



ACADEMY LIFE

*Aspire
Endeavour
Achieve*



Principal's Update

Welcome to our first edition of Academy Life for this academic year and an extra special welcome to all those families who have joined Trentham Academy for the first time this September. Our newsletter summarises the activities and events at the academy each calendar month. It also celebrates student successes both within and outside the academy, so please let me know any achievements you would like me to include.

I want to start by thanking parents and carers for your support with our high standards and expectations at the start of term. It is great to see the students looking so smart and knowing they are fully equipped for their lessons.

Students have quickly adapted to the new phone pouches. The pouches mean we are able to meet the DfE statutory directive that says, 'The Department for Education (DfE) expects schools to implement a policy whereby pupils do not have access to their mobile phone throughout the school day including during lessons, the time between lessons, breaktimes and lunchtime.'



Continued

We chose pouches because the alternative solutions required phones to be collected in and stored safely; the logistics around this option would have been very challenging. Please remind your child that the DfE statutory guidance has been put in place for their benefit. Evidence now shows how disruptive phones can be for mental health, well-being and concentration and we want to ensure our students are able to learn without the distraction of a phone. The school office is always available for emergency contact.

Already this term we have enjoyed several activities, including two exciting GreenPower visits, which earned us a third-place win as well as a *Spirit of GreenPower* trophy! More about that next time but later in the newsletter you can read about the sports fixtures and our visit to the Houses of Parliament.

During the second week of term, the students who travelled to Ghana this summer with the Character and Arts Foundation were able to share their experiences with those who contribute financially to the foundation. They have also presented to the senior team and will do the same for the Governing Committee next month. It was fantastic to hear about their experiences and see the positive impact it has had on them all.



We also opened the academy for our annual Open Evening on Thursday 10th September. Over 500 visitors enjoyed listening to presentations and then touring all the departments in the academy. A huge thank you to all the staff and students for a very successful evening. If you have friends or family applying for a place in Year 7 for September 2027, the application deadline is 31st October and there are still open mornings available before then to book. Have a look [here](#)

It's hard to believe that September is already over and I'm very much looking forward to another successful academic year!

Best Wishes,

Emma Wagg
Principal

Parliament Visit

By Lily, Year 11

Our trip to Parliament began long before we reached the Houses themselves! As the coach approached London's city centre, there was no shortage of things to see out the window. The city was bustling with people, and scenery changed rapidly; from built-up business districts, to vast green parks and historical monuments, it was fascinating to see so many different styles of architecture and ways of life.



Walking towards the Houses of Parliament was a humbling experience. Nothing can capture how vast and extensive the Houses are, not to mention Big Ben and Westminster Abbey in all their glory. To think about the times in which they were built, and the intricate detail and dedication that would have had to go into their construction was inspiring.

We met with our tour guide at the Houses of Parliament Education Centre, and we were immediately taken through to the Houses themselves. We stood in many of the famous halls and chambers that are broadcasted across the country, including a look inside the King's robing chamber, which isn't filmed!

Being stood in the House of Lords was a really interesting experience. It was a bit surreal to think that the laws that affect my life were discussed in here, but it was also a really helpful experience too. The world of politics and government isn't the easiest to grasp, however our tour guide was brilliant, and having such a visual, practical explanation of how both the House of Lords and Commons worked, really helped me to understand Parliament. It helped me to actually understand how the country is run, and how my decisions and opinions impact that.

Walking around the Houses - seeing the ancient paintings, murals, statues, architecture, upholstery - was nothing short of breathtaking, and I really enjoyed all the snippets of history I learnt along the way!

After our tour, we went into a workshop, which looked at petitions: what they are, how to make one and their impact. It taught me a lot, and made me realise what a big impact I can actually have within society! We had a go at making our own petitions in groups, and put a lot of thought into the factors needed to make them successful.

All-in-all, it was a really great experience! The buildings of London were incredible to behold, and the trip to the Houses of Parliament gave me an insight into how the country is governed, and what impact I can make, even as a teenager!



Sporting Highlights

Football

Year 11 Boys drew 2-2 with OSSMA in their first match of the City Cup group stages.

