



Abraham Darby Academy

Haberdashers' Adams' Federation

Members of the Family of Haberdashers' Schools

Principal's News

Week 5

3rd October 2008

Principal's Musings

Five weeks of term have passed and it seems like only five minutes – our Academy is starting to buzz!

Attendance is well over 90%, lateness is minimal and students are going happily, smartly and purposefully about their business. Staff comment regularly on how the students have been 'lifted' by the new Academy and how well they are responding to the expectations we have of them and the increased challenge that involves.

A key feature of the educational experience we are striving to create for our students involves a rich and comprehensive range of curriculum enrichment and extra curricular activities. The range available is becoming more extensive and includes dance, drama, theatre trips, music, art clubs, ICT and gardening and a range of team sports of both inter-house and inter-school level. One of my aspirations is that all students should be involved in this aspect of Academy life and parents should be actively encouraging them to do so. Selection for a House or Academy team must be viewed as an achievement and an honour it is a commitment that must be undertaken with pride and responsibility.

The Abraham Darby Academy is about developing confident, successful and ambitious young men and women. This can be achieved by giving students as wide a range of opportunities as possible. This is why I place so much importance on both the formal and informal elements of the schooling experience we offer.

County Golfer

Lauren Clarkson is Vice Captain of the Shropshire County Girls Golf team. She has had a busy summer playing at her Bridgnorth club in the Junior Handicap League. Following on from their success they then went to play at Harewood Downs Club in Amersham against all of the UK County teams and the team came in an impressive 5th out of 33. Lauren is looking forward to taking on the Captaincy of the County team next year and maybe even reducing her handicap of 16!



Budding Percussion Superstar

I would like to make special mention of Ryan Richards in Year 8, who passed his grade 1 Drum exam in the summer with distinction having only been learning the drums for about 3 months. I missed him off the list last week!

"Most people never run far enough on their first wind to find out they've got a second. Give your dreams all you've got and you'll be amazed at the energy that comes out of you."

William Jones. Philosopher and Psychologist.

Sports Calendar Week beginning 6th October

Fixtures

Tuesday	Year 8 football	7 a side Tournament	Burton Borough
Wednesday	Year 11 football	vs Sundorne School	Home
Thursday	Year 8 football	vs Hadley Learning Community	Home

Inter-house

Tuesday	Netball Year 9, 10 & 11
Thursday	Football Year 9, 10 & 11

Clubs to run as normal

Monday	Boxing
Tuesday	Rugby
Wednesday	Cross Country
Thursday	Football - 7 & 8

Parental support at House matches or inter school fixtures is very welcome

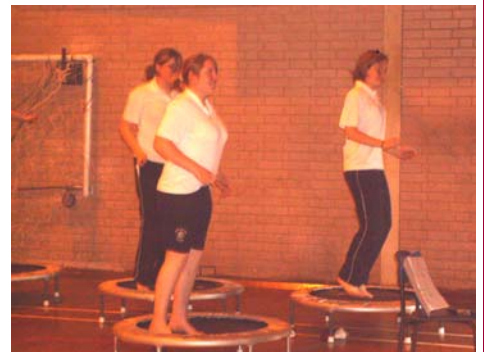
Year 10 Telford Netball Tournament

Congratulations to the Year 10 Netball team who performed well in the Telford netball Tournament at Idsall School last Thursday - Jade Biddulph Captain, Naomi Jenks, Bethany Diss, Chelsea Frost, Aimee Marchant, Helen Davison, Sarah Clarke and Zoe Ayton

Results included a brilliant win against Burton Borough and a superb result against Newport High only losing 5-4. They came 5th overall.

'Girls Active'

Last Wednesday a group of Year 10 Girls were selected to attend 'Girls Active'. This is a new initiative run by the Madeley Sports Partnership to encourage girls to participate in different sporting activities. The first session was held at Madeley Academy and the girls were able to take part in a range of activities including kick boxing, trampolining and boogie bounce. The afternoon was extremely successful and everyone is excited about the next session due to take place on Wednesday 22nd October.



"Researchers have determined that it is impossible to develop eye strain from looking on the bright side."

"Ability is what you are capable of doing. Motivation determines what you can do. Attitude determines how well you do it"



The Haberdashers' Adams' Federation Abraham Darby Academy

A new Academy, with traditional values as its core, aiming to develop in young people the qualities and confidence to play a useful, productive and leading role in society and do amazing things with their lives.

Open Days

Thursday 9th October 2008

9.00-11.45am

6.00-9.00pm

Monday 13th Tuesday 14th October from

9.00 – 11.45am

Alternatively see the 'Academy in Action'. Visit the academy by appointment at 11am on Wednesdays throughout the year.

Tel: 01952 386000

E-mail: ad.academy@taw.org.uk



Macmillan Coffee Morning



Congratulations to the Year 10 Hospitality and Catering Group prepared and decorated cakes for The Coffee Morning. The event was very well supported by staff and students alike and around £100 was raised for the Charity.



Art Workshop at the Andrew Logan Museum

On Monday the Art Department took the Year 10 Applied Art students to the Andrew Logan Museum. It was a strange little place just outside of Welshpool. It was arranged that we would take part in an educational workshop which would be held by the museum educational officer. But by a coincidence Andrew Logan himself was going to be there on that day and had offered to run the workshop himself!

He creates all kinds of artwork and fashion but his jewellery in particular is well known and he has customers including Elton John and Kim Catrell. Students were inspired by the artwork on show and also instilled with the power of the 20ft cosmic egg in the museum and so sat down to begin creations of their own. Andrew was very hands on with the activities and all students were able to produce 2 - 3 pieces of jewellery which can be included in their current coursework project back at the academy. Well done to all students involved - a spectacular day!



'Artwork of the Week'

"Congratulations to Josh Reah of 10 ADG. His tonal sketch of a pineapple has been awarded 'Artwork of the Week' status. The work will be displayed for one week outside the Art Department."



Boardroom Managers of the Future



As part of their programme to find out more about the working and characteristics of businesses Year 10 Business Studies visited Epson last week.



Calling all budding artists (parents & staff)

To all budding artists out there who have always wanted to master the technique of producing pleasing artwork there is an opportunity to take part in a six week course in Drawing and Painting at Adams' Grammar School. Aimed chiefly at beginners and those who wish to improve their existing skills, the focus will be on observational drawing, looking at principles of shape, tone, form and composition. It is open to any interested member of the public. Drawing is the key skill of the artist and this course will give you the simple principles necessary to set you on a journey of discovery which is both challenging and exciting. We will be looking at the use of colour as well as developing work from secondary sources, such as photographs and found images.

The course will take place over six sessions of two hours' duration in the School Art Department. Basic materials, such as pencils and brushes, also an A2 cartridge paper sketch book will be provided, however students will be expected to provide specialist materials such as paints.

The cost for the six sessions will be £65 payable in advance by cheque or cash. The course will take place on Thursday nights from 7.00pm to 9.00pm, commencing on Thursday 6th November through to Thursday 11th December.

Places on the course are limited to 12 and will be given on a first come first served basis! To learn more please contact Mrs J. Lane, Extended School Office, Adams' Grammar School, Newport, Shropshire, TF10 7BD or e-mail to: julie.lane@adamsgs.org.uk

Parent E mail addresses.

Parents were requested to return their "Data Checking Sheets" to the Academy by last Friday. Once these are inputted into our systems we should be able to send the Newsletter home by E mail rather than the "at times slightly less reliable Student Post." The newsletters are also being 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.

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With my very best wishes

Steve Hawke
Principal