



# Celebrating Success 30th January 2023

## Sparx Reader Champions

Students with the most Sparx Reader points so far this year

- Charlie A, 8-1/En, 70996 Points
- Marius D, 8-6/En, 48151 Points
- Harley T, 8-6/En, 43001 Points
- Alicia K, 8-6/En, 36961 Points
- Aditya G, 8GS/En, 34169 Points
- Oliver D, 8GS/En, 30643 Points
- Shivani S, 9-1/En, 29807 Points
- Harshita Devi B, 8-1/En, 27813 Points
- Isadora Costa H, 8-6/En, 27798 Points
- Armaan S, 8GS/En, 27409 Points
- Joannette M, 8-1/En, 26472 Points
- Amy-Lee S, 9-3/En, 25277 Points
- Kooper E, 8-5/En, 24660 Points
- Jacob P, 8-1/En, 24056 Points
- Jensen W, 8-5/En, 23558 Points
- Mariam K, 8-2/En, 21569 Points
- Mileka D, 8-1/En, 21295 Points
- Isadora P, 8-5/En, 21177 Points
- Ivelina S, 9-4/En, 20707 Points
- Ruby C, 9-6/En, 20105 Points
- Raguel S, 8GS/En, 19932 Points
- Rosina W, 8-3/En, 19621 Points
- Layla R, 8-4/En, 18949 Points
- Jayden S, 8-5/En, 18883 Points
- Bianca S, 8-1/En, 18258 Points
- Abirami S, 8-2/En, 18174 Points
- Chastity G, 8-5/En, 18090 Points
- Andrey A, 8-5/En, 17999 Points
- Harry E, 8GS/En, 17851 Points
- Aviane M, 8GS/En, 17793 Points
- Gabriel B, 8-1/En, 17765 Points
- Chelsea C, 9-4/En, 17631 Points
- Mirage S, 8GS/En, 17630 Points
- Paige H, 7-6/En, 17550 Points
- Jacob R, 8-1/En, 17434 Points
- James S, 8-1/En, 17336 Points
- Faith S, 8-3/En, 17326 Points
- Daisy-May R, 8-4/En, 17146 Points
- Shreyash B, 8-2/En, 17141 Points
- Kevin Z, 8GS/En, 17045 Points
- Jasmine G, 8GS/En, 17042 Points
- Piper F, 8-1/En, 17040 Points
- Keiran L, 7-6/En, 16679 Points
- Chloe Page-N, 9-6/En, 16630 Points

**Who to Contact-  
see later pages**

**Getting in touch  
with the  
Academy**

## Value for Term 3: Responsibility

**Driver: Reflection**

### Academy Success:

#### Academic Success

At the end of last term our students sat exams. We have calculated the top 10 students in every year that have secured the best Attainment score across all of their subjects. The names of these students can be found at the end of the newsletter.

Congratulations to these students on their fantastic achievement.



### 100 Club @ the Academy

Term 3 628 students 'On Track' for  
Bronze 100 Club



Term 3 286 students 'On Track' for  
Silver 100 Club



**Don't forget to book your tickets**

**A Midsummer Night's Dream**  
by  
**William Shakespeare**

A magical romantic comedy

6:30pm Thursday 9 and Friday 10 February  
Tickets £1:00 each through Parentpay

**Hard work - Kindness - Responsibility**

## Introducing year 9 ABC Week

### WELLBEING WEEK

Year 9 will have the opportunity to try a variety of new sports and activities over the week with a focus on challenge, team building, resilience and stepping out of comfort zone.

Students will enjoy First Aid, Kin Ball, Just Dance, World Record Attempts, Sports Quiz, Selfie Orienteering, and have a go at designing their own sports drinks.

We will visit Far Peak to see students trying something new and conquering fears with climbing, archery, orienteering and guiding each other with blindfolds across the low ropes course.



### Sporting Results



Well done our girls benchball team who competed in a local Swindon tournament this week. The tournament included competitors from six other schools in Swindon. The girls performed brilliantly as a team, and worked well to support each other throughout. The girls placed 4th in the competition - well done.

