

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

**GOOD LUCK!**  
**BELIEVE IN YOURSELF**  
**YOU CAN DO IT!**  
**TRY YOUR BEST**  
**STAY CALM**  
**SMASH IT!**

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of another busy week at the Academy, I wanted to take a moment to share some important updates and reflections.

Firstly, our exam season is now officially underway. Our Year 11 students have begun their GCSEs, and I want to take this opportunity to say how proud we are of them. They have been thoroughly prepared and have shown a fantastic level of enthusiasm, determination and drive to succeed. We wish them the very best of luck – we're confident they'll absolutely smash it!

This week also saw our Year 8 Progress Evening take place. We trialled a slightly different venue for the event, using the Canteen, Music Room and Drama Studio. It was great to hear some positive feedback from parents on the night who found the new setting preferable. If you have any thoughts about the evening—or any aspect of Academy life—we'd love to hear from you. A reminder that we are holding a Parent Consultation Evening on Monday 19th May from 5–6pm, where families can share their ideas and help shape how the Academy runs.

Mr Askham invited members of the business world in this week and held a 'What's My Line' careers event with our Year 7 students. Students were given clues and then had to guess the professions. They heard from an air traffic controller, an attorney, an optician and more. The students thoroughly enjoyed the session and it is definitely something we will run again.

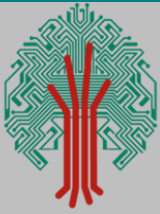
Finally, I will be writing to all parents and carers in the coming weeks with information about forthcoming changes for next term and the next academic year. This will include updates on staffing and arrangements for the final half term.

Thank you for your continued support. Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Warm regards,

Pete Leatherland—Principal






## YEAR 11 PROM

Prom tickets are now on sale from the front office at break and lunchtimes.

We are also looking for donations of cans/bottles of pop or water. These will be used during the course of the evening. Any donations can be dropped off at the front office.







## NEURODIVERSITY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025

### What is neurodiversity?


**Neurodiversity** is a word used to describe the different thinking styles that affect how people communicate with the world around them. **Neurodivergence** is the term for when someone's brain processes, learns, and/or behaves differently from what is considered "typical". Some neurodivergent conditions include:

- Dyslexia
- Dyspraxia
- Dyscalculia
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC).

### Common signs of neurodiversity in children and young people.


Neurodivergence is very complex and will vary for every child and young person, however some of the common differences include;

- **Social Challenges:** Struggle to initiate or maintain conversations. Prefer to play alone, or struggle to understand social cues, such as body language or tone.
- **Difficulty Communicating:** Challenges with understanding jokes or sarcasm, may take things very literally. Often a lack of eye contact can be a sign.
- **Repetitive Behaviours & Interests:** They may have a deep, passionate interest in one or a few topics. They may have repetitive movements or routines, such as hand flapping, rocking or repeating certain behaviours continuously.
- **Sensory Sensitivities:** These can include being overly sensitive to bright lights or loud sounds, textures of clothes or certain smells. They may avoid crowds or busy places or appear overwhelmed by noises or visuals in certain settings.
- **Attention & Focus Issues:** Some children may have trouble staying on task or get easily distracted. Some children may act without thinking, making decisions quickly or getting easily distracted.
- **Motor-skills and Coordination:** Some children may display clumsiness or difficulty with fine motor skills, such as difficulty with handwriting, using utensils, or participating in sports.
- **Emotional Regulation Challenges:** Neurodivergent children may have trouble managing their emotions, leading to meltdowns, shutdowns or outbursts. Feelings of frustration if things are not going as expected. Some children might experience higher rates of anxiety or depression due to feeling 'different.'
- **Difficulty with Reading, Writing or Maths:** Some children may struggle with reading, spelling, numbers and organising their thoughts.



## Neurodiversity advice & support

There are a number of services and charities that can offer advice and support. Click on the logos to head straight to their websites!



## Mental Health Awareness Week



This year, Mental Health Awareness Week will take place from 12 to 18 May 2025. The theme for 2025 is 'Community'. Being part of a community is vital for our mental health and wellbeing. We thrive when we have strong connections with others and supportive communities around us. Communities can provide a sense of belonging, safety, practical and emotional support during challenging times, and a shared sense of purpose.

Reference: The Mental Health Foundation

Click [here](#) to a host of groups, clubs and organisations to help you find your community.


### Key Dates

- NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH MONTH
- DEAF AWARENESS WEEK 5-12TH MAY
- SCREENFREE WEEK 5-12TH MAY
- MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK 12-18TH MAY
- PINK TO SCHOOL WEEK 19-23RD MAY



FIND OUT MORE HERE!

LET'S GET SOCIAL!



Health • Well-being • School Spirit • PE • Physical Activity

**We currently have a lot of water bottles in our lost property.**  
**If you recognise any of these, please come to the front office to claim.**




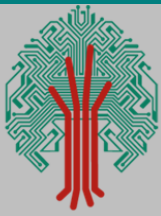


**Years 7—10 are invited to wear a splash of green on Friday 16th May 2025 for Mental Health Awareness Week.**

**There will be a cake sale and face painting during social times.**



<div><b>Welland Park Academy</b> Learning For Life</div> <div><b>Welland Park Academy Lunch &amp; Deli Menu</b> Week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> May 25</div>					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Concept	Indian	Italian	Best of British	Asian	Chip Day
Option 1	Oven-baked Tandoori Chicken	Beef Lasagne	Sausages & Onion Gravy	Chicken Curry	Chicken Breast Nuggets
Option 2	Spicy Vegetable Wrap	Mushroom Risotto	Broccoli Cheese	Sweet & Sour Vegetable Stir-fry	Vegan Sausage Roll
Sides	New Potatoes Salad	Herby Diced Potatoes Mixed Vegetables	Roast Potatoes Carrots & Peas	White Fluffy Rice Sweetcorn	Chips Baked Beans
Authentic Italian	Authentic Italian Pizza and Pasta Bar				
Hot Deli	Cheese & Tomato Panini Jacket & Topping	Tuna Melt Panini Jacket & Topping	Cheese & Onion Panini Jacket & Topping	Roasted Veg Panini Jacket & Topping	Cheese Panini Jacket & Topping



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **29th April – 10th June:** Leicestershire Police Hate Crime Talks (Years 8 & 10, running weekly)
- **19th May:** Parent & Carer Consultation Evening, 5–6pm
- **21st May:** Year 7 Progress Evening (in person)
- **3rd June:** Year 10 Financial Awareness Talk
- **10th June:** Second Year 10 Financial Awareness Talk
- **17th June:** Motivational Talk by Ruebyn Ricardo (Year 7)
- **24th June:** Summer Concert
- **26th June:** Year 11 Presentation Evening
- **27th June:** Year 11 Prom

## STAY HYDRATED

As the weather is getting warmer please ensure your child has a water bottle that they can refill during the day. We have water stations throughout the school that can be accessed at break and lunch.

