

Our ref: MMC/NWI

13 March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the middle of March, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been another incredibly positive and productive week at the academy. I am immensely proud of our students, who continue to demonstrate determination, resilience and enthusiasm across all aspects of school life. Our Year 11 students have approached their trial examinations with maturity and confidence, while students across the academy have shown great commitment to their learning through platforms such as Tassomai and Sparx.

Equally, I would like to recognise the dedication of our staff, whose hard work and support ensure that students are given every opportunity to succeed. Whether through high-quality teaching, enrichment opportunities, sporting fixtures or preparations for our upcoming production of *Little Shop of Horrors*, the commitment of our staff and students continues to make our school community one we can all be proud of. With excellent attendance and so many opportunities for learning and development, this week has truly reflected the ambition and energy of our academy.

Teaching and Learning

Spring IEP Reviews

Parents of children with Individual Education Plans in years 8, 9 and 11 are invited to book their child's Spring IEP review through the parents' evening booking hub: [SchoolCloud - Sir Thomas Wharton Academy](#)

Appointments are available between 8:00 am and 3:30 pm for:

Year 8 - Monday 16 and Tuesday 17 March

Year 11 - Wednesday 18 March

Year 9 - Thursday 19 and Friday 20 March

We look forward to welcoming parents and students to their IEP review.

Please note, year 7 and 10 IEP reviews will run alongside Parents' Evening. Year 7 reviews will take place on Tuesday 14 April and year 10 reviews will take place on Tuesday 28 April. You will receive an invitation to this nearer the time.

Year 12 and 13 Trial Examinations

Year 12 and 13 Trial Examinations will begin on **Monday 16 March** and run for two weeks. These exams provide students with an important opportunity to assess their progress, identify areas for improvement, and prepare for their final examinations.

Year 11 Trial Examinations

Our year 11 students continued to display the highest levels of investment as we progressed into the final week of trial examinations. Attendance has been strong throughout the trial examination period, but we



continue to stress the importance of attending each and every day to ensure students are receiving the feedback on how to improve ahead of the final examinations in the summer.

The results of these trial examinations will be shared in the final week before the Easter holidays. As usual, our staff will continue to support year 11 students throughout this period by offering a range of Achieve sessions, the timetable for which will be shared in the coming weeks.

Tassomai

Students' investment in Tassomai continues to be incredible, with students in years 10 and 11 completing over 260 hours of quizzing and answering over 75,000 questions!

In year 10, we have launched a rewards strategy, where students who achieve 100% of their weekly goals in all subjects will receive a sticker to help them build a seven-a-side football team of subject leaders.

Sparx

As an academy, we have completed over 6200 hours of personalised learning, answered a half a million questions correctly and over 300 students have improved their times table fluency this year. We thank every parent and carer for their support and encouragement in completing Sparx mathematics tasks.

This half term year 10 should start to complete mathematics Tassomai tasks. This will create the "little and often" revision needed for success in mathematics. Year 10 exam paper revision tasks continue this week, handing out and being returned every Thursday period 4.

We ask that all year 10 bring in their revision guides for use during period 4 lessons every Thursday for the remainder of the term.

Careers

University of Sheffield Careers and Apprenticeship Fair

On Wednesday 11 March, our year 12 cohort attended the Careers and Apprenticeships Fair at the University of Sheffield. Students had the opportunity to speak with a wide range of employers, universities, and apprenticeship providers to learn more about different career pathways available after Sixth Form.

Personal Development

Enrichment Clubs

Cheerleading has started in place of dance on a Thursday after school; this session will finish at 3:40 pm. Any student wanting to be part of the squad should attend - we have our first show on Monday 27 April.

Sports Fixtures

KS3 Netball

On Tuesday 10 March, our year 7, 8 and 9 girls teams played away against The Hayfield School. It was an excellent evening of Netball with our year 7 team winning 10-2, WOTM: Megan; year 8 team drawing, WOTM: Isla and year 9 team winning 6-2, WOTM: Isabella.

Miss Rusby was very proud of the girls, who were all sensational; however, a special mention to the year 9 girls who played the best Miss Rusby had ever seen them play!



KS3 Boys Football

On Monday 9 March, our year 7 boys team played away against The Laurel Academy in the Doncaster Schools Football League. The boys came away with a 2-3 win, heading into the next round on Thursday 12 March, playing away again.