**Hard work - Kindness - Responsibility**

Essential Information for Parents

For the Parent Handbook, Uniform Guide and how to use Epraise, please click:

[Handbook, Uniform & Epraise](#)



Find out what your child is learning this term

[Knowledge Organisers](#) for all years for all terms



100% book - Year 7 mainstream

Aim to memorise 100% of the knowledge on these Knowledge Organisers

Term 4

Swindon Academy 2021-22

Name:	
Tutor Group:	
Name & Reason:	

\*If you are not willing to learn, no one can help you.  
\*If you are determined to learn, no one can stop you.\*

Swindon Academy Swindon Academy Swindon Academy Swindon Academy Swindon Academy

During this week's assembly we explored our school value of **Responsibility** and our driver of **Duty**. We touched on the rights we have as individuals living in the UK as set out by the Human Rights Act (1998). We then went onto explore the idea that there are no rights without responsibility and no responsibility without rights. We explored what it meant to take responsibility within school and wider society and the duty that we have to ourselves, our families and the wider community.

**"There are no rights without responsibility and there is no responsibility without rights."**



**Responsibility** – the ability to act independently and make the right decisions without direction.

- **Reflective**- consideration of one's own actions.
- **Accountable**- owning your actions or decisions.
- **Duty**- a moral or legal obligation.

## United College Sixth Form

### What's been happening in Sixth form

On Tuesday Up for Discussion was on recognising burn out where students discussed the causes, symptoms and effects of feeling burnt out. Assembly this week was in honour of Holocaust Memorial Day. PSHE for Year 13 was on the impact of pornography on developing healthy relationships. Year 12 looked at Vaccines and debated the myths surrounding them. On Friday our College Captains and Well-being champion held a table tennis tournament as part of the college competition.



**Super curricular talk** An engineer from Safran landing systems delivered a talk about different areas of engineering including aerospace and systems engineering. She discussed routes into the field, degrees and degree apprenticeships

### University Applications 2023

This year **58** of our year 13 students have applied for a place at University. This is a 25% increase on last year and almost all of the year 13 cohort. The offers have already started rolling in, with students already having interviews for Medicine, Nursing, Teaching and performing arts. Students will be getting the opportunity to practice for these interview with Ms Eldred. Well done Year 13 now to get focussed working hard to achieve those grades.

### Year 12 reminder - Pathway to Bath Deadline

Students who wish to apply to pathway to bath should get their application in by **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January**.

Pathway to Bath is a free blended learning programme that gives students the chance to develop key skills for university study and beyond. You'll work online alongside experienced staff and current students and have the opportunity to attend a free 3-day summer residential visit to experience life as a student at Bath. **Completing the course allows students to get a reduced grades offer at Bath** [Pathway to Bath Programme](#)

## Introducing Pastoral Support @ the Academy – MS Willis and Mrs Bernhardt

So, I (Miss Willis) am an ex-student of Swindon academy, and I left sixth form in 2019. My dream was to be a police officer one day and then one day something switched in me where I realised that it might not be for me. I then managed to get a job at the school, and I absolutely love it! I love the fact that I can help students when they are really struggling and be that person that they look to when they need help. They make each day so worth it and I am so glad that this is the path I decided to take 😊



## Well done to those

**704** Attendance 100%ers last week....

**140** Attendance 100%ers Since September...

### Supporting you and your child with Barriers to attendance

Is your child's attendance currently sitting below 90% - We do appreciate that this may be for a number of reasons and circumstances.

As part of our ongoing attendance support initiative we would like to offer you the opportunity to meet with a member of our pastoral team and complete an "Early Help Assessment"

An early help assessment is used to see if we can identify any barriers to school attendance and learning and it will help us to put in place any support or intervention.

If you would like to take up the offer and complete an "Early Help Assessment" -

[PLEASE do get in touch with Mr Warren Via epraise.](#)

### What can you do to encourage your child to Attend school more regularly.

As soon as you are concerned about your child's attendance, speak to our attendance team. We can offer support and advice on how you can work together to help your child be in school regularly.

