



Dear Students and Parents/Carers,
Welcome to our first newsletter for Year 12 students.

It has been a fantastic start to the new year and I wanted to share some important information with you. Our Year 12 students have shown a positive attitude towards their learning, a strong commitment to their studies and an enthusiastic engagement in wider opportunities in the school and beyond.

Social Action Projects

A social action project prepares students to identify, plan and carry out solutions to problems within their school, community and beyond. Social Action Projects help develop the value and understanding of global citizenship encouraging students to lead, change and inspire not only themselves but also their communities.

Faith Whitehouse, Ellie Wilde, Megan Wyatt, Josh Weston, Abi Gillion, Sophie Sweet organised, promoted and delivered a charity fun run for all students in Y12. This took place on the school field and saw students complete a circuit with a target of completing at least 3 laps. It was a fantastic success and the group were able to collect over £125 for both Cancer Research and the Junior Diabetes Research Foundation. Thank you to everybody who was able to contribute.



Ilisha Evans, Riley Abley, Charlie-Leigh Burke, Florence Piper, Scarlett Price and Jake Brookes held a toy donation event. Alongside the many toys donated the students were also able to hand over a cheque for £72. These were taken to Walsall Manor Hospital and handed over to the Children's Ward.

Fundraising Manager Georgie Westley said: "We're very grateful to the students from Shire Oak Academy and thank them very much.

"The rocking horse will be very welcome in the Children's Ward and we look forward to selling the other items in the hub to raise money for the ward."



Christian Burbridge, Charlie Beckett, Chris Gwillam, Archie Barr and Thomas Hale will be running an Easter Foodbank for the whole school to contribute to. From March 26th they will be encouraging students to donate essential food items and Easter eggs that will be donated to Pelsall Methodist Church. A really great way to play a part in contributing to our wider community.

Enrichment Activities

To ensure that our students develop and flourish in the next chapter of their lives, we provide many enrichment opportunities. These sessions offer advice, support and importantly hands on practical experience in a whole host of different activities. All designed to enhance their life skills. Students are currently following their chosen pathway in careers, current affairs, additional online courses and cooking.

Cooking Enrichment

Students have taken the opportunity to build some essential skills for independence beyond the classroom. They have worked hard to budget, plan, prepare and ultimately enjoy a student friendly meal. It was a fun, if not a little messy session for all!



West Midlands Fire Service

West Midlands Fire Service delivered an important talk called 'Every Choice Counts'.

Students were fully engaged through role play and experienced advice. They gained a better understanding of safer driving choices and behaviour in a vehicle. They were taught coping strategies to deal with peer pressure and were made aware of how peer pressure affects our choices.



Work Experience Reminder

Work experience runs between 11th July and 22nd July 2022

All Year 12 students take part in work experience during the last two weeks of the summer term. Demonstrating transferable skills and work experience on a CV or University application could prove advantageous. Placements so far include accountants, physiotherapists, schools, pharmacies, charity shops to name a few! This year has been particularly difficult to secure a placement following on from covid restrictions, your support in arranging placements is very much appreciated.

Outstanding Students

Year 12 students are working incredibly hard to make great progress in their subjects and we are incredibly proud of these efforts. Some are going even further and demonstrating excellent contributions to their lessons and independent learning.

Faith Whitehouse
Rebecca Edwards
Megan Wyatt
Lilly McLeod
Megan Bell
George Simms
Lydia Hope
Eleanor Vanes
Loukia Zachariou
Leo Brown
Matthew Webster
Olivia Moullick
Eliza Hale
Peter Gaskell
Cerys Jasper
Erin Ward
Matthew Salt
Josh Weston



Save the date

Please be aware of the following important dates in our calendar. More details will follow soon.

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Mock exam period | 26th April- 4th May 2022 |
| UCAS Exhibition Birmingham NEC | 20th June 2022 |
| Next Steps Week | 4th-8th July 2022 |
| Work Experience | 11th-22nd July 2022 |

Dress Code Reminder

May I please take this opportunity to remind you of our Sixth Form Dress code. It is really important that students do not let standards slip throughout the year. Students must have a blazer or jacket every day and hoodies/coats are not a replacement for this.

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| Trousers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tailored trousers - Chino style trousers - Leggings and jeans should not be worn | Tops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A smart formal blouse or fitted shirt (must be long enough to cover the midriff and not low cut). - A collared shirt worn with a tie. - Blazers |
| Skirts & Dresses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To be an appropriate length, no shorter than an inch above the knee - Not to be made of a stretchy material | Footwear <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shoes must be smart leather type; plain dark boots must have no embellishments and not be more than knee high. - Doc Martens, Converse, Uggs, Rigger style boots and trainers should not be worn. |
| Makeup and hair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discreet and professional - Hair should be a natural colour and no extreme hairstyles! | Jewellery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One ring on each hand - Stud earrings - No facial piercings (a small discreet nose stud is acceptable) |

Attendance

There is a direct link between attendance and attainment at school. Shire Oak Academy is therefore committed to working with parents and carers to ensure all students achieve as high a level of attendance as possible. Students are set a target of achieving at least 96% attendance.

Year 12 attendance continues to be good and in comparison to the national picture, is favourable. A huge well done to our Year 12s for continuing to attend school despite the current climate.

However, we can still do better! We will be working with students closely to put in place interventions and strategies to improve attendance where needed.

Parents – your support here will be crucial.

Students - if you, for whatever reason, miss any of your lessons, then it is your responsibility as students to contact your class teacher to catch up with the work missed. This should be done in advance of the next timetabled lesson in that subject area.

I hope that you have enjoyed reading about everything that is going on within our Sixth Form, as much as I and all of the other staff involved, have enjoyed seeing our students engaging in these activities/events. We have a fantastic group of students in Year 12, and I encourage them to keep working hard and exposing themselves to new opportunities – this will see them go from strength to strength as they progress through their A-level journey.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mr. Jones and The Sixth Form Team

