

# End of Term Update



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL MICHAEL FITZSIMONS



Welcome to our end of term newsletter. The proportion of students on track to achieve graduation is excellent this year, despite the turbulent start to the year where work experience was threatened slightly because of Covid-19. As a reminder, graduation is measured on:

- Attendance
- Conduct
- Engagement with enrichment
- Engagement with work experience

It is great to see so many students achieving their graduation pass with first- and second-class honours, no easy feat I can assure you. It has also been great to hear the Year 12 House Captain pitches recently. The standard of speeches has been excellent, and I look forward to working closely with our newly established Pupil Leadership Group or 'PLG' from term 6 onwards. The existing Year 13 PLG need a special mention for all their hard work and commitment over the past year. They have been an inspirational group of young people to work with and have embodied our professional standards and civic virtues throughout their time at the academy.

As I write, the examinations for Year 13 (and some of Year 12) are now in full swing and have gotten off to an excellent start. Year 13 students are well versed with independent study techniques such as flashcards, Cornell note taking, past exam papers, 15-minute mentors and with the principal of spaced retrieval practice. Although students have officially stood down, attendance at Pre-Exam Workshops (PEWs) is expected. We also have the prom to look forwards to next term, which is always a fantastic end to two years of study.

I'll finish by wishing a very fond farewell to all our Year 13 students, who now become the masters of their own destinies. As the American pastor John Maxwell reminds us: "The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. The leader adjusts the sails."

Best of luck.

## DATES FOR THE DIARY



## STUDENT WELL-BEING

Next term we will working closely with Positive Identities to run a peer support group and one to one support sessions. Positive Identities are a Yorkshire based LGBTQ+ service. Providing services & support to LGBTQ young people alongside training & support for organisations working with them.



## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AWARDS 2022



- **THE JOSHUA BENTLEY AWARD FOR MENTAL TOUGHNESS - BRADLEY MACHABVUNGA**
- **THE BRANDON HARDER AWARD FOR ATTENTION TO DETAIL - GEORGE ROOK**
- **THE TIA SMITH AWARD FOR WORK ETHIC - OLIVIA FULLARD**
- **THE ZAIN ALI AWARD FOR INTEGRITY - RUHAAN BUTT**
- **THE ISOBEL KITCHEN AWARD FOR OVERALL PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS - TOBY KNOWLES**
- **THE COREY KNIGHT AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE - REBEKAH GARRISH**



## ASPIRATIONS

This term, students have been supported with completing applications for apprenticeships. Our careers adviser, Laura, has been working with small groups of Year 13 students to make sure they are ready to enter the world of work.

From this, we have seen a lot of success with students securing some excellent apprenticeships opportunities, including Beth Hendsen who has secured an opportunity as a Clinical Support Worker at Leeds Teaching Hospital (NHS apprenticeship).



## Trinity Scholars

Year 12 Scholars are in full preparation mode for completing their personal statements in the summer term. Some of them have managed to secure funded places on some of the most prestigious summer residentials including Niamh Whitehead who will be spending some of her summer at Oxford University!

## SUCCESS STORIES!

Last term, Imaan Ali secured a degree apprenticeship in Accountancy working for Watson and Buckle Chartered Accountants. She starts this position in September and has worked incredibly hard to secure this. Juggling 3 subjects, English Language, Business and Economics whilst working part time and completing enrichment to develop skills needed for the workplace.

## WE ARE CALDERDALE

On Thursday 26th May, a group of our students once again participated in the annual We Are Calderdale celebration, put on by Calderdale Council. Habibba Tasawar and Natali Jakovleva co-hosted the event, and were outstandingly composed and confident throughout. We also had a group of 7 students who took part in a panel on climate change in which they answered questions from councillor Scott Archer-Patient about their views on the climate emergency. Our students were an inspiration. They were confident in their arguments, which were deeply rooted in an impressive range of factual and conceptual knowledge, and then powerful - and at times even provocative - in their presentations. The event can be viewed at the following link, with the climate change panel beginning at around 29 minutes in:

[We Are Calderdale 2022: Calderdale Together](#)



## RESTITCH EVENT

On Friday 27th May, thirty year 12 Geography, History and Politics students went to Square Chapel in the Piece Hall to participate in the 'Restitch' social fabric summit. It commenced in London at the beginning of the week and culminated with Lisa Nandy MP (Shadow Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) delivering a key note address in Halifax, which was hosted by Lord O'Shaughnessy, Chair of the House of Lords. Our students took every opportunity to get involved and even posed questions to the subsequent panel debate, asking them to consider the very specific problems facing the elderly in our community.