- Talk to your child about the importance of regularly attending school and find out about any concerns they might have
- Put good routines in place at home to help your child get into the rhythm of being ready for school on time every day
- Talk to them about their day when they get home as being interested excites them and helps them want to go the next day
- Make routine appointments, for instance, for the dentist or optician, outside of school hours, at weekends or during the holidays where possible
- Don't book holidays during term-time. You'll need permission from Mrs Wright for term-time absences, otherwise it'll be recorded as an unauthorized absence.
- If your children do miss a day, talk to their school about how they can help your child catch up

**Friday's COUNT!!!** Friday is statistically the lowest attended Swindon Academy school day. There are 36 in a year. Has your child attended every Friday so far this year? If they have, then drop me an epraise message and I'll enter them into the "[Fabulous Friday Prize Draw](#)" on the last Friday of the term!!

## So does Punctuality.....



### Are YOU a punctual person?

adjective. If you are punctual, **you do something or arrive somewhere at the right time and are not late.** They are always very punctual. I'll see if they are here yet. Synonyms: on time, timely, early, prompt More Synonyms of punctual.



Students are off on an exciting trip on Sunday to watch the British men's and woman's live basketball finals at the Utilita Arena in Birmingham.

Poetry Live – Year 11

On Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January all of year 11 will be attending Poetry Live with the English Department. This is a great opportunity to revise poetry; there will be several poets from the 'Power and Conflict' collection to read and discuss their poems on stage. The event is taking place at the Komedia in Bath. The coaches will leave after Roll Call and will return by 4.30pm at the latest. School uniform must be worn and will need to bring a packed lunch unless they receive school meals.



Well Being Activities @ the Academy Term 3

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Badminton	Dance	Darts	Chess
Woodwind	Origami	Drama	Junior Scientists
Yoga	Basketball	Guitar	Orchestra
Production	Dance	Volleyball	Table Tennis
KS4 Football	Fitness Suite	KS3 Football	Basketball
EAL Support	School Show	Climbing	Street Dance

Looking ahead:

Wednesday 1st February – Strike Day – see details in Academy News section

**Friday 3rd February – School Photos**

Thursday 9th February – Year 8 GS visit to Reading University

9th -10th February – School Show ‘A Midsummer Nights Dream’

Friday 10th February – End of Term – 3.35pm Finish

# WHAT'S COMING UP?

Thank you to our parents that completed the Prep Survey.



	No	Yes	Strongly Agree/Agree
Do you think it's important that your child completes some form of homework regularly to make progress in their learning?	7%	93%	
The expectation of 100% is a barrier to my child being successful in their prep?			62%
The difficulty of the prep is a barrier to my child being successful in their prep?			55%
Technology and access to IT are barriers to my child being successful in their prep?			34%
The time it takes to complete prep is barrier to my child being successful in their prep?			61%
Do you think sanctions such as detentions encourage your child to complete their prep?	55%	45%	
Do sanctions such as detentions support you as a parent to encourage your child to complete their prep?	60%	40%	
Do you think greater rewards for prep and a reduction in detentions would encourage your child to complete their prep?	11%	89%	
Would you continue to support your child to complete all their prep, if we focused more on rewards and less on detentions?	1%	99%	

**Changes to Prep Detentions for Years 7-9**

On Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January, we will be talking to students about changes to prep detentions for Years 7-9, that will take affect from this week.

After listening to parents and students, we have made changes that we believe will:

- **Reduce student anxiety** to prep by removing detentions
- Develop a **culture of positivity** by rewarding students more for doing prep
- **Eliminate prep being a barrier** to students being in school
- Develop a culture of students taking **greater responsibility** for their learning



- From the surveys, 93% of parents told us that students should receive prep regularly.
- From the surveys, 89% of parents told us that greater rewards for students would encourage students to complete their prep. Thus, **prep will continue to be set** as before.

However:

- **Prep detentions will be removed from Year 7-9**
- **Prep completion will be celebrated through rewards**

Greater prep rewards will include automatic Epraise points for completion of all Core prep (up to 8 points per week) as well as 2 weeks of daily prep prize-draws for any student continuing to complete 100% of their prep. Prep points will be celebrated in our College Championship and our 100 Club awards each term.

Currently, these changes will affect 7-9 only and prep detentions will continue for Years 10 and 11 where students are completing important prep towards their GCSEs.

However, we do believe our students are ready to show us just how responsible they are and prep completion will continue to be high through a focus on greater rewards.

We need your support with this, 99% of our parents said they would support their child to complete their prep if we moved to a system of rewards and not sanctions. Your child needs your support with this, please celebrate the points your child receives.



Prep completion will continue to be tracked, and we reserve the right to reinstate prep detentions if rates of prep completion fall sharply.