Cross Country

Some outstanding performances in the Cross Country events:

Girls' Cross Country at Trentham

- Year 7 team came 2nd
- Year 8 & 9 team came 2nd
- Year 10 & 11 team came 4th

Boys' Cross Country at St Joseph's

- Year 7 team came 3rd
- Year 8 & 9 team came 5th
- Year 10 & 11 team came 2nd

After School Extra-Curricular Programme - SPORT

MONDAY

Netball
Year 7 & 8 Girls
Mrs Shaw & Miss McIntosh

TUESDAY

Rugby
Boys - All Years
Mr Almond

Netball
Year 9 & 10 Girls
Mrs Reeves & Miss McIntosh

Table Tennis
All Years
Mr Ablewhite

Dance
Year 7 & 8
Dance Leaders

Dance
Year 9 & 10
Mrs Ball

WEDNESDAY

Badminton
All Years
Mr Aspinall*

Hockey
Year 7 & 8 Girls
NSHC Coach

THURSDAY

Boys' Football
All Years
Mr Rogalski & Mr Ablewhite

Girls' Football
All Years
Mrs Reeves & Miss McIntosh

Basketball
(Team Practice)
Year 10 & 11
Boys

FRIDAY

Basketball
All Years
Hanley Hustlers
Coach*

Run Club
All Years
Miss McIntosh

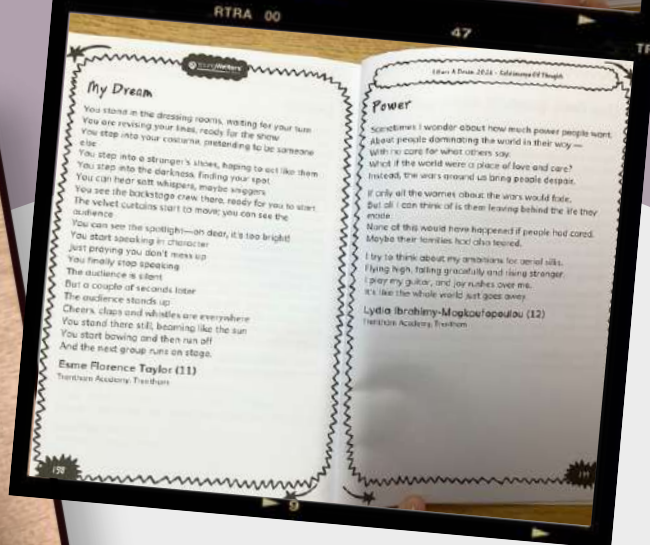
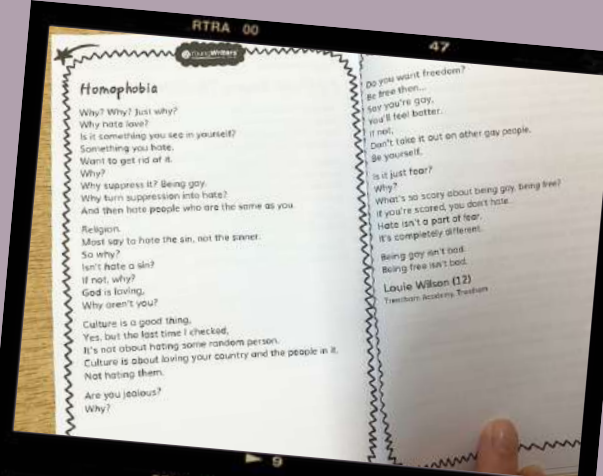
Looking for other activities?
Check out our Extracurricular
Timetable [here](#)

*Sign up and payment required

Student Writers

We've had 11 students published in a book called *"I Have a Dream 2026 - Kaleidoscope of Thoughts."* Well done Louis, Dex, Gethin, Bethanie, Charlotte, Esme, Hazel, Iona, Lola, Lydia and Savannah!

We've also had 39 students nominated for publishing in a book called "Wanted" and can't wait to read their stories!



September Sparx Reader Champions

- Will and Humreet in y7
- Sasha and Holly in y8
- Joe and Scarlett in Y9

Student Achievements



Congratulations to Nomaan who came 3rd place in his karate competition at Repton sports centre in Derby.



Student Achievements

Continued

Oliver entered his first archery competition over the summer and came first in the Under 14 Staffordshire open championship for recurve (this is the type of bow).

Ollie started archery around a year ago, after a taster session at an event at Stafford Castle ended with all arrows in the gold and an encouragement to join up! He is now a member of Trent Valley Archers.

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.



Coming up in October

- 1 Character and Arts Presentation Evening
- 7 Open morning (bookable)
- 8 Open morning (bookable)
- 9 Hello Yellow Charity Day
- 15 Aspire for Life Day 1
- 16 Show Racism the Red Card Charity Day
- 22 Year 7 Settling In Evening
- 23 INSET



Student Rewards

Congratulations to the following students who received positive phone calls home from Mrs Wagg this month:

- Connie, Paige and Jordan in Year 7
- Alina, Amelia, Reggie and Esme in Year 8
- Arlan and Ava in Year 9
- Maggie, Nomaan and Lexi Year 10
- Lily, Rose, Megan, Evie and Ruben in Year 11

Well done everyone!

