variety of student leadership sessions. Ruben writes about this on page 7.

This week we have celebrated the many successes of the half term in Year group Celebration assemblies. Students have been rewarded for a variety of achievements, and we have listed some of these later in the newsletter.

And so half term beckons! For year 11, a last week of hard graft to prepare for the final run of exams. Use your time well and remember you have a whole summer of freedom ahead of you – your reward for the sacrifices you've made in preparing for these exams.

I wish you all a very happy half term break and look forward to seeing all students in the academy on Monday 1 June.

Best wishes

Principal





Sporting Highlights



Cricket

Y9/Y10 Boys progressed to the next round of the Barclays Knight-Stokes Cup, beating Wolgarston by 18 runs.

Football

Y9 Boys reached the City Cup Final, beating Blythe 3-1 in the semi-final.

City Athletics Championships

- Y9 Girls won their division
- Y10 Boys finished 3rd
- Y8 Boys finished 2nd
- Y7 Boys finished 3rd
- Y8 Girls finished 2nd

These results are out of 15 schools across the City.

7 students have qualified to represent the City of Stoke in the County Athletics.



House Competition

The interhouse doubles badminton competition was a fantastic display of talent, determination, and teamwork from all participants. There was outstanding sportsmanship shown by all players, who competed fairly, supported one another, and represented their houses brilliantly and got valuable points!

A huge **congratulations** goes to the winners below:



Year 7

Boys – PMRT - Hugo and Fletcher
Girls – ARBO – Holly and Isabella

Year 8

Boys – PWBY – Shay and Freddie
Girls – AOMC - Olivia and Sophia

Year 9

Boys – APMA – Conor and Ryan
Girls – VMRO – Frankie and Emily

Year 10

Girls – PJMA – Evie and Amber
Boys – PJMA – Luke and Joe



Have you entered the Interhouse cooking challenges? You can:

- Make an amazing meal
- Make the menu for the restaurant of your dreams



Ghana Appeal

By Evie

At the moment, students across the school are raising funds for the upcoming trip in Ghana. So far, these fundraising activities have consisted of an own clothes day and a donation collection. The own clothes day theme was to wear the colours of the Ghanaian flag, and we managed to raise over £300!

The donation collection is taking place currently, in which we are asking students and their families to bring in donations of stationery, clothes, textbooks, sanitary products, and anything that can support those living in Ghana. Furthermore, members of the C&A club have put together a letter for local businesses, and they will be handed out over the coming weeks to ask these businesses for additional donations.

Thank you all for your continued support!

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Children in Ghana are desperate for the things that we use everyday, and you have an easy opportunity to give it to them

We're looking for donations of:

- Pencil cases full of equipment!
- Chalk, coloured pencils, coloured pens and paints!
- New or second-hand: textbooks or story books!
- Bats, balls, cones and skipping ropes!
- Second-hand clothing!
- Football tops!
- Sanitary products!

Bring your donations to your form by Friday 5th June!



My Bee Active Experience

Anna, Year 7

On the Bee Active rewards day, I had a great time. We did all sorts of things such as various inflatable challenges, go-karts, hungry hippos and team building activities. I found all of those very fun, exiting and entertaining especially doing it alongside my friends.

I don't know which one I liked most but I think that my favourite might have to have been the hungry hippos. All of my friends were on the same team which made it extra fun for me. We were told to get into pairs and when it was your pair's turn, one of us would lie down on a wide board with wheels on the bottom whilst wearing pads on our hands and holding a cone of the colour of your team



Then the other person would hold the legs of their partner and push them around. There were many multicoloured balls on the floor and we had to collect as many as possible and bring them back to our team before the others.

I thought everything was very enjoyable and I would definitely do it again.

Easter Rewards

James, Year 10

The Bee Active event day was really fun from start to finish. The go-karting was one of the best parts – it was great racing each other and having a bit of friendly competition. Everyone got involved, cheering each other on and trying to get as many laps in as possible.

The team-building activities were also good, as we got to work together, have a laugh, and get to know each other better while doing different challenges.

The inflatable challenges created lots of laughter as we raced, fell over, and tried to stay on our feet. It was a good mix of being active and just enjoying the day with everyone. Everything was well organised, and overall, it was a really enjoyable day that I'd definitely do again and I'll never forget.



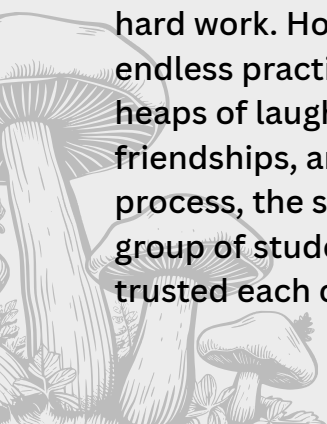
Alice in Wonderland



So many unforgettable memories were made in the process of making Trentham Academy's production of Alice in Wonderland the amazing show that it was!

