



EASINGTON  
academy

# THE VOICE

SPRING NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2021

## WELCOME to our spring newsletter...

The announcement after Christmas to close schools again was certainly not the start to the new school term which any of us had hoped for. However, in true Easington Academy spirit, staff and students admirably embraced the challenge of switching from the classroom to 'live lessons' on Teams both quickly and effectively. Attendance in online lessons and the quality of work submitted by our students was nothing short of impressive, as was clearly evidenced by the high number of 'Star of the Week' nominations throughout lockdown.

Despite not being in school, students continued to impress us with their culinary skills with their weekly tasty 'fakeaways'. They also showed off their artistic talents at 'Saturday Art Club' and participated in our World Book Day competitions and Le Grand Challenge Français.

The reopening of schools in March brought with it mass asymptomatic testing and once again staff and students took this in their stride.

I can speak on behalf of all the staff when I say that it is great to be back in the classroom. Students have settled back into routines and their zones well and it's great to see them being able to socialise with their friends once more. We are optimistic about what the summer term will bring with the gradual lifting of more restrictions in school and hopefully a return to normality.

I would like to thank each and every parent and carer for your support throughout lockdown and our staggered return to school. Despite the circumstances, together we have ensured that learning has continued.

I wish you and your families a safe and restful Easter break and we look forward to welcoming our students back in April.

*Mrs N Hickman*

**Mrs N Hickman,**  
Head of School

## School makeover!

**You may have noticed that something is a little different in the English department...**

The Trust's graphic design team have been busy transforming the area with fantastic new wall artwork! What do you think?



# Saturday Art Club



During lockdown, Miss Winship launched a 'Saturday Art Club' so that students could have something creative to look forward to during lockdown weekends.

Miss Winship said: "It is important for children to participate in art as it is extremely beneficial for their mental wellbeing. It boosts children's confidence and helps reduce anxiety and depression during these uncertain times.

Art is a way for everyone

to express themselves and their feelings. It was lovely to receive the photos of the children's work. Here at Easington Academy, we run an after-school art club for Years 7 and 8. I look forward to seeing you all again soon at art club, I have some great projects planned!"



## We're social!

Follow our social media accounts to stay up to date with all of the latest news from around the Academy!



@easington\_acad



@easingtonacademy

## IMPORTANT DATES for your diary

12 APR - Back to school

03 MAY - Bank holiday

28 MAY - Break up for half term

Please keep checking our website and social media channels for the latest updates.



## National Citizen Service

National Citizen Service (NCS) programmes are happening this summer!

Sign up today to learn new skills, gain confidence, stay away from home and make a real difference this summer. NCS is government-funded so will only cost you £50 for the entire programme (bursaries are also available). Places are limited so don't miss out. [Click here](#) to sign up or for more information on a remote competition.





# Le grand challenge Français

During lockdown students have been enriching their knowledge of France and the French language by participating in 'Le Grand Challenge Français' - a competition that included a range of cultural activities designed to immerse participants in French culture.

Who said you couldn't go on holiday in lockdown!? Pupils participated by watching some well-known TV and film extracts in French to test their listening skills, reading some famous French short stories and some well-known English stories translated into French to practise their reading, watching virtual tours of famous places in France (including a whistle-stop tour of Paris, PSG's football stadium and The Louvre!) and even turning their Netflix French! However, the proven favourite challenge was the croissant challenge, where pupils were tasked with baking their own croissants - we had some tremendous results! Well done to Luke Appleby, Jack Appleby and Ben Playle for your outstanding efforts.

'Très bien' to all who participated in this challenge; it has been 'absolument magnifique' to see all of your efforts over the past few weeks. Merci beaucoup!



## World Book Day 2021

We love all things reading here at Easington Academy, so World Book Day is always a favourite among students. While this year's celebrations were slightly different to usual, the day was a success none-the-less!

We celebrated World Book Day for the entire week with a new competition for students to get stuck in to each day. The English department kicked off the challenges with a Harry Potter themed escape room which saw Year 7's Chloe crowned the winner!

Helena in Year 7 scooped the prize for our potato book character competition, which involved students transforming potatoes into characters from books and even placing them in some fantastic creative scenes!

Students also unleashed their creativity with our midweek challenge to recreate a book cover. We saw so many brilliant recreations but Sarah,

Year 9, just managed to pip everyone else to the post.

Our final task asked students to put on their detective hats to identify staff members by photos of their slippers and a book they were reading at the time. The number one detective was Lily-Ella, Year 7.

We also received plenty of fantastic submissions from Year 7's Luke and loved them so much that we had to award him with a prize for outstanding contribution. Our favourite was his creative way to honour Sir Captain Tom Moore.

We are already looking forward to next year's celebrations...





## Fabulous fakeaways

**Our students have been cooking up a storm as part of our weekly fakeaway challenges!**

From tacos and subs to loaded fries and kebabs. We are so pleased with how many students have been getting involved in the challenges and we think you will agree that the results look amazing.



## Sarah's success

**This term, Year 9 student Sarah Laverick was chosen to present Youth Live, a St John Ambulance Cadet event.**

The night involved presenting to more than 40 of her peers, discussing how hobbies have changed during lockdown and how different hobbies can be beneficial. Sarah, who fought off competition from cadets across the UK, hosted with three other star cadets live on Microsoft Teams. We are so proud!

## Student Council

**Giving students a voice in their education is incredibly important and our Student Council are the elected body that is responsible for presenting the ideas of all students to staff in school. At a recent meeting with Mr Thorez and Miss Jenkins, students discussed the following ideas:**

1) Students wanted the school to have clear charities to support so the Student Council issued a vote and students decided to support the regional charity, Children North East, and the national charity, Cancer Research.

2) Students also wanted to have a say in the genres of audiobooks available at tutor time so again, the Student Council issued a vote

and future audiobooks will focus on these genres.

3) The Student Council flagged up that they would like more of a variety of fruit available during the week and this has been added onto their lunchtime order form now.

4) The Student Council voiced student concerns about the

environment. We therefore ran a competition for students to create posters to encourage teachers to turn off lights and computers around school and at home.

5) POD was mentioned in the meeting as students would like to be shown this much more in lessons and Mrs Hickman has pledged to discuss this with staff.