

Celebrating Success

12th December 2022



Academy Prep Champions since September

1st		3
2nd		8
3rd		8

College PREP Champions since September

	3
	8
	8
	4

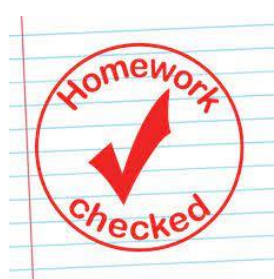
Who to Contact- see later pages



Value for Term 2: Kindness
 'showing consideration for the needs of other people'

Driver: Thoughtfulness

Academy Success:



256 students have completed every piece of Prep work set since September.. They are a real credit to the Academy and consistently demonstrate our Academy Value of Hard Work. They deserve to have done very well in our recent exams.

271 students have had no incidents of poor behaviour since September. These students are a real credit to the Academy and consistently demonstrate our Academy Values.



Congratulations to the following year 11's for the most outstanding learning behaviours with 6 in total:

- Victoria A
- Luna C-G
- Ceana G
- Alfie I
- Tara J
- Isabelle L
- Abbey M
- Xhulian Q



Amelia R
 100% @ the Academy

Term 2: 288 students are 'On Track' for Our Termly award.



Term 1&2 350 students are 'On Track' for 100 Club

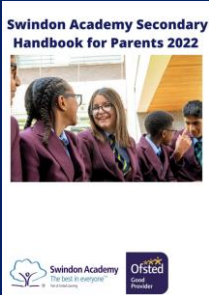
<p>BRONZE</p>  <p>Swindon Academy The best in everyone™ Part of United Learning</p> <p>Year 7 100 Club</p>	<p>SILVER</p>  <p>Swindon Academy The best in everyone™ Part of United Learning</p> <p>Year 7 100 Club</p>	<p>GOLD</p>  <p>Swindon Academy The best in everyone™ Part of United Learning</p> <p>Year 7 100 Club</p>
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Hard work - Kindness - Responsibility

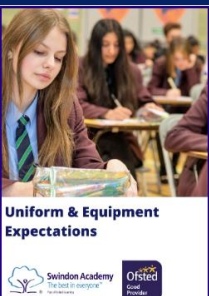
Useful information

UPDATED Parent Handbook for 2022-23

Click below



Uniform/Equipment Handbook. Click below



Find out what your child is learning this term

Knowledge Organisers for all years for all terms

Click Below



Epraise Parent Guide Click Below



Christmas @ the Academy

International Christmas Assembly

Simon Halls and the Chaplaincy team started the festive cheer in assembly this week with the meaning of Christmas. Students were asked to reflect on this time of year and those left fortunate. Our current focus is on 'Thoughtfulness' and this was a key message within the assembly of how we can be thinking of others at this time of the year.

In true chaplaincy team style, there was also a competition and festive game for 6 students to participate in! Well done to those students for volunteering and putting themselves forward for fun and games!



It feels like a tough time. Whether that is the cost of living or some of the tragedies we have seen in the community the past weeks or just life in general. For some Christmas can actually be one of the toughest times of year - in fact is got a term for it - 'Blue Christmas' (from the Elvis song). In the assembly last week we reflected that the Christmas story of a baby Jesus, shepherds and wise men from 'a far' might not have been the nice fairy-tale we sometimes imagine it and perhaps it was closer to a 'Blue Christmas' than we realise. A baby being born to a poor teenage mum in an animal stable and as soon as the baby was born his life was in danger - sounds less fairy-tale and pretty real.

I don't know whether your Christmas is looking happy or tough but at the core of this story is that fact that this little baby was actually God coming to be with us – not a distant, remote God. A loving God that understands what life can be like – the highs and the lows – and able to help, listen and know we are loved. I hope you do have a great Christmas – regardless of the tough times – and able to experience this Christmas story full of love and hope!

Sporting Results

Well done to our Year10/11 basketball team. The boys needed to produce a strong performance this week against St Joes; who are currently sat at the top of the table. After a hard -ought game of being behind by 10, then by 2, the game finished 32-28 to St Joes. The result does mean that the boys will progress into the Swindon Schools semi-finals on points.

We'd like to thank Bradon Forest for a highly competitive match of U14 girls football this week. It was an ultra-close competition throughout with some excellent chances on both sides.

The final result saw Bradon claim the 1-0 win. Congratulations to Holly Dunn who was awarded 'Player of the Match'. The girls will face GWA next and have a tournament next week.



Hard work - Kindness - Responsibility

Assemblies & British Values



The College Christmas trees have been decorated and are ready for judging. Which one is your favourite? The results will be announced in January during College Assemblies.



This term we have looked at our Kindness value. College Champions have celebrated students who have displayed our drivers of compassion, gratitude and thoughtfulness by placing a leaf on the College Kindness tree

#Hardwork #Kindness #Responsibility



We have been gifted a number of Christmas Hampers thanks to the generosity of Mrs Robinsons neighbours. We will be contacting families this week to pass these on.



