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February Newsletter

A lot happens in the Academy at this time of year. We're already a long way into planning for September, and with three times the number of applications than previous years we are busy preparing the Academy to receive our new Year 7 students already. This means getting our curriculum in order, looking at staffing and considering the facilities and resources we have. There are some exciting developments on the horizon and once we have more formal details we'll share them with you in our future newsletters and social media.

We are really pleased with the number of students in Years 11 and 13 taking advantage of the additional sessions we are putting on during the school day, after school and at the recent half term break – keep up to date with future plans via the website.

My thanks to all of you for your ongoing support in making sure every one of our students is in school for 100% of the time. Attendance is one of the cornerstones for success, and, as we've previously shared – **you have only failed when you stop trying**. I also wanted to thank all of you who have provided us with suggestions and feedback as to how we can improve things further. We are continually

trying to make things better and can only do so with your help. If you feel there are any other ways that we could improve, then please let us know your thoughts by emailing info@rrca.org.uk

Everyone is well aware of our ambition to work towards being an 'Outstanding' school, and we continue to build on our high expectations, changing the way the Academy works inside and outside the classroom. Our students are becoming more resilient and independent, and our Sixth Formers are leading the way with their preparation for their exams, and a very high proportion getting ready for their next steps into University and employment.

We are still trying to spread our field of influence further out into the community. It's important the students show the same level of behaviour, respect, confidence and determination outside of school as they show within it. Please keep us informed of what is happening and if we can be of help in anyway.

Don't forget you can keep up to date with things and what's going on at the Academy by liking us on Facebook and following us on twitter [@academy_central](https://twitter.com/academy_central).

Other News:

Year 11 – Year 11 students continue with a programme of intervention in preparation for their GCSE exams. During the half term break we welcomed over half the year group for sessions from maths, English and science. Following half term students are again completing their pre-public exams in English, maths and science.

Fifty Year 11 students took part in a Lifestyle Impact Workshop delivered through the University of Cumbria, students were challenged to consider how their current choices impact on their future choices. Feedback from students indicated that they enjoyed these sessions and made them consider options they previously had not thought about.

Gen II recently returned to the Academy to support a group of students in the completion of their application forms, all help and support offered to do this was greatly received. Students now await responses from Gen II, in anticipation of being selected for the next step in their application process.

Maths Challenge - It was the turn of the students in Years 9 and 10 to

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face the rigours of the Intermediate Maths Challenge this month. 32 of our brightest and best sat an hour's paper featuring maths-related puzzles, enigma and other fiendish challenges. All deserve our congratulations for their endeavours, but special praise is reserved for our prize winners. Well done to **Dylan Giles**, whose silver award ensured he was the pick of the Year 9 students. Two more silvers went to **Matthew Dwyer** and **Kim Farish** in Year 10, whilst **Dylan Bousfield**, also of that year group, claimed Bronze. Special mention must be made, however, of **Toby Matthews**, of Year 10, whose Gold Award was good enough to see him through to the next round. He will sit the intriguingly-entitled "Pink Kangaroo" on the 15th of this month. We look forward to bringing you details of the outcome, as well as perhaps some photographs of our prize winners with their certificates, in subsequent newsletters.

Music - On Friday 23rd February, a group of 33 KS3 students attended 'Sound & Fury', a performance by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. The concert, at the Sands Centre, featured excerpts from works such as Romeo & Juliet by Prokofiev, Danse Macabre by Saint-Saens and Star Wars by John Williams. For

many of these students it was their first experience of a live professional orchestra.

The concert was organised by Cumbria Music Hub, as part of a project with some students from Trinity School.

Our students thoroughly enjoyed the experience. "I really enjoyed the Philharmonic. My favourite song they played was Pirates of the Caribbean". (**Madi Clarke, Y7**).



"I liked how they did songs like Taylor Swift's so we would know them, and it is something that you would not expect from an orchestra, which was amazing" (**Cloe Kerr, Y9**).

Science - Richard Rose Sixth Form students welcomed Peter Hoare from Newcastle University to demonstrate Spectroscopy in a Suitcase.

Spectroscopy in a Suitcase gives students the chance to learn about spectroscopy through hands-on

experience. As well as covering the principles of spectroscopic techniques, the activities use real-life contexts to demonstrate the applications of the techniques.

Peter was accompanied by students from Newcastle University to deliver the workshop. The University has a strong emphasis on encouraging our Sixth Form students to consider studying chemistry and also highlights the career opportunities available with chemistry qualifications.

Science Teacher at Central Academy, Mrs Cartmell said, "We were delighted to be able to welcome colleagues from Newcastle University to Central Academy to allow our students to take part in the workshop. It was a great hands on experience for them and gave them access to some cutting edge technology which is not normally available in a school environment."



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Spectroscopy in a Suitcase is a school outreach project run by the Royal Society of Chemistry. Currently 36 universities across the UK and Ireland host sets of equipment including Newcastle University.

