



**EASINGTON**  
academy

# THE VOICE

WINTER NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2020

## MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Welcome to our Christmassy edition of *The Voice*...  
In the lead up to the festivities we have been celebrating the 12 days of Christmas.

The first term back in school has been one of overcoming new challenges caused by the pandemic and settling into our "new normal". I am extremely proud of the way our students and staff have adapted well to our new rules, routines, zones and bubbles. Learning has continued despite the challenges of extended periods of self-isolation through innovative use of technology. Staff delivering live lessons into classrooms from home is something new to us all, but staff and students have both risen to the challenge of making this work effectively and for that I congratulate them all.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for

your continued support and wish you all a safe, happy and peaceful Christmas. 2020 has certainly been a challenge for us all but working together we have ensured that our students have been able to return safely to school.

We are hopeful that 2021 will be a much more positive year for everyone, and I think I speak for everyone at Easington Academy when I say we look forward to the end to bubbles, zones, face coverings and sanitiser!

Merry Christmas everyone!

**Nicola Hickman,**  
Head of School



## Students tuck into festive feast

**Our Christmas lunches went down a storm with students this term.**

Thanks to precise planning, each year group (one per day) was able to leave their zone for lunchtime, enjoying Christmas dinner and all of the festive trimmings in the dining hall.

Huge thanks to Tony and his team for a superb feast!

# Students return to the kitchen

It's been a hugely challenging time for pupils and staff in all subjects, given everything that's needed to keep us all safe. However, practical subjects like food technology have had it harder than most; thankfully, we've recently been able to get KS4 students back into the kitchen again... and look at how well they've risen to the challenge!

Having planned and designed their own dishes, this was the first opportunity students had to create their culinary masterpieces as part of their NEA. Congratulations to all pupils involved, and to Miss Lilly and Mrs Keegan for their hard work.

## IMPORTANT DATES *for your diary*

- 04 Jan Return to school
- 12 Feb Break up for half term
- 22 Feb Return to school
- 26 Mar Break up for Easter
- 12 Apr Return to school



## 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





## Duke of Edinburgh

**Year 10 students have not let lockdown affect their success with their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award; they have volunteered to help others, spent time improving their fitness in a multitude of sports as well as learning new skills such as singing, wood turning and cooking.**

As a result of completing the three required sections of the award, students have been awarded their certificates of achievement with only their expedition to complete next year. Many students are now in the process of starting the Silver Award which will be completed alongside the Bronze.

Meanwhile 14 of our Year 11 students, who achieved their full Bronze Award last year, have now completed the three required sections for their Silver Award and have received their certificate of achievement. They did this whilst overcoming many hurdles due to pandemic restrictions and will undertake their expedition next to complete the award.

Well done to everyone - you have all worked very hard!



## Molly's TV debut

**This term, after winning the FutureMe competition back in summer, Molly's winning entry was broadcast on live television.**

Molly created a fantastic storyboard for an advert promoting higher education which the judges absolutely loved, commenting on how well she had followed the brief and made her vision clear and detailed.

Molly and the rest of the region had the chance to see her winning advertisement played on television for the first time in November. Molly was also interviewed by Tyne and Wear TV where she did a fantastic job. We are so proud of her achievement!



## Online learning

**This term has seen many enforced changes in the way that schools have had to operate.**

The use of Microsoft Teams has perhaps been of the most important. The software, part of the Office 365 package that is free to all pupils, has been used to set homework for all year groups and even used to deliver live lessons for those self-isolating at home.

Both students and staff have undergone intense

training on how to use Teams effectively, with meetings also taking place on the video app that can be accessed via laptop or phone.

Clearly, not even a global pandemic can stop students accessing their learning and making progress!





# 'Deck the doors'...

To help everyone at Easington Academy get into the Christmas spirit, our staff and students 'decked the doors' to give them a festive twist.

# New Year 7s settle into school life

Our Year 7 students have made a fantastic start with us during their first term.

Since joining us in September they have settled in so well despite the circumstances being different this year. They have shown a great sense of maturity and resilience plus they also have a great work ethic. They are great assets to the academy and we are excited at what the future holds for them with us. We are so proud of them all!