The week of the show consisted of two full days of rehearsals. We wanted to ensure the show would be the best it could be, piecing each scene together, re-running and editing each act until we finally ended the second day with a whole run-through including dances and music!

We then saw the final product of a year of hard work. However, rehearsals weren't just endless practice, they also came with heaps of laughter, new bonds and friendships, and hilarious memories. In the process, the show formed a tightly knit group of students who all relied on and trusted each other.



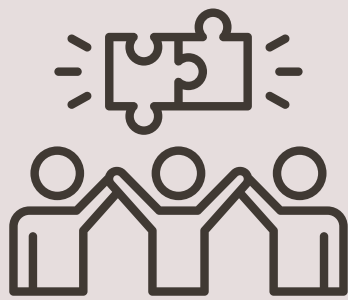
Behind the scenes, down time was spent doing each other's makeup, practising lines and trying our best to keep a straight face when it was time to get into character.

So many challenges were overcome and all the effort definitely paid off after sharing the performance to so many bright faces in the audience. The show began with a young, curious girl longing to explore her imagination and ended with loud and well-deserving applause as the whole cast shared a final moment together on stage during the bows.

Overall, the process was something unforgettable and irreplaceable and none of it would have been possible without the cast, musicians, dancers, technicians and most of all the team of directors, teachers, props designers, choreographers, choir leader and band directors: Miss Phillips, both Miss Stanways, Mrs Ball, Mr Gore, Mrs Chu and Miss Peake.

This year's show was a life-changing experience and now we all wonder what adventures next year's performance may bring.





Prefect Training: Leadership Skills

By Ruben

On Thursday, 14th May, our new team of prefects took part in a focused 2-hour training session, designed to prepare us for the new responsibilities to take on for the next year ahead. Through this training, we explored key leadership skills, took on new ways to support the younger students in the academy, and discussed how we were going to embody the school's values at all times. This session helped us to develop confidence in our roles, strengthen our teamworking skills, and understand what it well and truly means to be a good role model within the community of Trentham Academy. The second half of the session felt a lot more personal, giving us a few 'look-up' moments where we stopped and realised how much our actions actually matter, especially when younger students are watching.

As Head Boy, it made me think about how I carry myself day to day and how important it is to lead in a way people want to follow, not in a way in which students feel intimidated or told what to do. I also became more aware of how I communicate and how much self-awareness plays into being a good role model, as well as how something as small as holding a door open for someone or asking them if they are okay means a lot more than you may think, even if it was actually unintended. Working with the rest of the prefect team taught me a lot about listening, supporting each other, and advocating for student voices to be heard.

Youth Council

By Artemis Hajipour

The Youth Council is a way of ensuring that all schools get the opportunity to have a voice and influence the city's decisions. Recently, as the newly elected Chair, I have had several meetings to decide what the Youth Council will look like for the next year, ensuring we are as inclusive as possible and aiming to capture the voices of everyone under the age of 18.

Furthermore, the Youth Council is proud to have members representing organisations such as the YMCA, thanks to the number of opportunities available to them. We have meetings every other month where guest visitors come, such as the Head of Transport for the city, the NHS, the police, and more. These visitors ask for advice on their future plans and how they can improve existing services to make them more suitable for young people in the city. Overall, the Youth Council is a great way to get more involved in the future of the city while also providing an opportunity to meet new people and make a difference.



Student Celebrations

Carter's swimming

Congratulations to Carter who achieved Gold in his 50m freestyle race at the West Midlands regional Championship Gala and Silver in the 100m Freestyle race. He also won the 800m at the City Athletics this month, representing the academy.



Shay's street dance

Congratulations to Shay for winning a recent dance competition with the IDTA. Here he is pictured with the choreographer D-Jon McTernan and the President of the IDTA



Coming up in June

- 1 Back to School
- 1 Year 7 AU3 reports
- 2 Year 8 AU3 reports
- 5 - 7 Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition
- 11 Year 7 Parents evening
- 16 Year 9 reports
- 19 - 21 Duke of Edinburgh expedition
- 24 GCSEs end (Contingency day)
- 25 Year 11 Leavers' assembly (students only)
- 25 Year 11 Prom
- 25 Barcelona trip leaves
- 26 INSET
- 29 INSET



Student Rewards

Congratulations to the following students who received phone calls home from Mrs Wagg in May:

- Ruby, Bethanie, Yara, Anyos, Oliver and Esme in Year 7; Freya in Year 8; Millie, Will, Andreea and Eden in Year 9 and Lyla in Year 10

Please let us know of any achievements you'd like to share in the newsletter by sending them to trentham@clt.trentham.coop, with 'Newsletter' in the subject line.