



EASINGTON
academy

THE VOICE

SPRING NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2020



WELCOME to our spring newsletter...

..which is coming to you under unprecedented circumstances. As the country fights the coronavirus pandemic and adapts to a very different way of life, we have worked hard to retain some sense of normality and keep students learning at home. I'd like to personally thank every parent and carer who has supported us in this endeavour.

Before the pandemic struck, lots of great things had happened in school, which is why we want to go ahead with our newsletter this term...

We definitely hit the ground running in 2020 here at Easington Academy. We started the term with the launch of our 'Sound Like an Expert' campaign, where we banished the use of poor language and vocabulary as we all pledged to sound like experts such as scientists and mathematicians in a bid to improve the quality of our oracy and written work.

Year 7-9 parents were invited to attend our POD evenings where they learned how to support their child through our online learning platform. It was great to see so many of you and we hope that the sessions are now helping you with online learning at home. Year 8 recently attended their options evening, which hopefully helped to

kickstart decisions about their future.

Year 7 recently enjoyed their rewards assembly, which was a great opportunity for us all to celebrate our youngest students' achievements since joining the Academy. Judging by the amount of tears, our Year 7s seemed to appreciate the surprise visit from their primary headteachers too!

Outside of the classroom, our students have constantly impressed us with their talent and enthusiasm and we have had lots of fun too. We have continued with our sporting success with our Year 7-11 futsal teams all making the county finals at the Stadium of Light. Our Year 10 girls' badminton team qualified for the regional finals and our Year 7 boccia team won their tournament and made it through to the county finals. Year 10 achieved an impressive 2nd place in their tournament and our U13s and 14s made it through to the semi finals of the Sisters in Sport competition.

In February we enjoyed 'lurve week' with messages in the 'love bulletin', a cake sale, biscuit deliveries, crafts and movies.

In March, we celebrated World Book Day with a quote competition, book cover designing and a 'swap shop'.

Erin achieved a fantastic second place in the Future Chef competition and a number of our students participated in the intermediate maths challenge - we look forward to their results.

Finally, our choir was crowned North East Choir of the Year which is an amazing achievement.

We may currently be working in a different way, but the enthusiasm and engagement of our students and staff in these difficult times is continuing. We are very proud of everyone for adapting so quickly; the quality of work we are seeing is excellent. School may be closed but that does not mean that extra-curricular activities need to stop. We will be sending every student a monthly challenge to keep them entertained and help them develop new skills. Our first Easter themed challenge will be revealed this week, so please encourage your child to take part and perhaps you'd like to join in too! There will be awards and certificates when we return to school.

Take care and very best wishes,

Mrs N Hickman, Head of School



Lurve week!

Students at the Academy recently enjoyed a week full of LURVE to celebrate Valentine's Day.

With the help of students, staff at the Academy organised lots of activities to create a week full of love and positivity.

To start the week, students put on their baking hats to take part in our 'bake your hearts out' bake sale. Thank you to everyone who got involved - we raised an impressive £143.79 towards the Year 11 prom, which will still be used to celebrate with Year 11 at a later date. Also, congratulations to Sarah Laverick in Year 8, the winner of our bake off!

The following day, we hosted a 'craft to my heart' art session for students to get creative and make their own Valentine's crafts.

Love was definitely in the air on Friday 14 Feb, as students were able to 'share the love' by sending heart shaped biscuits with a personal note. Finally, to bring 'lurve week' to a close, we hosted a lovely afternoon tea. 60 students came along and enjoyed some delicious treats, pink fizz and a quiz!

We hope you all enjoyed it - we certainly did!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Due to the uncertainty caused by the coronavirus pandemic, we cannot commit to any fixed school events at the moment. Parents' evenings and other planned events in school are postponed until further notice.

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



Boccia tournament

Six students were crowned winners in a recent boccia tournament held at Wellfield School.

After beating Wellfield in a close final, the Year 7 team were crowned winners and now progress to the county finals.

Our Year 10 team placed 2nd after losing a very close game.