United College Sixth Form

Joining our Sixth Form

We've had over 150 applications this year to Sixth Form this year which is amazing. There is still plenty of time to apply and lots of courses on offer. Application deadline for the next round of interviews is the 31st of January. Scan this QR code to apply directly



Charity work



Every term a group of students focusses on charity work. This term Amy and her team raised over £200 for breast cancer UK. We also had more lovely food from team Rawat who raised £40 for Diabetes awareness

What's been happening in Sixth form this week ?

Year 13 students have been working hard finalising their UCAS applications and personal statements. We also had student voice surveys which allowed students to feedback on positive changes they want to see around the united college sixth form area. On Wednesday, Christmas finally arrived! The tree is up and the Christmas jumper college competition is in full swing. The winner will be announced after a catwalk next Thursday.

External speakers

Student have also had the opportunity to listen to speakers from Reinshaw and the University of Bristol. Reinshaw talked about what the company specialises in and the application and importance of metrology and 3-d printing. She then also discussed apprenticeships and degrees in engineering and opportunities for students at Reinshaw. The University of Bristol gave a talk highlighting the groundbreaking and crucial role that HeLa immortal cell line has played in biomedical research at University of Bristol and across the world.

Goodbye and Welcome Back!

Imperial College Update - We say a goodbye to Mrs Chapman who is leaving as Imperial College Manager at the end of term to start a new job. Thank you for supporting our students and good luck in your new role at Great Western Academy.



A big welcome back to English Teacher and Cambridge College Champion Mrs Higgins-Khan, who has been off on maternity leave. We know she will be looking to push Cambridge up the leader board! Thank you to Mr Turner who has been looking after Cambridge in her absence.



Our AMAZING students and Staff really do make our school such a FANTASTIC place to work and learn in – this is why our Attendance team is so driven to support students and families in raising their attendance levels and reducing absences.

All students who achieve 100% each week are rewarded and receive epraise messages congratulating them. – they may even make into our 100% club.

For those families who's attendance is below 93% we are keen to work with and support. The support and intervention will come in the form of 1:1 meetings, Home visits, daily text messaging, and attendance barrier support plans. Unfortunately, at times we do have to contact Swindon Borough Council for those students and families whose attendance doesn't improve and don't engage with Academy support .

We are committed to working closely with The Education Welfare Team at Swindon Borough Council – This however does sometimes lead to families receiving Fixed Penalty Notices, Warning Letters and prosecution if a student's attendance falls below 90% and shows no sign if improving.

Please do get in touch with Mr Warren via epraise if you'd like some attendance support

Attendance World Cup

This term at SA, we have been running a whole school attendance competition in line with the **FIFA World Cup**. As the term has gone on, champion groups have put themselves up against each other, leaving us with our final 4.

Our semi-finals have taken place this week between **Bath 1 vs Bath 7** and **Imperial 7 vs Warwick 3**. The overall winners with be crowned our attendance World Cup champions, this time next week!



Best Year Group

Yr 7

Best Tutor Group



3

100% Students

223

Our Council

This week saw our Academy Council meet with Mr Thomas and Mr Oke to discuss the following agenda items; Our enrichment offer, how we can make the school more sustainable, what careers advice students would like, feedback on the Sex & Relationships lessons in term 1, corridor culture and the 100% club. A big well done to the following students; Chloe M, Zoya H, Parth S, Shivani S, Emily R, Banu PV.



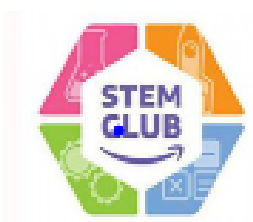
We will be celebrating Christmas Week with a variety of activities. Monday will see the Christmas Catwalk, where the Student Champions will model the Christmas Jumpers that have been made in Champion Time. Tuesday the Year 7 travel to Marlborough College for our Annual Carol Service. Wednesday is a trip to the pantomime, and Thursday is Christmas Dinner. Students will sit with their College and enjoy lunch served by the Elf's.

We will break up for Christmas at 1.20pm on Friday 16th December.



Wellbeing Activities @ the Academy Term 2

All club information for term 3 will be on Epraise by Tuesday 13th December, please sign up to the clubs that you would like to take part in during Term 3. The information can be found on Epraise – Community –



Looking ahead:

- Tuesday 13th December- Marlborough College Carol Service (yr7)
- Tuesday 13th December - Christmas by Candlelight
- Wednesday 14th December-Year 7 visit the Wyvern Panto
- Thursday 15th December-Christmas Lunch @ the Academy
- Friday December 16th- End of Term. We will close at 1.20pm
- 3rd and 4th January – Training Days – school closed to pupils
- Tuesday 5th January – all pupils return to school – normal school hours
- Thursday 12th January – Progress Review Day
- Wednesday 1st February – Staff CPD – school finishes at 1.20pm

- 10th February – end of term 3
- 9th -10th February – School Show 'A Midsummer Nights Dream'



We are looking forward to our Progress Review Day on Thursday 12th January. Parents should have already made their appointment to meet with their child's tutor on EPRAISE. We will send out further details about this day closer to the time. On this day your child will only attend the Academy with you for their appointment.



