

## January Newsletter

We have once again started the new year with some very good news and I hope you have seen the recent reports on the progress of the Academy.

We are placed 9<sup>th</sup> following the release of the results for all schools in the last couple of weeks. Central is now the **9th highest performing secondary school** in the County under the government's progress measure.

We are also delighted to report that all the hard work by the students and staff within the Sixth Form has paid dividends and this year we are the top performing Sixth Form for A-Level, academic and technical qualifications in the County for value added and 4<sup>th</sup> in the County for our applied general qualifications. Our performance places us in the top 4% of the 4,500 Sixth Forms nationally. My congratulations go to all those involved.

We recently held a very successful and well attended Sixth Form Open Evening; if you or someone you know would like to find out more about our Sixth Form and the courses and support on offer then please contact us on 01228 822060 and ask to speak to Mr Johnson or alternatively please email info@rrca.org.uk.



The key to this success has been the role that our students and parents have played; without your ongoing support the Academy would be a very different place. The wide variety of additional activities and interventions the students can undertake (including breakfast clubs, lunchtimes, after school clubs and holiday sessions) are all a reflection of the lengths staff are prepared to go to in order to make sure that our students are able to get where they want to be. So thank you!

We are maintaining our very firm stance on standards and behaviour and remain committed to the fact that every student deserves to be in disruption free classrooms so that they and their teachers are able to flourish. We are preparing our young people for a lifetime of work and go to extraordinary lengths to ensure they succeed.

Our shared priority now is to ensure that Years 11 and 13 remain on track to achieve the very highest possible grades in the summer. We need your help to make sure your children attend school and access the wide range of opportunities available to them.

For the wider Academy we remain true to our objective of ensuring all our students are **Safe, Happy and Successful**.

## Other News:

Year 11 continue with their preparations for their GCSE exams. This week students begin a programme of supported study each day after school. All students have been provided with an individual timetable. PPEs for English Literature, Maths, Science and English Language will again take place over the coming week. Intervention sessions from Maths, English and Science will take place over half term and students are being strongly encouraged to attend these sessions maximising all learning opportunities available to them.

It was encouraging to see so many of our students attend the Sixth Form Open Evening, either with their parents or taking the initiative to come along on their own, speaking to staff members, asking relevant questions which will aid their decision making for their Post-16

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option choices. Similarly many have begun the application process to apprenticeship providers. Gen II have delivered a workshop to 20 students in advance of their application process opening and will return in March to support students in making these applications.

'Hello Futures' will be delivering a workshop on 'lifestyle impact choices' to half the year group on 2 February.

Year 10 are currently planning for their Work Experience placements which will take place at the beginning of May. Students should see this as an opportunity to experience a career pathway they are considering for the future.

Years 8 & 9 - A handpicked group of students from Years 8 and 9 have recently begun the Sport+ course in partnership with the Youth Zone. The students will be spending half a day each week working with Cameron Wilson and his team in the Youth Zone, using their state of the art facilities. The students will be working towards nationally accredited qualifications in a variety of areas including sport leadership; communication; independent learning, coupled with this they will have the opportunity to undertake some work experience out in the

community. Although still in the early stages of the course the students have already benefitted significantly from this new and exciting venture.

Maths - Our congratulations go to John Wightman, of Year 13, who, having sat the Senior Maths Challenge back in November, was one of only 6,000 students nationally who were invited through to the next round. Known as the Senior Kangaroo, this involved him sitting a more extensive range of enigma and puzzles of a Maths persuasion. He performed outstandingly, earning a Certificate of Merit as one of the top 25% of students completing the kangaroo. This bodes very well for his future achievements at A-Level and beyond - well done, John!

Hoping to emulate John, are our Year 9 and 10 students, 25 of whom sat their version of the Maths Challenge, at Intermediate Level, on 1st February. This involved the students sitting a multiple choice paper, again featuring problems and questions linked to mathematical reasoning, which is a useful tool for stretching and challenging students in this regard. Alternatively, it has been previously described as "an IQ test for Maths geeks!" It is a considerable achievement just to be selected to take part, and we will

report their results in future newsletters; let's hope they can follow John's example!"

Music - On Friday 26th January, a group of GCSE and A Level music students accompanied Miss Rae and Mrs Forrest to the Sands Centre to see the Scottish National Orchestra perform. The orchestra performed works by Mozart, Korngold and Sibelius. For some of the students it was their first live music experience, which they really enjoyed and were inspired by. Nathan Brown, a Year 9 student, said, "The instruments worked in harmony with each other and sounded beautiful." Elizabeth Arrowsmith said, "the instruments painted interesting pictures". We hope to take more students to future performances.