Well done everyone!



To minimise disruption to students' education as much as possible during this difficult and unprecedented time, Easington Academy is operating virtually via our 'virtual school'.

Our online learning platform is provided via Office 365. Here, students can access email, electronic resources and POD for additional resources and curriculum plans. Through this platform, staff set and receive work and can communicate directly with classes and individuals.

It is essential that your child can log into their account, if you experience problems with this then please contact school if you need help.

We are also providing useful learning resources for students to use at home via our 'virtual school' web page - please regularly check this page for new learning resources at: www.easingtonacademy.co.uk/virtual-school



Future chef Erin!

Year 10 student, Erin, recently competed in the regional finals of the Future Chef competition at Sheffield Hallam University.

Performing brilliantly, Erin fought hard against seven other North East schools and placed second in the heat.

Erin was praised by the six professional chefs for her calm and methodical approach, her menu plan and lack of waste.

Erin was judged heavily, but prepared very effectively for her day by planning every dish including their costings and nutritional value. She was coached and mentored through the whole process by Miss Lilly, Mrs Keegan,

and Laura Willison, of Sodexo foods, who has been a great asset to 'Team Erin'!

Due to her fantastic performance, Erin was offered three apprenticeship opportunities for when she leaves school.

John Feeny, of Griffiths Food, said: "Erin packed flavour into her dish to a professional standard and she would be an asset to our apprenticeship programme. We wish her enormous luck with her future endeavours."

Well done, Erin!



Football success!

Congratulations to our fantastic girls' U13s and U14s football teams who have both progressed to the semi-final of the Sisters in Sport competition after great victories against Stockport Grammar School.

Our U13s drew their first match 4-4, however, they went on to win 9-5 in extra time. Our U14s achieved a magnificent victory winning

their game 10-2.

Stay tuned to find out how they get on in the semi-finals!

Choir of the Year!

Our fantastic choir was recently crowned North East KS3 and KS4 Choir of the Year! Head over to our Facebook page to watch their winning performance.



We're on Twitter and Facebook!



@easington_acad



facebook.com/easingtonacademy



Sporting star Phoebe!

Congratulations to our talented student, Phoebe, for breaking her club javelin record not once, not twice, but five times!

Phoebe trains twice a week in the disciplines of javelin, sprint, long jump and high jump at Gateshead International Stadium. She often competes in many athletics meetings for the Gateshead Harriers across the country.

While competing in Rotherham, Phoebe beat the 20.19 metre javelin record by one metre, which was previously held for six years, making her the all-time under 13 record holder for the club.

Since becoming the record holder, Phoebe has managed to extend her record on five occasions bringing her record to a fantastic 24.29 metres!

Her record was honoured by the Gateshead Harriers and placed on the honours board at Gateshead International Stadium.

All of Phoebe's results have been uploaded onto the UK Athletics website for UK ranking and she is currently ranked 2nd in the North East for her category.

Phoebe had the chance to meet world champion and Olympic gold medalist, Richard Kilty, for a photograph with both of their records on the Gateshead International Stadium honours board.

Fantastic work, Phoebe - keep it up!



Badminton team qualify for finals

A group of Year 9 and 10 students recently competed in the badminton regional final qualifiers.

The Year 10 girls won their category with a brilliant 13 wins out of 15! This fantastic achievement means they have now qualified for the regional finals. Well done girls!



Teacher training opportunities

Shotton Hall
SCITT
School Centred Initial Teacher Training

Did you know that Easington Academy helps to train the next generation of new teachers and are looking for new recruits to start in September 2020?

Through the North East Learning Trust, we are a partner of Shotton Hall SCITT, the Trust's very own outstanding teacher training provider.

Trainees start their training at The Academy at Shotton Hall before

undertaking placements in schools right across the North East.

Applications are now open for primary and secondary courses starting in September 2020 with bursaries of up to £26k available for certain subjects.

To find out about entry requirements and the opportunities available, as well as hearing from people who have taken the leap and changed career visit:

www.shottonhallscitt.co.uk