Following the recent exams, teachers have been busy marking all of our students work. The results of these exams will mean a large number of students will change their set in the New Year. This will allow our children to thrive in their learning at the most appropriate level. Students will find out about set changes on the day they return to the Academy in January. These sets will be kept the same for the rest of this academic year. Please reassure your child that they do not need to worry about this.

Medication

Following a direction from Swindon Borough Council, we are only allowed to give out medication to pupils with a Health Care Plan or are on prescription from the GP. If we currently have medication in school, this is in reception for collection. Any medication not collected by 16th December will be disposed of.



We hope that you all enjoy the festive break. The academy will be closed for Christmas. Mrs Wright and Mrs Lawrence will be working periodically throughout the holidays. If you need to contact someone then please send either of us an Epraise message and one of us will get back to you.

If you are worried about the safety and wellbeing of a child, Children's Social Care can be contacted on 466903 during working hours. If you need to contact them outside of normal working hours then the Emergency Duty Service can be contacted on 436699. Their email address is swindonmash@swindon.gov.uk

If you are experiencing financial difficulties and struggling with living costs then the council have put together some information. This can be accessed using the following link:
https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20013/benefits_and_swindon_money_matters/1260/help_if_youre_struggling_with_living_costs



Happy New Year
Wishing you and your family a **happy new year** filled with hope, health, and happiness - with a generous sprinkle of fun!
We look forward to our students starting back at the Academy at 8.20am on Thursday 5th January.

Getting in touch with the Academy



How to Access EPRAISE:

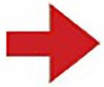
- Go to Google search Epraise log in/search
- Please select your school/choose Swindon Academy Secondary
- Go to parents/enter your email (must be the one given to the Academy) & leave password blank.
- You will then receive an email and follow instructions.
- You can also download the Epraise App

EPRAISE

- Is the best way to get in touch.
- We will try and get back to you within 2 days (not weekends)-usually much quicker.
- If you do not get a timely response, please forward your message directly to K.Wright (Head Teacher)
- Please use the table overleaf to direct your message to the most appropriate person:

epraise

**IN CASE OF
EMERGENCY**



Emergency Contact

To contact the Academy during the day for reasons that need a quick response please:

- Epraise message P.Pastoral

Or

- Phone Reception 01793 426900 (please be aware that unless it is an emergency, reception will only EPRAISE the most appropriate person.)

Or

- Phone Pastoral Support 01793 4266980 (please be aware that unless it is an emergency, reception will only EPRAISE the most appropriate person.)

To meet with a College Manager/SENCO/Attendance

- Parents can book appointments via EPRAISE to meet with a College Manager during the day every day.
- Parents of SEN students or parents with queries about SEN can book to meet a SENCO on Mondays 2.15pm-3pm, Wednesdays & Fridays 8.50am to 9.30am .
- Parents can book to meet with a member of the Attendance Team between 10am and 11am each day.
- To book go to EPRAISE-Community/Parents Evenings and Select the right event/day.

**PARENT
MEETING**

We will also offer drop-in appointments for parents at the above times. Parents need to be willing to wait to be seen.

Hard work - Kindness - Responsibility

Query about.....	Epraise.....
Contacting Head Teacher	K.Wright
Contacting Senior Vice Principal (Student Development)	A.Lawrence
Contacting Vice Principal (Teaching & Learning)	L.Jordan
Pastoral matters/Uniform	P.Pastoral or your child's College Manager Bath C.Roberts, Cambridge S.Oakley, Imperial N.Chapman, Warwick R.Harding
Attendance/Medical Appointments/Punctuality	A.Attendance
Prep Work/Bedrock/Seneca/Sparx	P.Prep
Detention	P.Pastoral
Parent Pay/FSM/Trips & Visits	J.Greenwood
Safeguarding	D.Ramshaw
UCSF (Sixth Form) Queries	L.Dodsworth
SEN	C.Oke & R.Suleman
Epraise Shop/Clubs	C.Oke
Grammar Stream	L.Rowe
D of E/ Camp/ABC Week	N.Warren
Password/Chromebook queries	P.Prep
Subject Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PE/Music/Drama/Dance D.Boucher • Maths/Business Studies/CSc L.Roche • English E.Cole or D.Carryl • Science L.Rowe • History J.Rivers • Geography C.Greenwood • RE/HSC H.Green • Dt & Art L.Thomas • Spanish R.Squires
Champion (Tutor)	P.Pastoral or your child's College Champion Bath M.Jone,s Cambridge J.Turner, Imperial J.Capstick, Warwick S.Thomas
Year 11	D.Boucher