PE Primary Cluster KS1 Multi Skills

Festival - It has been the younger students from our feeder primary schools who have been visiting the Academy for afternoons of fun in order to develop their skills in the PE department. Year one and two students have been taking part in our multi skill festivals on Monday afternoons throughout January. Students have enjoyed activities ranging from fitness and mini tennis through to target throwing and parachute games. All of the activities have been planned and delivered by

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our amazing sports leaders from years ten and twelve. A big thank you to all of the young people involved from the following schools and all of the staff for their support. Brook Street, Scotby, Belle Vue, Inglewood Infants, Petteril Bank, Scotby and Pennine Way. We look forward to seeing the students again soon.



Recruiting Trainee Teachers – If you are interested in becoming a teacher we work with School Direct based at Trinity School. The partnership schools work closely together and are experienced in the delivery of excellent Initial Teacher Training with committed, talented mentors in place in all schools. The highly rated School Direct programme offers a superb route into our rich and rewarding profession. They are recruiting now for September 2018. For further information please

contact Mr Kevin Proudfoot, Secondary Programme Lead on 01228 516051 or by email at kpr@trinity.cumbria.sch.uk

## Sixth Form

Richard Rose Sixth Form held their annual open evening on 23<sup>rd</sup>
January where we welcomed potential students from Central, Morton, Trinity and William Howard amongst many others. The night had a fantastic vibe and students enjoyed getting more information about potential courses they could choose in the future.

We are delighted to announce that Sixth Form student, *Jake Sanderson* has secured a place at Churchill College, University of Cambridge.

Jake is in his final year of Sixth Form having come from Morton Academy after completing his GCSEs.
Currently studying 'A' Levels in Maths, Chemistry and Law Jake is predicted to achieve 3 A\*s.



Jake said, "I was over the moon when I found out that I had been offered a place at Churchill College.

I decided to apply for Cambridge University when I received my predicted grades. I had also applied for places at Manchester and Leeds.

At a top university I am hoping to make some good contacts to help realise my career ambitions in Law.

My teachers are all delighted that I have received the offer. They have really supported me though the application process and I would like to thank them all."

Jake is not the only student aiming high this year. Fellow Sixth Form student *Chelsea Brown* has set her sights on a degree in Oxford. Chelsea said, "Having attended another Sixth Form I returned to Richard Rose Sixth Form because of the level of support offered to students. The staff here are always on hand and happy to help in any way they can.

I am studying A Level Maths, Business, Psychology and Chemistry and I am hoping to be successful in gaining a place at Oxford to study a degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics.

I am also taking an Extended Project Qualification as part of my Sixth

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Form studies in fake news and propaganda. My tutors have been really supportive in this."

I look forward to seeing you in the near future.

With best wishes



Mr Gilby Principal

## Calendar:

- Mon 5<sup>th</sup> Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Feb
   Y11 UL English Exams
- *Half Term* 12<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> Feb
- 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar Y11 UL Maths & Science Exams
- Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> Mar
   Y8 Options & Parents'
   Evening
- Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Mar
  Big Dance Sands Centre
- Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Mar Music Concert
- Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Mar Assessment WK 5
- Wed 28<sup>th</sup> Mar
   Additional Y11 Parents'

- Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> Mar INSET Day
- Easter Holidays
  Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> Mar Mon 16<sup>th</sup>
  Apr
- Summer Term Begins Tues 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2018
- Tues 17<sup>th</sup> Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Apr Assessment WK6
- Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> & Tues 24<sup>th</sup> April
   GCSE Photography Exam
- Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Fri 27<sup>th</sup> April GCSE Art Exam
- Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> April
   Junior Maths Challenge
- Fri 27<sup>th</sup> April
   AS & A Level Photography
   Exam
- Mon 30<sup>th</sup> Apr & Tues 1<sup>st</sup>
   May
   A Level Textiles & Art Exam
- Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> May
   GCSE Textiles Exam
- Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> May
  A Level Textiles & Art Exam
- Fri 4<sup>th</sup> May
  A Level Photography Exam
- Mon 7<sup>th</sup> May
   May Bank Holiday
- Tues 8<sup>th</sup> Fri 11<sup>th</sup> May
   Y10 Work Experience

- Tues 8<sup>th</sup> & Wed 9<sup>th</sup> May
   GCSE Textiles Exam
- Wed 9<sup>th</sup> May Interim Reports
- Fri 11<sup>th</sup> May
   A Level Photography Exam
- Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Tues 29<sup>th</sup> May
   MFL Trip Paris
- Half Term Mon 28<sup>th</sup> May – Fri 1<sup>st</sup> June
- Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Fri 15<sup>th</sup> June Assessment WK7
- Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> June Assessment WK8 Y7-10 UL Exams
- Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> & Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> June
   Y5 Taster Days
- Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> June
   Y5 Open Evening / Art Show
- Mon 25<sup>th</sup> June
   Y6 SEN Transition Day
- Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Fri 6<sup>th</sup> July
   Y10 Mock Exams
- Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> July
   Y6 Induction Day
- Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> July
   Y9 Parents' Evening
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July
  Summer Term Ends
- Autumn Term Begins Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2018

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