

ACADEMY NEWSLETTER MARCH 2022

E-ACT Parkwood
Academy

E-ACT



31ST MARCH 2022

Dear parent/carer

Thank you again for your unwavering support this term. As always, it is very much appreciated. Our students continue to work extremely hard, as do our staff, in order to continue to strive to provide the best educational experience that we can.

This news letter will set out some 'need to know' information for our parents/carers and also provide you with some great news stories and achievements over this last term.

Monday 18th April is Easter Bank Holiday Monday, **so all students will return to the academy on Tuesday 19th April 2022.**

Wishing you all a relaxed and enjoyable Easter.

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What's happened this term?

We ran a very successful Careers Week, w/c 7th March, with a jam packed timetable of learning, and how it links into the world of work.

We celebrated International Women's Day on 8th March

On 18th March, as an academy we supported Red Nose Day, in support of so many worthy causes.



On the 18th March, we were fortunate to secure a guest who works with the Safer Roads Partnership to deliver a talk to a number of our Y11 students in an intervention called TTC Young Driver Workshop.

On 24th March, we ran a Drop-down Morning for Year 10 aimed at educating them on Consent, STI and Contraception and Healthy Relationships, and there were a number of volunteers from Sheffield Hallam, who came into the academy to run the drop down.

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What's happened this term?

Parkwood were proud to host the Regional Celebration Awards on 29th March, where students from E-ACTS northern regional academies came together to celebrate Art, writing and put on some amazing performances. We are extremely proud to announce that **Hollie Hallam, one of our Y10 students took home the award for best Art**, and will now be entered into the National Awards. Well done Hollie, and well done to all our students who took part. Please look out for photo's of the event via our social media pages

Our Friendship afternoon took place on 30th March for our upcoming Y7s. All pupils, parents and carers were invited to come along to get a feel for the academy and a flavour of what would be on offer for them, when they start with us in the new academic year. Our Head Teacher, Mrs Cottingham gave a presentation, whilst the rest of our senior leadership team, introduced themselves and talked through their areas of responsibility in the academy. We then conducted tours of the academy, followed by a questions and answers session. Finally, they were given the opportunity to take part in sampling some of the amazing food that our canteen staff serve up. It was an extremely successful event for both students and parents, and we can't wait to welcome our new Y7s in September! Please look out for photos of the event via our social media pages

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Author visit from renowned author, Sufiya Ahmed

As part of our commitment to celebrating reading for pleasure, pupils at E-ACT Parkwood Academy were visited by world renowned author Sufiya Ahmed.

All of our Y8 and 9 pupils had the opportunity to take part in workshops led by Sufiya and a group of Y11 girls had lunch with her. The Y11 pupils had the opportunity to talk to Sufiya about their aspirations for the future and the possible career paths that they could take. Sufiya spoke about her own experience as a British Muslim woman working in Westminster and her journey to becoming an author.

The sessions for year 8 focussed on the theme of 'The Spy and the Suffragette' and covered Sufiya's books on real life heroines Noor Un Nissa Inayat Khan and Princess Sophia Duleep Singh. . Students heard about her childhood dream to become an author, and how she achieved this via previous careers in advertising and in the Houses of Parliament. Sufiya introduced students to both books explaining Churchill and Noor's mission to defeat the enemy in WW2 and Princess Sophia's role in the Suffragette movement. There was an opportunity for dressing up with props and there were lots of questions from students. Year 8 are reading Noor Un Nissa Inayat Khan this term and are really keen to find out what happens!

The Y9 students took part in a session entitled '**A British Girl's Aspirations and Ambition**' Sufiya discussed the challenges she faced as a feminist both in her Muslim community as well as in wider British Society. She referred to her previous careers working as a researcher in the Houses of Parliament and in advertising. She talked about her award-winning book, Secrets of the Henna Girl and its topics of bullying and forced marriage. This talk tied in with Sufiya's activism on behalf of girls' rights and included lots of questions from students, as well as a brilliant piece of interpretive dance from some of our Y9 pupils!

We had a wonderful day and the Academy was buzzing with excitement about our experiences.

Y7 will be having a visit from Onjali Q Rauf, author of 'The Night Bus Hero' and 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' later in the year. We read both of her books in Y7 and we are really excited about her visit.

