



Abraham Darby Academy

Haberdashers' Adams' Federation

Members of the Family of Haberdashers' Schools

Principal's News

Week 6

10th October 2008

Principal's Musings

We had a wonderful Enrichment Day last Friday centred on House Activities. Through the educational, cultural and sporting activity taking place at a house level on such days and throughout the year we want to involve all students, so that they feel that they belong to the House and the Academy and that they are getting kudos from their involvement.

Academic progress is important, but so too is the personal development of students. We want students through their involvement in House and wider Academy activities, such as sport and music, to develop judgement, a sense of justice, integrity, loyalty, initiative, decisiveness, moral courage, resilience, a sense of community, enthusiasm, selflessness, knowledge of others, physical courage, endurance, teamwork, self-confidence, respect, self-esteem.

These are the traits necessary for them to have a successful and fulfilling life.

Enrichment Day 'King of the Hill' and 'Photo Trail' events

Well done to students from all years who took part in the Enrichment Day House Challenges!

The first challenge was King of the Hill, a game played on a massive square pitch on the school playing fields. With the objective of 'stealing' house tokens from each other's zones, house teams raided enthusiastically whilst trying not to be 'frozen' (tagged) by the defenders. The degree of success varied wildly, with members of staff in charge of handing out tokens often having to ask certain houses to queue up! By the end of the day, with all tokens counted, Ash house were declared winners, followed closely by Beech, Oak and Elm.

Following the King of the Hill was Photo Trail. This challenge tested student's geography and maths skills, as well as their speed. Teams followed a trail of photographs on signs, with each photograph pointing them to the next location. As they went round, each sign would also give them a mathematical adjustment to make to a starting number. The winners were the team that made it to the secret finishing location first with the correct number. A massive congratulations to the year 10 Oak house team of Lee Aston, Josh Reah, Luke Jones, Michael Palin, Ajinder Bahra and Aidan Cooper, who set a lightning time of thirteen minutes and ten seconds, the fastest of the day.



House
Quiz

Enrichment Day – “It’s a Knockout Competition”

Thanks to tremendous support from all staff, the 'It's a Knockout' activity that took place in the Gym and Sports Hall throughout the day proved how versatile our students can be. A range of timed challenges, which consisted of, Team Jigsaw, Buzzer Wire, Word Game and Beanbag Throw to mention a few, were completed by each year group in turn, with teams from each of the houses competing for the most points. There was a high level of participation from all students taking part. We began the day with Year 9 getting involved with their usual energy, followed by each year in turn. The challenges were selected to encourage teamwork alongside other practical skills such as balance and hand eye coordination, but mainly it was to encourage everyone to have fun!



Army Leadership & Team Building Exercises



The Army came into the Academy on enrichment day to put a group of Year 10 and 11 students through their paces. Students were split into groups and had to use logic and strength as a team to solve different problems, ranging from getting “Tom” (a casualty) across a river using only ropes and tubes, to walking round a course as a team with 1 plank attached to everyone’s right foot and 1 attached to their left. Students were never in any danger of getting cold either! Anyone found folding their arms or putting their hands in their pockets was sent for a run, or punished with push ups! Congratulations to everyone who took part – the soldiers were very impressed with your effort and attitude.



House Athletics

Supporters of Music at Abraham Darby Academy (SMADA)
Bingo!! Thursday 16th October in the Dining Hall at 7pm - everyone is welcome.

ORE - Refining Design

ORE is a group of enthusiastic students from Years 10 & 11. In conjunction with Mark Yorke of Born Communication, Wolverhampton, the group has set up their own design company.

ORE has been operating for fifteen months. Currently ORE has been commissioned by Telford Culture Zone to develop a website which promotes cultural and arts events in the Telford area and beyond.

The design team members: Banayiodis Vanezi, Tom Jacobs, Johnathan Banks, Sarah Bourn, Gemma-Louise Fairs and Gemma Polatajko, are interested in ideas you might have about the website they have designed.

www.foretel.org.uk



What information would you like to see included? Log on and 'tell us what you think' by using the online feedback form available on the site.

Work Experience placements within the Community

As part of their Health and Social Care course Year 11 students have taking the opportunity to go into a range of care settings on work experience. During the time at the placement setting they will carry out survey work, finding out how the services provide for the needs of the client groups. They will also carry out a range of tasks that will help them to explain in their coursework the day to day tasks of a care worker.

Layla Hughes - Hollinswood Nursery
 Nicole Doyle - Hollinswood Nursery
 Danielle Robb Onions - Sutton Hill Day Nursery
 Emma Thornton - Sutton Hill Day Nursery
 Sarah Westwood - Sutton Hill Day Nursery
 Paula Devey - Lincoln Grange Residential Home
 Abbie Robinson - Lincoln Grange Residential Home.
 Emma Smith - Chilcot Gardens Residential Home.

We are delighted with the way these students have conducted themselves working

'Artwork of the Week'

This weeks 'Artwork of the Week' has been awarded to Tammi Perkins of 7 PHM. Her colourful Art Rules poster really catches the eye and conveys the message brilliantly. Well done Tammi."



Next Week's Sports fixtures – week beginning 13th October.

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| Monday | Boxing Club | |
| Tuesday | Year 7 '7 a side Football Tournament' | Phoenix School Rugby Club |
| | Inter House Netball Years 7 & 8 | |
| Wednesday | Cross Country at Lord Silkin | |
| Thursday | Inter House Football Years 7 & 8 | |
| | Netball Year 7 | Hadley Learning Community |
| | Yr 10 Football vs Charlton | Home |

Please remember, supporters are always welcome.

Book Week" 13th – 17th October 2008

An amazing programme of activities has been developed for Book week involving the whole Academy:

Monday 13th October

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| A Natural History Lecture by Rodger Pearson, "The Animal Man" | All years |
| Reading and Talks by Shropshire library Services | Year 7 |
| Drama Workshops to develop Literacy by Ian Billing | Drama Groups |

Tuesday

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| Workshops & Performance by the Puppets Galore company | Year 8 & Woodlands Primary |
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Wednesday

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| Staff Stories – True or False | Year 10 |
| Drama Roleplay and Script writing workshops | Year 10 |

Thursday

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| Presentation by John Malaam (writer of non fiction books) | Year 8 |
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Friday

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| Book Quiz Final | All years |
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Monday 20th Oct

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| Poetry Workshops by Ian Bland | Year 7 |
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In addition there will be a sponsored read for *Readathon* for Years 7 & 8 in mentor time, a *Big Green Poetry Competition* for Year 7 and all departments will have a literacy theme in their lessons during the week

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