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January Newsletter

We are now well into the new year and whilst the weather has been cold, the hard work continues in the Academy as we support our Year 11s and 13s in the final weeks and months of their time in school.

Attendance is one of the keys to success and I know that you are all working hard to make sure the children in your charge are in the Academy ready to learn at every opportunity. Our ambition is to work towards 100% and most importantly for everyone to try and improve their attendance whatever the starting point.

We have recently held another successful Sixth Form Open Evening, it was well attended and we already have a number of applications submitted for the coming September. Applications remain open so if you or someone you know would like to find out more about our Sixth Form and the courses/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.

We remain committed to our firm stance on standards and behaviour and the fact that every student deserves to be in a disruption free classroom and once again the New Year has brought with it a further

change in the culture of the Academy.

Your ongoing support and that of the students in their participation in activities inside and outside the classroom including breakfast, lunch and afterschool clubs, weekends and holiday interventions are a strong signal of the commitment the staff and students are showing to ongoing improvement.

We still need your help to make sure that everyone accesses all they can in the run up to exams and take on board all the advice and guidance we are able to offer and we make this final push before they enter the next stages of their lives.

Thank you once again and here's to a successful 2019.

Other News:

Science – We were privileged to welcome Peter Hoare, from the University of Newcastle to the Academy. He delivered workshops to our Year 12 students for IR Spectra Interpretation as part of their exam specification for AS Level Chemistry.

He brought with him state of the art IR Spectroscopy equipment and the students were given the opportunity to use the equipment. They then analysed the spectra produced. The

students really valued this time and we look forward to seeing him again next year.



Sport - The U12 rugby squad played a double header away at Nelson Thomlinson School, Wigton on Thursday 24th January. It was a re-arranged fixture which had fallen victim of some poor weather prior to the Christmas break.

We were able to field two sides and play two games of 10 a-side. It was great to take so many willing and enthusiastic students.

The teams were split evenly in ability and were playing an A & B side from Nelson.

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The team that played their 'B' were far superior in all areas and following a slightly slow start they really got going and got stuck in to their task. They ran in 13 tries and only conceded two! The scorers were **Ben Wilkinson, Kyle Lowry, Jacob Maslak, James Campbell, Harry Ackerman** all with one try each and **Bobby Skinner** who ran in a rampant seven tries.

Part way through Bobby swapped over to play the Nelson 'A' team. This was a great match and very even in terms of ability. It was end to end stuff, both sides playing some nice rugby, scoring tries and putting in some great defensive tackles. It came down to the wire at six tries a piece and one more would seal the victory. Unfortunately it was Nelson who managed to sneak one last score in the dying moments of the games to finish seven to six tries to

them. Every team member played superbly and gave it their all. The scorers were Captain, **Alfie Alves** with three, **Adam Dawes** with one and **Bobby Skinner** who came on and scored another two. We are very much looking forward to a home re-match.

Training continues through the cold and dark months and is taking place



at Carlisle Rugby Club. The boys and girls are presently being coached by the Newcastle Falcons community coaches and are making great progress under their tuition. This runs until after half term and takes place as always every Wednesday from 3.15 until 4.30 pm.

CIAG@Central - In school we now have a dedicated 'Careers Area' for students – which is located in the Year 11 Pod on the top floor. Students can go there to access information about Post-16 choices, Career Paths and Labour Market Information as well as help with works experience placements for our Year 10 students. If students

need any support, advice or guidance in relation to career choices and pathways they can speak to Mrs Whyte (Careers Advisor), Mrs Locke (Careers Leader) or Mr Johnson (Director of Key Stage 5). Throughout January all of our Year 11 students have had a full Careers Interview with a 'Careers Advisor' from Inspira and over the coming months our Year 10 students will be given the opportunity to also have a full interview in school with Mrs Whyte, to discuss works experience and post-16 options.

If you as a parent have any concerns or would like any advice regarding Careers and Post-16 you can email our careers advisor at 'nicola.whyte@rrca.org.uk' or the following websites are a few of many websites that offer lots of advice and guidance for both parents and students.

www.prospects.ac.uk

www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk

www.inspira.org.uk

Past Students – Did you attend the Academy? If so, would you be interested in signing up to the link below to give something back to the Academy?

<https://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/signup/rrsf>

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Carlisle Foodbank - Please can we ask you to support the Central Academy collection for the Carlisle Foodbank. All year groups have had an assembly on this in the last couple of weeks so now we need to get organised and are encouraging students and staff to bring in some items. The Foodbank supports the most vulnerable members of our city community and stocks always run low after Christmas and January. Items which can be donated are:

Any tinned/packet/boxed foods including: veg; fruit; meat; fish; pasta; rice; sauces; cereal; biscuits; soup; custard; instant mash; noodles; jam; sandwich spreads; sugar

Drinks including: long life fruit juice; UHT milk; squash; tea bags; instant coffee; instant hot chocolate

Toiletries including: toilet roll; soap; shower gel; shampoo; deodorant; wipes; sanitary products; nappies

The above list is not exhaustive just some ideas of what the Foodbank issue to those in need. They cannot take donations of fresh food as there is no refrigeration available and equally, items such as bread with short shelf life cannot be donated. Donations need to be in by half term and can be delivered to Mrs Barnsley's classroom at any point

between now and then. Your help would be very much appreciated.

Uniform Shop – Please note there is a sale at The Uniform Shop between 4th and 30th March.

I look forward to seeing you in the near future.

Yours sincerely

Mr Gilby, Principal

Calendar:

- **Mon 4th – Fri 8th Feb**
Y11 Eng Lit UL Exams
- **Thurs 7th Feb**
Y10 Parents' Evening
- **Mon 18th – Fri 22nd Feb**
Half Term
- **Mon 25th Feb**
Y11 Maths UL Exams
- **Mon 4th – Fri 8th Mar**
Y11 UL Science Exams
- **Tues 5th Mar**
Y7 Parents' Evening
- **Thurs 21st Mar**
Y8 Parents' Evening
- **Thurs 28th Mar**
End of Spring Term
- **Fri 29th Mar**
UL Planning Day
- **Fri 29th Mar – Fri 12th Apr**
Easter Holidays
- **Mon 15th Apr**
- **Mon 15th – Fri 19th Apr**
Y7, 8 & 9 Assessments
- **Fri 19th Apr**
Good Friday
- **Mon 22nd Apr**
Easter Monday
- **Tues 23rd – Fri 26th Apr**
Y7, 8 & 9 Assessments
- **Fri 26th Apr**
Big Dance
- **Junior Maths Challenge**
Tues 30th Apr
- **Mon 6th May**
May Bank Holiday
- **Tues 7th – Fri 10th May**
Interim Reports
- **Mon 13th May – Fri 14th Jun**
GCSE, AS & A Level Exams
- **Mon 13th – Fri 17th May**
Y10 Work Experience
- **Thurs 16th May**
Y9 Parents' Evening
- **Mon 27th – Fri 31st May**
Half Term
- **Mon 17th Jun – Fri 5th Jul**
KS3 & Y10 End of Year Assessments
- **Thurs 20th & Fri 21st Jun**
Y5 Open Days
- **Thurs 20th Jun**
Y5 Open Evening & Art Show
- **Fri 21st Jun**
Y13 Formal
- **Fri 28th June**
Y11 Prom
- **Mon 1st Jul**
Y6 Induction Day
- **Fri 19th Jul**
End of Summer Term

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