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Cambridge Trip

50 y10 pupils went to visit Emmanuel college at Cambridge university. During the visit the pupils meet current pupils who shared why they applied to Cambridge and Emmanuel college, talked about their course choices and expelled many myths of studying at Cambridge. Many of the pupils had not been to Cambridge before so this allowed them to explore a new place and consider studying away from home for further education. With Cambridge university one of the more challenging universities to get in to the pupils learnt about the entry requirements, application and interview process and also the possible financial support on offer. All pupils were made to feel welcome with starting their visit with a tour of college and hearing stories of the current pupils in their first year. The pupils had a great time at Cambridge university being inspired about what their future holds, seeing beautiful buildings and hear other people's stories of how and why they study the courses they do. Thank you, Cambridge university, hopefully we will be back next year with the new y10's.



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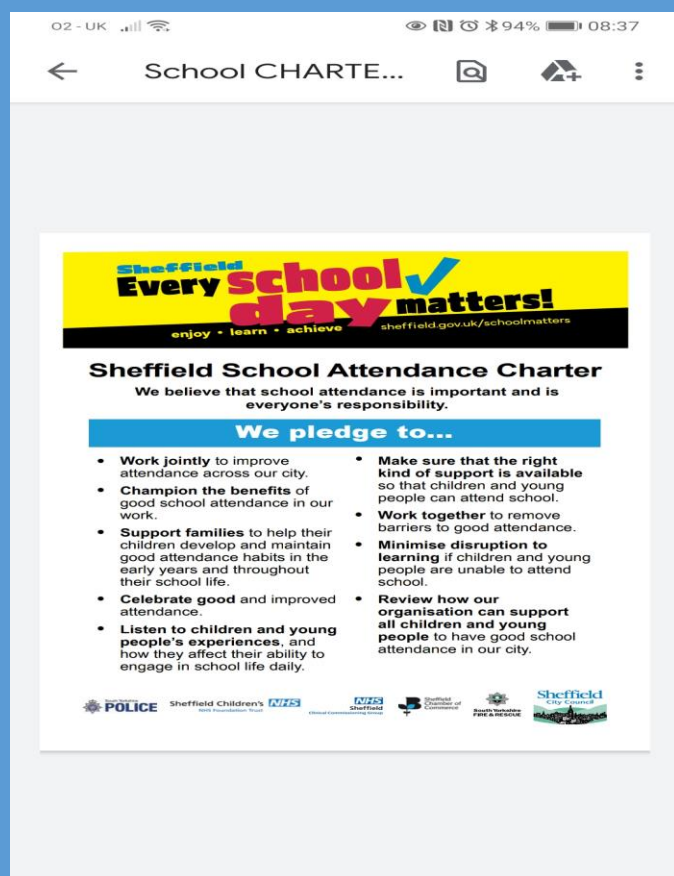
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Attendance

Attendance is at the heart of what we as academy do, to ensure that all students attend each day, ready to learn, and to be prepared and equipped for their future's outside of the academy.

With this in mind, please click on the link below, which will take you to the new Sheffield City Council's page for information of attendance and inclusion:-

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/schoolmatters>



We would also like to introduce our new Attendance Manager, Angela Hall, who started at Parkwood this week. Angela, along with the support of the attendance team, and all staff at the academy, will play an integral part in ensuring that we support both students and parents in all things attendance related. For all attendance related enquiries, please contact Angela and her team on Attendance@E-ACT.org.uk

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There are still lots of places left on our free Easter holiday camps for children and young people in Sheffield who are in receipt of benefits based/income based free school meals.

For more information and how to book online, please visit
www.sheffieldhealthyholidays.org

Can you please share the below information with your networks and your eligible families encouraging and supporting them to sign up and participate?

If you have any queries in relation to the programme, please contact
hafprogramme2021@sheffield.gov.uk or phone our dedicated HAF phone number 0114 2039303.

Please note children in receipt of universal free school meals are not eligible for this programme

What's happening next term?

Whole School photos will be taking place in the academy on Monday 25th April. These photo's are purely for the purposes of being uploaded on SIMS, but if parents wish to purchase photos, your child will be sent home with a card with instructions on how to do so. Any queries, please contact www.schoolphotographs.co.uk

Y8– HPV vaccinations will be taking place in the academy on Tuesday 3rd May. Further details will be shared with parents via the vaccination team.

Y9 – HPV, TVP & MEN vaccinations will be taking place in the academy on Tuesday 3rd May. Further details will be shared with parents via the vaccination team.

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