

Principal's Bulletin, Term 4 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

It was great to welcome students back into the school building back in March following the most recent lockdown. I would like to say a huge thank you to our amazing Covid-19 Testing Team that based themselves in our Dance Studio and tested over 80% of the student community three times each over a two-week period. Please continue to carry out home testing twice a week and contact the Academy Office immediately to report a positive test result.

I hope this edition of the Principal's Bulletin will give you some light reading and give you an insight into some of the outstanding opportunities and successes Goodwin has had so far in 2021.

LGBTQ+ History Month – February 2021

The History department has continued to lead on its moments of historical reflection agenda. Over the past term we have had a focus on LGBTQ+ history to coincide with LGBTQ+ History month in February, and on the Abolition of Slavery to coincide with the **UN's International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade**. These sessions have created a real buzz around school and some fantastic positive feedback from students. Including this quote from a Year 10 student "I want to thank you so much for the LGBTQ tutor time session, as an openly LGBTQ student it really brightened up my day."

Mathematics – The Day We Saw Snow

Monday 8th February 2021- The day we saw snow in Deal, Kent.



5 weeks of home learning for Staff, Students and Parents/Carers has been tough, but it doesn't mean to say that we cannot still have fun. The Mathematics Department felt it was time to give the students a break away from the screen whilst still learning - an investigation in Mathematics.

We very rarely get snow here in Deal and the students had been sat in front of their screens for such a long time so we thought- 'How can we create a learning opportunity from this snow?'



'SNOWBALLS! The students can measure the volume of snowballs using the formula.'

So we made snowballs. We measured their diameter and found the radius; substituted this into the volume of a sphere formula and we ended up with the volume. Of course, we had to wait for the snowballs to melt so that we could check the volume once it became a liquid therefore whilst waiting, we enjoyed the snow while it lasted.

It's been wonderful seeing how creative our students can be with their snow people, whilst using Mathematics and having some well-deserved fun and a break from their screens.



Design Technology – 'BEST' Award

This amazing table was the inspiration of Year 10 Goodwin Academy pupil Jamie Wickham.

He achieved the enrichment 'BEST' award by creating this extraordinary design. Jamie proved to have infinite practical skills and is always willing to think outside the box and implement his ideas.

Jamie received a Head Teacher Award to acknowledge this outstanding achievement. Well done Jamie!



Culture Vulture

Exciting times! Meet Clarence our Culture Vulture, who will be appearing around the Academy. Culture Vulture is our new initiative to engage our students with culture beyond their doorsteps. With the aim of promoting an understanding that, by enriching our experiences of art, music, film and the creative aspects of life, we broaden our experiences of the world around us. So watch this space!

Culture Vultures send out 3 activities a week to our students and details of these can be found on student's Performing Arts TEAMS Post, our Twitter Account and on our website page:

- **Monday's** The Culture Vulture Challenge
- **Wednesday's** Enrichment Library Update
- **Friday's** Friday Film Club

In Term 5 we expand our offer with Art Cafe every Wednesday lunchtime for Year 7. This will take place in the Library. Year 7 can come along and join us, watch performances, take part in a performance and support the arts.



Arts Awards Club - Year 7 students will be invited to take part in an afterschool Arts Award Club, where they get the opportunity to explore a range of arts activities and gain their "Discovery Arts Award" - all fully funded by Deal Festival.

Culture Clubcards - will be issued to students who attend an activity or send in pictures, reviews and responses to the activities set up by the vultures. Once your card is full, drop it into the box in your wellbeing office for the chance to win a

prize at the end of each term. The more activities you take part in, the more cards you complete, the more chances you have to win!

Watch out for more activities in Term 5! Be A Culture Vulture!

Speaking without Words

As part of the Sixth Form Enrichment programme, 20 students chose to study towards a certificated Sign Language qualification. Led by Mr Myers, who himself participated in the course, 20 Year 12 & 13's are now proficient communicators in the language of sign.

Nut Allergy

Please remember that we are a nut free school, the following items are prohibited:

- Packet nuts of any variety
- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts
- Sesame seeds (rolls, etc.)
- Cakes made with, or containing, nuts



Thank you for keeping our school safe!

Term Dates

Term 5:	Monday 19 th April - Friday 28 th May 2021
Term 6:	Monday 7 th June - Thursday 22 nd July 2021
Bank Holiday	Monday 3 rd May 2021
Staff Training Day	Friday 23 rd July 2021 (Twilight)



Staff Farewells

We say farewell to Mr L Kent (SRP Learning Support Assistant) this term and I would like to wish him all the very best for his retirement and thank him for his hard work and commitment to Goodwin Academy.

We also say farewell to our PGCE Canterbury Christ Church trainee teachers (Mr D Nicholls – Chemistry, Mr T Miles – History, Mr H Zafar – Mathematics, Miss K Firth – English and Mr E Jayaram - Computing) as they will be moving on to their next placements. Throughout this academic year, Goodwin Academy are now hosting 17 Trainee Teachers which has developed a brilliant research-based teaching practice that is having a positive influence on Teaching and Learning at this school.

New Staff Welcomes

We are pleased to announce the following appointment:

Mrs K Wratten SRP Learning Support Assistant

On behalf of the governors, Thinking School Academy Trust and the staff at Goodwin Academy, I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank you, as parents and carers, for your continued support. The success of any school is a team effort, with students, parents and staff all working together to ensure the best outcomes for our young people.

I hope you and your families continue to stay healthy, safe and have a relaxing Easter Break.

Mr S Smith
Principal