On Thursday 12 March, our year 7, 8 and 9 boys teams played away against Campsmount Academy. The weather conditions were awful and made it very difficult for them all. Our year 7 team came away with an unfortunate loss 4-2. MOTM: Alan P for being a rock in the midfield and his well-timed challenges. Our year 8 team dominated their game and should have scored 2/3 more goals, but the Campsmount goalkeeper had a great game and kept the score at 1-0. Mr Cairns' MOTM: George W; Mr Hodgson's MOTM: Jacob C. Our year 9 team came away with a 6-1 win. Although the team were challenged by the conditions, their football was superb. MOTM: Daniel M.

KS3 Girls Football

On Thursday 12 March, our girls KS3 football team played away against Rossington All Saints Academy. The 8/9 team put in a fantastic performance and were leading 2-1 for the majority of the match. Unfortunately, in the final five minutes, Rossington managed to score two quick goals past Bella, which resulted in a 3-2 loss. Despite the scoreline, the effort and quality shown against an older team was extremely impressive and the students should be very proud of their performance. WOTM was Georgie P (Y9)

Alongside this, we also took a split year 7 squad, which allowed us to run two simultaneous 5-a-side matches against Rossington's year 7 teams. Across the four games played, our students won two and lost two. The matches were very competitive, and it was great to see so many students getting involved and representing the school with excellent effort and teamwork. WOTM: Lena B for one team and Jayde G for the second team.

Events

Yorkshire Sculpture Park Visit

Our year 11 Photography students visited the Yorkshire Sculpture Park on Thursday 12 March as part of their GCSE Photography exam unit.

School Production

The countdown is on... and the cast and crew of **Little Shop of Horrors** at Sir Thomas Wharton Academy are working harder than ever to bring this incredible show to life!

Over the past few months — and especially during **last weekend and this weekend's rehearsals** — our talented students have been rehearsing tirelessly to perfect every line, song, and scene. Their dedication, energy, and passion are turning this cult classic into something truly special.

From the unforgettable musical numbers to the dramatic moments and the arrival of the not-so-friendly **Audrey II**, every rehearsal is bringing us closer to a spectacular performance.

Join us on **18 and 19 March 2026 at 6pm** for an evening full of laughter, music, and a story that's wonderfully weird in all the right ways. **Tickets are just £5** and are available now via **ParentPay or reception** — but be quick, they're expected to sell fast!

Come along, support our amazing students, and see the result of all their hard work on stage. Just remember... this plant is always hungry!



Lake District Visit

On Thursday 26 March, our year 12 Geography students will be visiting the Lake District as part of their studies. Students will view locations which have been affected by glaciation and experience a range of data collection strategies, which can then be used as part of their NEA.

The Talent Foundry

On Friday 27 March, we will welcome in The NHS Talent Foundry to work with 50 of our year 7 students. They will be guided through NHS Careers, nursing qualifications, pathways into the NHS and much more. We look forward to welcoming our visitors in and are sure it will have a positive impact on the aspirations of our young people.

Paris Visit

On Friday 27 March, some of our year 9, 11 and 12 students will be travelling to Paris. This 4-day trip will include visits to iconic landmarks such as Sacre Cour, Eiffel Tower, River Seine, Arc de Triomphe and the Stade de France. The trip will allow students to engage in an exceptional learning experience that will allow them to explore France's 'city of light' whilst encountering French culture first-hand.

House Update

As Brodsworth have managed to hold onto their lead in the house standings, they are the winners of our term two house reward!

The reward will take place on Monday 16 March - a matinee performance of The Little Shop of Horrors. All students in the winning house, who have a minimum of 40 house points and less than 50 negatives, will be invited to attend. Well done to all qualifying students!

Attendance

After our fantastic attendance last week, we have not only maintained it, but have improved it even further this week. We would once again like to thank everyone for ensuring high attendance at the Academy.

On Wednesday, we achieved the second-highest day of attendance this academic year, reaching nearly 96%. In addition, ten form groups had 100% of their students in attendance.

As in previous half terms, students will be rewarded with a non-uniform day on the final day of this half term, which is Friday 27 March. However, this will only take place if our attendance remains above 93% for the half term. We are currently well on track to achieve this.

We will write to you later in the half term to confirm whether this will be going ahead.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mr M McDonald
Principal