### Morning library access

The library is open and supervised daily from 7.15am. It can be used by students to access computers/adult help with prep or as a quiet space to access books and carryout reading. Students will only be admitted to the library in the mornings via the Main Reception doors between 7.15-7.45am. After this time, students will not be able to gain access to the library until after-school.



### After-school opening times:

- Monday – Closed
- Tuesday –3.35-5.00pm
- Wednesday-3.35-5.00pm
- Thursday- 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- Friday- 3.35-5.00pm

### Year 9 Options:





It is now the time where Year 9 Students begin the process of selecting their options for Key Stage 4. The Options Process is an important and exciting time, students will be selecting subjects that suit their future career choices and match their interests.

Students will attend daily subject assemblies, receive an options booklet that has further detail on individual subjects, and will be completing explore, research and action activities.

Parents are invited to attend our Year 9 Options Parent Meeting on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm. Where we will present the Options process and be available for questions.

There is an introduction to the process below with key dates.



Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4
			
<b>Options and Pathway Information</b>	<b>Course research</b>	<b>Course Selection</b>	<b>Review of Selection</b>
WB: 27 <sup>th</sup> February	WB: 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	WB: 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	WB 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2022
<b>Year 9 students and parents' information on the options process available via the website.</b> You will receive an epraise message with links to Options Booklets and Subject Videos. <b>Student Options Assembly will take place Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	Year 9 students will attend Subject Assemblies every day this week. <b>Students complete their Options booklet, Explore, Research and action activities.</b> Parents can use this time to review the courses that are available on their pathway.	<b>Options Parents Evening. Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 6pm at Swindon Academy.</b> Further questions can be asked following the presentation. <b>At this stage students will make final course selection via an epraise form.</b>	Each student's selection will be reviewed by the year 9 options team.  From the 17 <sup>th</sup> April students and parents will be contacted if the selected options need to be reviewed.

### Strike Day

As you are aware, the membership of the National Education Union (NEU) has voted to take industrial action in schools across the country. This will take the form of strike action and is currently due to take place on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February plus other dates throughout March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>. I informed you earlier in the week that the school would remain open. This was based on information from staff at this time. We have continued to work closely with colleagues and our current understanding is that a significant number of colleagues have since made the decision to take industrial action and we are now having to plan for this accordingly.



Following a full risk assessment, we are disappointed to inform you that, due to the number of NEU members likely to join the industrial action, we will not be in a position to open the school to pupils on the strike days.

Therefore, the school will be closed to all pupils in year 7-11 and work will be set on line using the EPRAISE platform for students to complete at home.

Vulnerable students will be invited into school on strike days. The parents of pupils who are invited to attend will be contacted by our Pastoral Team who will call or ePraise message those parents.

Sixth Form students are welcome to attend school and use our facilities for independent study work.

I apologise for the disruption caused by this dispute and for any inconvenience this causes you. It is unlikely that the industrial action will be called off, but if this were to happen, I will write to you to confirm that the school will be open as usual.

Thank you for your continued support of the school and your child's education.

You told us that you wanted to know more about what your child is doing at the Academy so that you can support your child. We are looking at how we can use Epraise to do this. Each week we will tell you how you can find out more by using your Epraise App. Please note that you need to log in and out on your App if you have children at Beech Avenue Primary or Alton Close Primary.



#### Epraise

Last week in our newsletter we asked all of our parents to download the Epraise App and make sure that you have notifications enabled for this App. This means you will get immediate updates on any points your child has received or any incidents they have been involved in, including informing you about detentions. We are currently looking at how we can inform parents of the details of the points/detentions so you can have meaningful conversations with your child at home.