Sport

U12 Football Match - The U12 football had a cold but enjoyable outing to Harraby 3G to play Newman School. It was a great game with end to end action and both teams working hard for the win. Central had the early chances but fell behind to a breakaway goal. They then replied following some pressure through **Kacper Konefal** and excellent play by **Nathan Noble**. He had several more chances before finally netting his second. Newman then came straight back to make it two all at the break. The second half started with Central making, but not taking, chances and Newman also coming close on several occasions. **Jamie Sim** popped up with a knee-cum-volley after good work by **Michael Norman-Baty**.

Unfortunately, Newman came straight back to make it three all! Again Central pressed hard and were rewarded again by **Kacper Konefal** who, after several clear chances saved by the Newman keeper, eventually got his hat trick. Once

again Newman immediately replied to make it four all! It was a tense last few minutes with chances on both sides but Central eventually came out on top 5-4 after more good work and a goal as reward for 'Man of the Match' **Nathan Noble**.

U14 Football Match - Central U14s secured an entertaining victory v Newman on Thursday 1st February. A first half hat-trick from ex-Newman student **Owen Reid** gave Central a 3-0 half time lead. Newman, who were dangerous on the break, fought back with two well-worked goals. Some clever goalkeeping and shot-stopping from **Bartosz Zagrodny** kept Newman out on several occasions alongside no-nonsense defending from **Marc Haughan** and **Sam Carney**. Central battled hard throughout the 70 minutes in cold conditions and secured victory with a neat finish from **Aaron Dowell** to complete a 4-3 win. Many thanks to Year 11 student, **Harry Hogarth** for refereeing the fixture. The U14s now face Caldew next week which promises to be another competitive fixture.

U12 Rugby - The U12 rugby squad attended their second fixture against local rivals Trinity on Thursday 8th February. Encouragingly we were able to take a squad of 15. They

were not too apprehensive as most had played in previous games.

It was a great game with lots of positive play and strong runs taking the game to Trinity. The lads looked more organised than on previous games and were able to compete for the ball. Trinity were more organised and their players who play out of school were evident. They scored a couple of quick tries from good play and passing in their centres. For Central there was some excellent strong running with the ball and some neat interplay which resulted in some territory being won. **Dean Bowes, Declan Kirpatrick, Jonny Young** and **Kyle Pattinson** all made yards. They went close on several occasions but were unable to score. The second half started with some excellent play and pressure from Central. They passed the ball more often and again made yards but with no score. They really pressured Trinity, whom at times were on the back foot but some super speedy runs allowed them to break and score. **Jacob Campbell** made some excellent runs and tackles, and **Lewis Grierson** was superb in defence with tackle after tackle being made. **Dean Bowes** was playing well and made an excellent run following good phases which resulted in a try for Central. Overall it was a strong performance

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and a continuation of their development in the game. As ever practice is the key. This takes place every Wednesday after school.

I look forward to seeing you in the near future.

With best wishes

Mr Gilby
Principal

Calendar:

- **Sat 17th Mar**
Big Dance – Sands Centre
- **Mon 19th Mar**
Music Concert
- **Mon 26th – Fri 30th Mar**
Assessment WK 5
- **Wed 28th Mar**
Additional Y11 Parents' Evening
- **Thurs 29th Mar**
INSET Day
- **Easter Holidays**
Thurs 29th Mar – Mon 16th Apr
- **Summer Term Begins**
Tues 17th April, 2018

- **Tues 17th – Fri 20th Apr**
Assessment WK6
- **Mon 23rd & Tues 24th April**
GCSE Photography Exam
- **Thurs 26th April**
Y8 Options & Parents' Evening
- **Wed 25th – Fri 27th April**
GCSE Art Exam
- **Thurs 26th April**
Junior Maths Challenge
- **Fri 27th April**
AS & A Level Photography Exam
- **Mon 30th Apr & Tues 1st May**
A Level Textiles & Art Exam
- **Wed 2nd May**
GCSE Textiles Exam
- **Thurs 3rd May**
A Level Textiles & Art Exam
- **Fri 4th May**
A Level Photography Exam
- **Mon 7th May**
May Bank Holiday
- **Tues 8th – Fri 11th May**
Y10 Work Experience
- **Tues 8th & Wed 9th May**
GCSE Textiles Exam
- **Wed 9th May**
Interim Reports
- **Fri 11th May**
A Level Photography Exam
- **Fri 25th – Tues 29th May**
MFL Trip – Paris
- **Half Term**
Mon 28th May – Fri 1st June
- **Mon 11th – Fri 15th June**
Assessment WK7
- **Mon 18th – Fri 22nd June**
Assessment WK8
Y7-10 UL Exams
- **Thurs 21st & Fri 22nd June**
Y5 Taster Days
- **Thurs 21st June**
Y5 Open Evening / Art Show
- **Mon 25th June**
Y6 SEN Transition Day
- **Mon 2nd – Fri 6th July**
Y10 Mock Exams
- **Mon 2nd July**
Y6 Induction Day
- **Tues 3rd July**
Y9 Parents' Evening
- **Friday 20th July**
Summer Term Ends
- **Autumn Term Begins**
Wed 5th Sept, 2018

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