

Message from the Principal

As we reach more or less the mid-point of another great half term, I am pleased to contribute to this week's family newsletter. Much has been happening at Waltham Toll Bar Academy.

Our core values are rooted around:

Creating opportunities for all.

Celebrating our students' achievements.

Valuing our fantastic staff.

Championing partnership with parents, carers, families and our community.

We are committed to providing a wide range of opportunities for all - both in and out of the classroom. You will see from the newsletter that recently some students have visited the capital city with the RE department and sixth form students visited Lincoln. Indeed, just yesterday the whole of Year 12 were visiting Hull University and today a number of students are in London again visiting the Supreme Court and Houses of Parliament with students also in York for a Philosophy trip. We work hard to provide these kinds of experiences out of school to ensure students can gain real life, meaningful and memorable experiences as well as a great academic education.

Another core value is celebrating our students' achievements. Toll Bar students produce some fantastic work and work hard in lessons and rewarded for just that! At the start of this academic year, back in September, we launched a brand-new rewards policy. All students can gain achievement points and are rewarded with early lunch passes, gift cards, tea and cakes, certificates and recognition in assemblies. Next week we are launching 'golden tickets' which will be awarded by class teachers for exemplary work in lessons. The students can collect these up over the next three weeks and will receive rewards during assemblies at the end of half term. I am looking forward to speaking to students next week and seeing how many they have been able to collect!

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Message from the Principal

Positive praise, encouragement and recognition is so important to us. We want to create a culture where all students are rewarded and acknowledged for their efforts. With this in mind, over the coming months we will also be introducing a new system called 'Class Charts'. This will allow staff to log rewards points digitally in a way that you, as parents and carers, are informed about straight away via an app on mobile phones / other devices. We will send out further information soon!

When I first started at our school, many parents, carers and families told me how much they valued the very high expectations and regard for good discipline that Toll Bar has always had. This is something we are committed to maintaining and making even better. This week for example, we have introduced new start of day routines to encourage all students to be smart and equipped ready to learn. This has meant that issues have been able to be alleviated to allow all students to focus on their learning and for our staff to teach great lessons without distraction or interruption.

As well a long-standing reputation for outstanding behaviour expectations and conduct, Toll Bar has a strong reputation exemplary academic success. This was highlighted, again, only a couple of weeks ago on 28th February when Toll Bar was placed in the top ten, out of more than five hundred, schools across Yorkshire and Humber for achievement.

The article in the Yorkshire Post can be accessed here:

Yorkshire's best and worst secondary schools according to Ofsted ratings and grades ranging from A+ to D- | Yorkshire Post

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Message from the Principal

Last Thursday we held the second sixth form open evening of the year. Our sixth form is a centre of excellent academic excellence with a number of students going on to exceptional destinations. Students in Year 11 are currently working hard and attending extra revision sessions provided for them by our staff in the mornings, at lunch time after school, at the weekends. I am sure this extra work will pay off for them only a matter of months when the examinations commence.

Whilst we send out these newsletters to bring you up to speed with life at Waltham Toll Bar, I am conscious that we can do even better on communicating with our families. To that end, going forward we will be sending out regular text messages with upcoming events, displaying reminders on our websites and sending out lists of upcoming events and activities in newsletters like this one.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Very best wishes,

N.J. Whittle

Principal





London Experience

On the last two days of last term, 44 Y10 GCSE RE students and 7 members of staff travelled down to London for two days to experience a range of places of worship and take part in other activities. Whilst there; students and staff got up close and personal with the sacred cows in the goshala cow sanctuary, climbed the 500+ steps to the top of St Paul's Cathedral, explored the tombs of famous people in Westminster Abbey, enjoyed the sights of London on a Thames river cruise, experienced the treasures of the British Museum and enjoyed some retail therapy in Leicester Square. Students and staff had a brilliant time and a great way to











Three Great Documents

Year 7 students were treated to a workshop with Heritage Lincolnshire.

Alice, Laura and Katherine ran the 'Three Great Documents' workshop, teaching the students about what are considered three key Medieval documents. They used the Domesday book to discover about their local area, role played through the sequence of events leading to the signing of the Magna Carta and explored key passages, and used the Lutterall Psalter to explore how images can also be used as a source.







Tollbar V Malet Lambert



The Year Seven football team travelled to Malet Lambert Academy in Hull on Wednesday March 1st in the Quarter Final of the Humber Cup.

After a slow start by both teams on what was a wet and drizzly day Tollbar soon pressed the op-

position in their own half as they became more organised.

Jack Rider was instrumental on the right wing confidently crossing the ball into the opponent's box whilst also making some fantastic tackles in defence.

Malet Lambert did have their chances and at times threatened Tollbar, but the Keeping skills of Braydon Skinner and the solid defensive work of Hayden Smith kept the ball out of the back of the net.

Following a number of half time changes Max Stanley scored a lovely goal after passing two players to put the ball into the back of the net. Oliver Kershaw soon followed creating a lovely goal from a cross into the box.

The game was finalised by a great strike from Thomas Gollings in the last 10 minutes of the game. The final score was 3-0 to Tollbar.



Debate Mate

The debating club are working hard in the run up to their first debate.

Evelyn Garnett (Year 8), from Debate Club has this week given her first practice debate with the programme.

The students are currently in preparation for the first debate in April and, depending on their success will hopefully go on to compete in the national debate in London later in the year.





Lincoln

Y12 Geographers enjoyed a visit to Lincoln to practice a range of data collection techniques which will help them design their own fieldwork study for their coursework later on in the year. They collected a range of data including urban microclimate, urban structures, environmental surveys and building functions to answer a range of hypothesis including What is the impact of urban heat islands on the local climate in Lincoln? How does the layout of roads and highways have an effect on wind speed and direction in Lincoln? Does Lincoln have a distinct core or frame? Students will present, analyse and draw conclusions from their data over the coming weeks and use published literature to see if this

supports or contradicts existing theories.







Job Vacancy

We are seeking to appoint Exam Invigilators for the Summer examination period.

The role will involve supervising students whilst they undertake GCSE examinations. This role is flexible and will require availability throughout May and June. Whilst experience is preferred, full training will be provided.

Please find more details here: <u>Lincolnshire Gateway Academies</u> Trust





