



# Abraham Darby Academy

Haberdashers' Adams' Federation

*Members of the Family of Haberdashers' Schools*

Principal's News

Week 3

19<sup>th</sup> September 2008

## Principal's Message

We have had a wonderful start to our first term as the Abraham Darby Academy. The students are responding magnificently to the new challenges presented by the Academy and they look so smart in their new uniforms. Not only are they exhibiting a new found pride in their appearance, but it is also serving to create a positive, business like atmosphere that is benefiting their studies.

As the Principal, I am delighted by the warmth with which I have been welcomed and really encouraged by the manner in which the students are responding to the expectations we have of them. In monitoring the progress of Year 11 students we have already completed our first round of estimated grades. Progress is encouraging and we were able to share this with them in assembly last week. The students were pleased, encouraged and even surprised to be shown just what they are capable of and I sensed a real determination and resolve on their part to achieve the challenging targets we have set for them.

In the first Newsletter we made you aware of the wide range of extra curricular and curriculum enrichment activities on offer. These are meeting with an enthusiastic response from students, with the newly introduced inter-house competitions proving particularly popular. If your child is not involving themselves, please encourage them to do so. The education of the 'whole child' is a central feature of the educational experience we wish to create and it is very important that all students engage in this aspect of Academy life.

## Abraham Darby is on track for Sept. 2009 opening its 6<sup>th</sup> Form Provision.

You will have seen press coverage of Telford and Wrekin's post 16 consultation. It was sensible that the end date for our consultation exercise be delayed to coincide with the area wide review, but rest assured that this will not interfere with our intention of opening a Sixth Form provision at the Academy in September 2009. As well as continuing the external consultation, senior staff are currently consulting students about the nature of the provision that they desire.

## 'Celebrating the Beijing Olympics' – a T&W Art Competition for Gifted and Talented Students

Congratulations to Katie Mortram who was the only secondary school winner in T&W in this competition.

## Training and Work Experience Places

Carl Norbury has been successful in passing an interview and being accepted by The Malthouse Ironbridge to further his vocational interest in Catering.

Gavin Bailey, Jake Saunders, Adam Humphries, Nathan Bourton, Lisa Heath and Andrew Pryce have been accepted onto a new course called 'Springboard' being organised through T&W Education dept and EDS. This week they have started the induction course and will then go onto work placements to gain a range of Vocational skills.

Jessica Murray has successfully passed an interview and has started Hairdressing training at the Wolverhampton College, at Oakengates.

## Young Writers Book Series

The short stories of 20 Year 11 students from Abraham Darby Academy have been chosen to be published in the "Spark the Imagination" Book Series scheduled to be published in November 2008.

The students were asked to write a mini saga on any theme that inspired them. Work was then selected for publication based on perception, imagination, expression, good use of language and completing the deceptively difficult task.

This is the eighteenth year the competition has run and they received a tremendous amount of entries, so the Abraham Darby students did well to have their entries accepted for publication. The successful students were:

Kirsty Colclough  
Sarah Twigg  
Hannah Baker  
Jacob De-Vine  
Alexander Durnall  
Nicole Freebury  
Rebecca Powell

Thomas Clarke  
Thomas Managh  
Natalie Barnett  
Sophie Galvin  
Carl Evans  
Shaun Coldicutt  
Jordan Reynolds

Matthew Davison  
Jack Maullin  
David Dodson  
Michelle Guest  
Luke Fletcher  
Mitchell Smith

Congratulations to them all.

## Year 7 Technology Challenge

As part of their introductory course in Design Technology at Abraham Darby Academy Year 7 students took part in a "marble challenge". Working in teams they had to design and make a structure that would roll a marble the furthest distance across the floor. There was a clear winner with team 9 rolling the marble 7 metres and 57 cms.



The members of the winning team were Danielle Hill, Mathew Hewish, John Genna, Alexander Davies, Simon Weston, Jake Green, Teresa Nash.

## Army Air Corp Band Visit Abraham Darby.

On Friday the 19th September we are fortunate to be able to host a workshop and concert from the Army Air Corps Band here in the Academy. This highly professional group of musicians are a great inspiration to our players and to those thinking about starting to play an instrument. In the morning students involved in the Abraham Darby Bands will take part in a workshop and then in the afternoon the Army musicians will perform a concert for Year 7 students.



