

In the Academy this week:

- Baseline testing of Year 7
- Duke of Edinburgh training starts for Year 11 and 12
- PTA Meeting Wednesday 17 Sept 19:30



View from the Academy: A message from Scott Preston, Headteacher

Welcome to our first newsletter for the academic year 2014-15.

GCSE Results

We were delighted with this summer's GCSE results. The improvement was most evident in the "5+A*-C including English and Maths" measure, where the proportion of students gaining this level of qualification rose to 45% - the best results in the School's history.

Within these results were some very impressive subject performances. English results, in particular, were fantastic, with a 20% rise in the number of students achieving a C or better – which is in contrast to the national picture where student performance actually dropped.

We would like to congratulate every student whose results reflected the outcome of considerable hard work. We are also grateful to the staff that taught them and in many cases offered additional input outside of normal lesson time. Parents, too, played a full part, for example, in attending meetings especially devoted to the progress of Year 11.

A Level Results

The standards achieved in 2014 were largely as we had anticipated, and we are especially pleased that all Year 13 students achieved at least a pass grade in all of their subjects. As with last year, all of Year 13 who wanted to go on to University have been able to do so.

Uniform

Parents and carers will remember that we requested support when buying new uniform, to ensure trousers, in particular, conform to our school uniform code. May I take this opportunity to thank all of the parents and carers who have supported the Academy in ensuring that the young people are coming to school in the correct uniform. We do appreciate that a number of shops do sell trousers marked as 'school trousers', which do not conform. Our uniform suppliers, SWI, do sell a suitable pair of trousers; please do check their website to at least check the style.

As always in education, I am sure that this year will be a busy one. I hope that you find these regular newsletters helpful in keeping you up to date, and I would like to express my thanks to Ms Thomas for coordinating these. I also hope that you find our Facebook page helpful, to see even more instantly what is going on at Ernulf Academy.

As always, if you have any comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Scott Preston
Headteacher



A message from Mr Lindsay Townley, Assistant Headteacher (Key stage 3)



We would like to offer a huge welcome to all our new Year 7 students in the Academy from the 2 day visits it looks like we have some lovely, hardworking students who enjoy coming to school. There is so much for you to learn and take in but take it from us and all the students before you, all your anxieties about this new big school will be gone in a couple of weeks and your primary schools will look tiny when you pop back to tell them how you are settling in. We are certainly looking forward to working with you and helping you achieve your very best. Remember, always ask if you are not sure, strive to be the very best you can be and you will succeed.

Attendance and Inclusion – Mrs Clare Greaney, Deputy Head



Last year saw the best attendance results for at least the last 5 years. Attendance was up by over 2% at May half term compared to last year and over 1% above the highest figure recorded for the previous 5 years - this is a huge achievement. Nothing demonstrates the impact of excellent attendance better than Ernulf achieving the best ever GCSE results in the history of the school where the attendance of Year 11 is also the highest recorded in recent history. The correlation between very good attendance and very good results is clear to see. We would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents that holidays should only be booked in school holiday times and that we are not able to authorise family holidays in term time. Students who need leave of absence from school should request a form from Student Administration (Miss Cooper), however, parents should not assume that leave of absence will automatically be authorised and should not make any arrangements until authorisation is given. Well done to all of last year's students for these improvements, they really are a huge achievement. Finally, a challenge for Year 7 and a challenge for the whole school... Firstly - last year's Year 7 recorded the highest attendance we have seen for many years - 94.6% at May half term. I challenge our new Year 7 to beat this figure. Secondly, our overall school attendance at May half term was 93.3%. I challenge all year groups to improve their attendance figures this year and ensure that the overall figure reaches at least 93.5%. Good luck, updates on progress to follow in future newsletters.

Dates for Diary:



- Wednesday 17 September 18:30
Camps International Parents presentation
- Thursday 18 September 17:00
Year 7, 10, 12 - Meet the tutor
- Friday 19 September
6th Form Jeans for Genes Day



Aimed at: All
Topic: Assessment at Ernulf
Date: 25 October
Time: 11.30am
Location: 6th Form

The 2014-2015 term starts with a difference

This academic year started with a difference for staff at the St Neots Learning Partnership. All teachers and many other colleagues of the Partnership started the year at the new Cineworld cinema in St Neots. We were visited by Sir John Rowling, who was knighted for his services to education. He was a teacher for 40 years including 19 years as a headteacher. He now works at a national level for the PiXL Club



(a group of strategic leaders of schools who work toward improving educational standards). His presentation was a great start to the year for our staff who were engaged by his lively, enthusiastic and



relevant presentation. He talked about the impact of the changing curriculum, best practice case studies, which dovetailed into a series of presentations based on some of our Partnership priorities and suggestions from staff.

We are entering a new and exciting phase at the SNLP in terms of Joint Practice Development, and Sir John's presentation was a spring board from which the Partnership launched a variety of projects aimed at developing shared approaches across the Partnership.

Staff will attend a series of dynamic twilight sessions during the year, where they will be provided with opportunities for deep, reflective thinking about practices, this in turn, will raise attainment across the Partnership still further. Watch out for future updates in our newsletters.



A week in pictures:



7CM



7DO



7LV



7HR

More photos on [Twitter](#) and our [Facebook page](#)