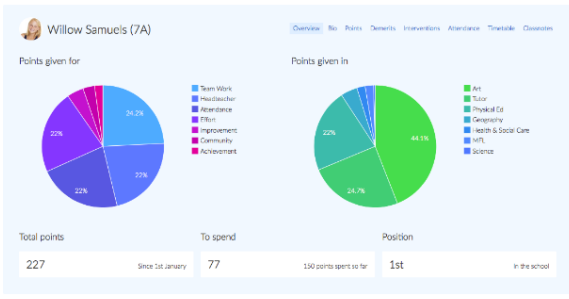


**STEP 1: Download the EPRAISE App on your phone and check that your phone is allowing notifications from this App.**

**STEP 2: If you have notifications enabled from this week, you will get to know immediately about the points your child receives and the reasons they have been awarded.**

**Without notifications, the EPRAISE App (or website) will still let you know about your child, but you will need to remember to check the app (website) every day.**

You can view your child's profile on the EPRAISE app, they are listed as tabs on the main screen. Here you can see how they are doing in school, in areas such as achievement, behaviour, interventions attendance. On the website, you can view your child/children's profiles under the My children tab



Each week we will be adding to this so that parents are informed about each step they need to take.



# Top Attainment Students

Year  
7

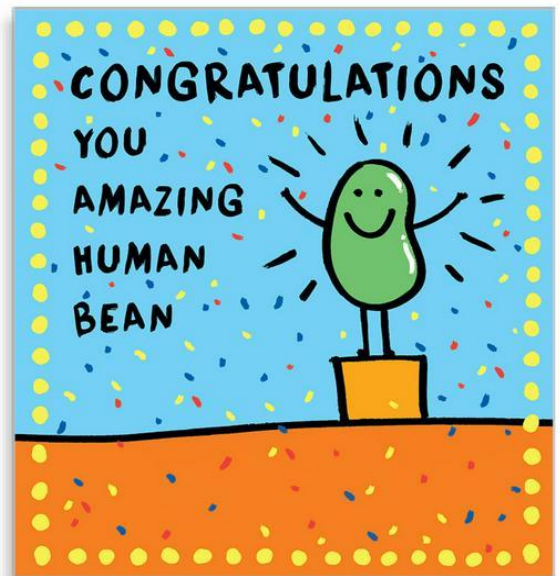
<u>Grzyb, M</u>
Chaplin-Jamil, Z
Stacey, L
Fernandes, S
Tremlett, A
Fateru, E
<u>Pathuri, G</u>
<u>Grzyb, K</u>
Ealey, C
Pinto, J

Year  
8

Morris Tjim, R
Solomon, B
Cheung, C
Culpin, M
Core, S
Senthilkumar, A
<u>Vadlamudi, S</u>
Sprawson, J
Jagath, A
Veale, N

Year  
9

Wright, C
Hameed, Z
Marchetti, B
<u>Pathuri, G</u>
Ahmed, A
Cabala, R
Pham, N
<u>Munnaluri, R</u>
Boyce, E
<u>Douglas-Onyido, R</u>
<u>Juyal, M</u>



# Top Attainment Students

Year  
10

Zhou, B
Rai, I
<u>Durbaca, A</u>
Richardson, R
<u>Pagayonan, J</u>
<u>Omorodion-Itua, D</u>
Rusling, E
<u>Morilha Da Silva, F</u>
Spruce, J
<u>Ibitoye, J</u>

Year  
11

Fernandez, S
Meyer, D
Isom, A
Pradeep, S
Rai, S
Radley, A
Zielinski, M
Qarri, X
Cunha-Gisbert, L
D'Costa-Nishad, R



# 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

### Emergency Contact

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

- Epraise message P.Pastoral

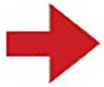
Or

- 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.)

**IN CASE OF  
EMERGENCY**



### 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 <b>Bath</b> C.Roberts, <b>Cambridge</b> S.Oakley, <b>Imperial</b> N.Chapman, <b>Warwick</b> 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"> <li>• PE/Music/Drama/Dance <b>D.Boucher</b></li> <li>• Maths/Business Studies/CSc <b>L.Roche</b></li> <li>• English <b>E.Cole</b> or <b>D.Carryl</b></li> <li>• Science <b>L.Rowe</b></li> <li>• History <b>J.Rivers</b></li> <li>• Geography <b>C.Greenwood</b></li> <li>• RE/HSC <b>H.Green</b></li> <li>• Dt &amp; Art <b>L.Thomas</b></li> <li>• Spanish <b>R.Squires</b></li> </ul>
Champion (Tutor)	P.Pastoral or your child's College Champion <b>Bath</b> M.Jone,s <b>Cambridge</b> J.Turner, <b>Imperial</b> J.Capstick, <b>Warwick</b> S.Thomas
Year 11	<b>D.Boucher</b>