Summer  
Watersports  
Trip

## MUSIC EXAMS

Students wishing to be entered for a TRINITY Grade Exam in DECEMBER must see Miss Morton for an application form as soon as possible, and return the form and entry fee by

**Friday 17th OCTOBER**  
at the latest!

## Upper School Girls' Football

Thursdays 3.00pm – 4.00pm starting this week.

## Born Communications

ICT Club meets Room C9, Tuesdays 3.00-4.30pm, in conjunction with Born Communication, Wolverhampton, starting this week.

## Jekyll and Hyde

Fraser Callaghan is receiving rave reviews for his performances in the production of Jekyll and Hyde at the Arena Theatre in Wolverhampton as part of the Wolverhampton Youth Music and Theatre group. He is by far the youngest cast member with a named role.

## House Sport

House sport got underway last week. There was a good turnout of spectators and a super atmosphere on and off the field.

In the inter house Girls Netball competition, Ash are currently top of the table with 3 wins and Elm second with 2 wins. In the inter house Football competition Elm are top of the table with two wins; Ash & Oak are joint second with one win each.

Overall it has been an excellent start. It is Year 7 & 8 this week. It is still early days and the competition is very close between all the houses.

## Supporters of Music at Abraham Darby Academy (SMADA)

SMADA members do invaluable work supporting Music at Abraham Darby – raising funds, supporting the Saturday Music programme and supporting the Bands. Their AGM takes place on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 7.00pm in the Academy. If you are interested please do come along to learn how you can become involved.

## Summer Photo Caption Competition.

**Open to all students.** Entries can be digital or print. There are 3 categories - 'Fun' 'Challenge' and 'Adventure'

The best in each year will receive WHSmith vouchers, and have their photos displayed around the academy.

Photos with captions should be given to Miss Moszynska in D7 by 29<sup>th</sup> September.



“Who’s afraid of the teachers?”

## Next Week's Sports fixtures.

### Boys

Year 9 - 7 a side football @ Madeley Academy 3 - 4 pm Tuesday 23rd September

Year 8 football @ Charlton 3.30 kick off Thursday 25th September

### Girls

Year 10 netball @ Idsall 3.15 - 5.30pm Thursday 25th September.

Girls Active - 1st session @ Madeley Wednesday 24th September 4-5pm.

### Cross Country

Boys and girls in all years Cross Country @ Abraham Darby Academy 4-6pm Wednesday 24th September.

Practices and inter-house competition will take place as normal.

Trip to watch Manchester Utd v Middlesborough Tuesday 23rd September.

## Advance Notice for Parents - Year 10 & 11 GCSE Exam Timetable Nov. 2008

Date	Components
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> Nov AM	3702/1F English A Paper 1 Tier F 3702/1H English A paper 1 Tier H
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov AM	3702/1F English A Paper 2 Tier F 3702/1H English A Paper 2 Tier H
Thu 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov am	43053/F Mathematics Module 3 Tier F 43053/H Mathematics Module 3 Tier H
Thu 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov PM	43051/F Mathematics Module 1 Tier F 43051/H Mathematics Module 1 Tier H

## Parent Governor Vacancy.

There is a vacancy for a Parent Governor for the Academy and on the Haberdashers' Adams' Federation. Nomination forms are being sent home this week. If you are interested in the role, please fill in the nomination form and return to Nicola Kendall in the Federation Office at the Academy. To learn more about the Governors and their role please make an appointment to see Jim Richardson via Nicola Kendall (tel: 386054.)

## Parent E mail addresses.

If you have an E mail address you can supply the Academy, please do so. This would mean that you can receive future newsletters by E mail. (The newsletters will also be placed on the Academy website) If we have your E mail address it will also allow us over time to begin to supply you with a lot more information about what's going on in the Academy and your children's progress in and outside the classroom.

Alternatively the Newsletters can be viewed on the Academy Website.

If you have any comments/suggestions about the Newsletter please contact the Federation Office.

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With my very best wishes

Steve Hawke  
Principal