

Academy Life

Message from the Principal, Mr Slater

As I write to you, we approach the end of our first year, and what a year it has been. New uniforms, new teachers, new policies, oh and yes, a new Principal!



What I really hope that we have is a new attitude. An attitude of purposeful determination to be successful academically, and a confidence in our ability to move forward.

Admissions for next year have shot up dramatically, our reputation in the area is growing steadily, exclusions are down and attendance is at a record level. These improvements are in response to our determination to make a difference for your children, and your continued support.

May I take time to thank all departing colleagues for their contribution this year. However, I owe Mrs Mayes a personal debt of gratitude. She has been a pivotal and crucial element of our success this year and I thank her wholeheartedly.

Havering Finals of "Speak Out" Challenge



Colin Searle, pictured with the Worshipful Mayor of Havering, Cllr Melvin Wallace, and his wife Lady Mayoress, represented Drapers' Academy at the Havering "Speak Out" Challenge held on June 8th at Champion School. Run by the Speakers Trust charity with

sponsorship from the Jack Petchey Foundation, it is now in its fifth year and the biggest public speaking event of its kind in the world.

Speaking on the subject of school uniforms, attendance, and rules and their importance, his fluent and well delivered 3 minute talk deservedly received lots of applause from classmates, who attended to cheer him on. Sadly Colin wasn't picked to continue in this competition but should be very proud of his achievement, with over 600 pupils in Havering taking part in the "Speak Out" challenge training and school level competition, he was one of only 18 students at the Havering finals.

Houses of Parliament Visit

Pupils had a unique opportunity this June to visit the Houses of Parliament as guests of Sir Peter Bottomley, Member of Parliament for Worthing, accompanied by Humanities Teacher, Mrs Little.

The pupils, Oliver Buckle, Pauline Siasat, Ruth Mensah, Craig Bowerman and Grace Taylor, are pictured with Sir Peter Bottomley on the terrace, an area not normally included in visitor tours, and is where

Members of Parliament, and Lords, can lunch and dine in the summer.



Diary Dates

Please note:
the last day of term is
Wednesday 20th July

2011/2012 Academic Year

Autumn Term
7th Sept—16th Dec

Autumn Half Term
24th Oct — 28th Oct

Spring Term
3rd Jan— 30th March

Spring Half Term
13th—17th Feb

Easter Break
2nd April—13th April

Summer Term
16th April—20th July

Bank Holiday
Monday 7th May

Summer Half Term
4th June—8th June

Other Dates for your Diary
Year 6 Open Evening
26th Sept
6.30—8.30pm

Trip to AEGON Tennis Tournament



Pupils from across the year groups were treated to a day of international tennis at the AEGON tournament in Eastbourne seeing former champions Serena and Venus Williams, Lleyton Hewitt, Russians Sharapova and Hantchukova, as well as French open winner Li Na.

Pupils also got the opportunity to speak to and get autographs from some of the players.

Year 5 Taster of Academy Life

Pupils at Harold Hill primary schools have been given the opportunity to experience lessons at the Academy with a series of Taster Days organised by Assistant Vice Principal, Mr Fanning.

Pupils from Pyrgo Primary, Broadford Primary, Brookside Junior and Mead Primary joined the Academy for one afternoon during May and June where they enjoyed a food technology lesson baking cakes, as well as an art/ICT lesson where they designed advertising posters for their cakes.



Launching Friends of Drapers' Academy

The Academy is delighted to help launch the Friends of Drapers' Academy (FODA) and welcomes all parents and carers of pupils to this Association. We hope that the establishing of this group will encourage closer links between parents, staff and the local community.

The prime objective of FODA is to support the school activities and social events, as well as providing an opportunity to meet other parents and families, and be part of the wider Academy family. Our aims are not fundraising driven but more social and reflect the ethos of the Academy as a local school for local families.

The first general meeting will be held during the Autumn term. Details will be sent nearer the time.

Some Sad Goodbyes...



The Academy will be saying goodbye to some long-standing members of staff at the end of this term.

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Mrs Mayes who retires after 39 years of teaching. Having spent 38 of those years at schools on this site, since she joined Neave Comprehensive as of Head of Department, in 1973. We wish her a relaxing retirement and hope she will keep in touch.

We also say goodbye to Mr Brushneen, Head of Maths Faculty, after six years at the school, and wish him well in pastures new.

A number of teachers will also be leaving including Mr Diegel, Mr Shacklady, Miss Moore, Miss Sheridan, Miss Mohsini and Miss Brennan. We thank them all for their hard work in this first academic year of the Academy.

... And Some Hello's too

And so we also welcome some new members of staff who join the Academy in September 2011.

Our new Head of Faculty for Maths is Mr Giles, who joins us from Chafford School. We also welcome Mr Pearce, who takes up the role of Head of Faculty for English, also from Chafford School.

We also have some new teachers as follows: Mr Luck and Miss Paulino in Science, Mr Jethwa, Mr Vasanthakumar and Mr Maguire in Maths, Miss Morgan in Humanities, and Miss Williams in P.E.

The volume and standard of applications for the posts was exceptionally good and it is very heartening for the future of the Academy to be able to appoint from such good candidates.

Congratulations Also Go To...

In addition to the new staff appointments we must also congratulate Miss Blaize for her promotion to Assistant Vice Principal and Mr Pegg, who takes the role of Curriculum Leader in maths.

Sports Newsflash: pledge your support for us at www.lloydstsbldon2012.co.uk—where schools, as part of National Sports Week, can be win the chance to carry the Olympic torch & 2012 tickets.

Keep up to date with Academy news at www.drapersacademy.com/Latest-News/