

Our ref: MMC/GHR

10 November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

This week we welcomed Year 11 students from across Doncaster to see our Post 16 offer at MLT. We had record attendance to the event, which is pleasing, and sixth form numbers grow year on year. Achieving the Quality in Careers Standard is a significant milestone for the Academy. We believe that young people need to understand the opportunities available to them when leaving us and we invest heavily in our careers programme.

### **Teaching and Learning**

Year 11 students will commence trial examinations across a range of subjects from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November to Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. During the trial examination window, we stress the importance of students attending every day, so they do not miss the opportunity to receive vital feedback on how they are performing in each subject. It is also essential that students are fully prepared for each day's examinations with full equipment, including a calculator, revision guides, and full uniform.

To support students with their preparation, we will be hosting Pre-Achieve sessions in the lower atrium from 7.45am each morning during the trial examination period. During these sessions, subject specialists will be available to support students' preparations and we will also provide students with breakfast to ensure they are fuelled for their examinations.

### **Events and Enrichment**

A-Level Geography trip to the Lake District

On Tuesday this week, the Year 13 geographers took part in a visit to the Lake District. It was a very long but rewarding day with some fantastic weather. On the visit students were able to view a range of glacial landforms and deposits whilst collecting appropriate data on the glacial history of the location. Students will be able to use this experience in writing their NEA's which are individual coursework pieces focussing upon a null hypothesis. It was a wonderful opportunity to look at features in real life and talk about their formation whilst considering scale and how over time they have changed.

The visit included stops at Bowder Stone, Surprise view and Aira Force waterfalls. The latter allowed us to consider how fluvial processes act in a glaciated landscape, making changes over time, but also linking to the water and carbon cycle elements of the A-level course.

Better Learners, Better Workers

On Tuesday this week, as part of the Better Learners, Better Workers Programme, SAS (Senior Architectural Systems) from Denaby Main ran an activity in school where the students found out about the company, careers within the company and considered employability skills. The students completed an engineering problem solving project working as a team and building their leadership and soft skills. The energy in the room was amazing and the students are looking forward to future visits with the company.



## House Updates

Our house activities and competitions were back in action for the first week of half term two; it was Wentworth who secured an impressive 272 house points, putting them into the lead! Students have opportunities to partake in Weekly Wins, subject-based competitions, and house activities during tutor time to gain their house points. As we progress further into the half term, can Brodsworth, Chatsworth and Cusworth close the distance between them and Wentworth?

## Standards

Please can we ask parents to keep checking ClassCharts to remind students if they have an after-school detention. The number of students who have a detention is very small compared to the school population each day. It is vital that students sit their after-school detentions and will be collected by their pastoral team in the short term each day to support their attendance to detentions.

## Post 16 News

On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November we welcomed prospective students into Sir Thomas Wharton Academy for our MLT Post 16 Open Evening. Students and their families were delivered a presentation outlining our offer before then making their way around the over 30 courses we have available to them to ensure they are making an informed choice around their future studies. The night was a pleasant evening with a positive atmosphere around the building. It was encouraging to see students taking a real ownership over their futures. Over the coming weeks students will begin to have their initial interviews with the Post 16 and careers teams as we look towards life after Key Stage 4.

Ahead of Year 13 trials in the coming weeks, the entirety of Year 13 will be attending our Tea, Targets and Textbooks afternoon in the Post 16 Hub. Students will enjoy afternoon tea whilst being presented with a pack of textbooks to support their studies as they move towards their examinations. We look forward to welcoming the whole of Year 13 to the event.

## Quality in Careers Standard

We are pleased to announce that the Academy has now achieved the Quality in Careers Standard which fully incorporates the Gatsby Benchmarks. This is an excellent achievement and recognises the quality and breadth of the careers provision at the Academy. Please look out for all our events on the Academy website and on social media.

Yours faithfully

Mr. M McDonald  
**Principal**

