



NEWSLETTER

Friday 13th September 2024

Headteacher Message

Dear Parent/Carer

Our strong start to the academic year has continued this week. I have really enjoyed visiting lessons and talking to pupils about their learning.

I am pleased to tell you that we were able to further improve the school learning environment over the summer holidays, with new interior windows in the art/atrium area being installed to reduce the open space and create a far more purposeful atmosphere for learning.

It was a pleasure to welcome pupils and parents from our Year 11 cohort into school yesterday for their 'Welcome to Year 11' evening. I hope you found the evening to be useful. Please let us know if you require any additional information. Next Thursday is our 'Welcome to Year 10' evening and I am looking forward to seeing our families from this year group as pupils embark on their Key Stage 4 pathway.

I would like to finish by congratulating our pupils on the excellent start they have made. Any pupils who have fallen short of our expectations are being sanctioned appropriately but the vast majority have been absolutely superb and I am truly delighted with the start they have made.

With best wishes for the weekend,

Miss Gowan
Headteacher



Victoria Gowan
Headteacher

This week's numeracy puzzle

CAN YOU SOLVE THIS?

$$\triangle + \star = 36$$

$$\triangle - \star = 24$$

$$\triangle \div \star = ?$$

Last week's answer

If this statement was made on January 1st then on December 30th would be when the boy was still 10 (day before yesterday).

December 31st (yesterday) would have been his 11th birthday, so this present year in December he will be 12 so next year he will be 13.

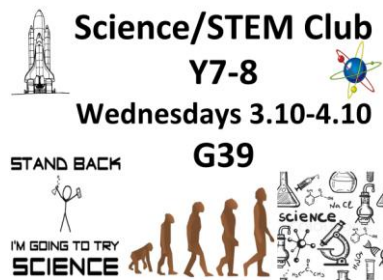
KS3 Termly Round-Up

Firstly, a warm welcome back to Years 8 and 9! Pupils have settled well in to their new classes and have begun the year with real purpose. Year 8 have started learning about acids and alkalis, and Year 9 are investigating light and sound. Year 7 have made a very positive start and are learning the key skills to be successful scientists.

KS4 Termly Round-Up

A HUGE congratulations to Year 10 on the commencement of their GCSE courses in science. We are very pleased with the maturity and dedication that is already on display from our pupils. Year 11 have returned to school determined to make this year count and have settled in to their new topics brilliantly – well done all!

Upcoming Enrichment Opportunities



Mr Hambleton
Head of Department



Mrs Lancelott-Morris
Deputy Head of Department



Mrs Fitzsimon
Classroom Teacher with Responsibility



Mr Young
Assistant Headteacher



Mr Wallace
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs Smith
Classroom Teacher



Mrs Pugh
Classroom Teacher



Miss Sorensen
Classroom Teacher



Ms Abel
Classroom Teacher



Mr Hartley
Classroom Teacher



Mrs Norton
Science Technician



Miss Smart
Classroom Teacher



This should come as no great surprise, but just in case you weren't aware, the Science department LOVE reading!

Mrs Lancelott-Morris has spent the summer curating and purchasing a collection of science-themed books in order to build our very own science library-on-wheels. All of the teachers in the science department have loaned their own personal books to the collection and if you are having a clear out at home, we would gladly take donations too!

Keep your eyes peeled – will this be wheeled in to your classroom over the next half term?

Career in Focus - Protein Biochemist

A protein biochemist is a scientist who studies the chemical and physical properties of proteins. They use a variety of techniques, such as biochemistry, genetics, and molecular biology, to understand how proteins function and interact within living organisms. Protein biochemists often work to identify new proteins, determine their structures, and study their roles in disease and physiology. They may also work on developing new drugs and therapies that target specific proteins. The research of a protein biochemist can be applied in many fields, including medicine, agriculture, and biotechnology.

Something
Exciting
Coming up

**YEAR 9 –
WATCH
THIS
SPACE....**



Mrs Robinson
Science Technician



Mrs Norton
Science Technician

Year 11 pupils pass Mensa test in top 2%

Mensa 

Year 11 Pupils pass Mensa test in top 2%

In July, our Year 10 Elevate Scholars (who are now in Year 11) completed the Mensa test in school. Whilst it doesn't define who a person is or what they can become, it is a measure of a specific set of skills and provides an IQ score. An IQ in the top 2% of the population allows a person to apply to be a member of Mensa and I am delighted to say that 6 pupils scored within the top 2% and will become members of Mensa.

They are Amelia J, Grace D, Jack W, Chloe D, Leah M and Lexie M. We are extremely proud to have some Mensa members as part of our LDA community. Well done!

In total we had 18 pupils who scored in the top 10% for IQ which shows we have some exceptional intelligence in our school.

I look forward to running the tests with Years 10, 9 and 8 this year and hope for more Mensa members in our school community.

Ms Fitzsimon

Maths & Literacy

Year 7 Sparx Launch



Weekly homework for **maths and literacy** launching next week for year 7



Achieve **100%** in each weekly homework to boost your **progress** in **Maths and English**



Complete all your homework and **boost your XP** with independent learning to win school prizes!



Come along to **Sparx maths club** on **Thursday lunchtimes** in **S09a** with Mrs Giblin

 **Sparx Maths**

 **Sparx Reader**