

Dear Parent / Carer

Re: Driving forward

Another weekend has arrived at the end of a very busy week at Joyce Frankland. This week, we have had PC Gladen from Essex Police in school talking to all our year groups in assembly about the impact of malicious communication, with a particular focus on social media. PC Gladen commented on how well all pupils listened to him in assemblies and how engaged they were throughout. We have also started our school tours for prospective pupils in year 6 and their parents. It has been a pleasure to take these groups around our school on a typical morning. They have been very complimentary of what they have seen, especially the positive rapport between pupils and staff. There has also been lots of co-curricular activities taking place this week, including an impressive first game for our year 8 rugby team who won 25-5 against Orsett Heath. Well done to everyone involved in all our co-curricular activities this week.

Updates this week for you are as follows:

1. Sixth Form Open Evening – A reminder The Academy is pleased to announce that our Sixth Form Open Evening will take place on **Thursday 12th October from 17:30-19:30**. We are inviting all of our year 10 and year 11 pupils to come and explore what our Sixth Form is all about. There will be a chance to discuss subject choices with our specialist staff, hear talks about what makes our Sixth Form unique and speak to some current Sixth Form students about what post-16 education at JFAN is like. We look forward to welcoming you on the night.
2. Contacting the Academy – Please can the Academy remind our parent community that the best way for us to resolve a particular matter you may have, is by contacting us directly. The first port of call should be your child's form tutor. Although it might be tempting to raise a concern on social media to seek advice from other parents or carers, this will mean that we may not know about your issue and therefore cannot work to resolve it.
3. Pick up and Drop off on Bury Water Lane and surrounding areas – The Academy fully understands that for those families who must travel by car to the Academy, it can be challenging to find a suitable place to drop off and pick up their children during the day. However, it is clear that Bury Water Lane is becoming increasingly congested. Please could we ask you to find a safe place in the village to drop off and pick up which could include the train station car park. Please avoid doing any pickup and drop off in Gaces Acre.
4. Lost property – If your child/ren lose something during the school day and they cannot retrieve it from where they last remember seeing it, they should go to Pupil Reception where it may have been handed in or it can be formally logged as missing.
5. Principal's Diversity Competition – As I mentioned last week, I am launching a competition for the month of October to highlight the importance of diversity and equity in society. All pupils in years 7-11 are invited to write a poem, rap or set of song lyrics about this topic. It could be about an important figure or their thoughts about why it is important to be acceptant of others. There will be prizes for those judged to be the most impactful for both key stage 3 and key stage 4. Please can all entries be emailed to principalcompetition@joycefrankland.org by **Friday 6th November**. Good luck!
6. The Big Draw – October is 'The Big Draw' month, the world's largest drawing festival. To celebrate this, Miss Davis will be hosting drawing activities in P25 every lunchtime until half-term. This will include a collaborative drawing project. If you child/ren would like to get involved, please do pass this information on.
7. Student of the week – This week, we would like to give a special mention to Daniel L in year 8 who, despite not feeling 100%, successfully completed the Muddy Dog Challenge last weekend with his dog Ella. Daniel raised in excess of £350 for Battersea Dogs and Cats Home. Well done Daniel and it is great to see the funds going to such a good cause.

This concludes the updates for this week. I would like to finish this week by celebrating the exceptional achievements of pupils at Joyce Frankland who were given awards at the annual Jack Petchey Awards for Uttlesford on Tuesday evening. Hermione B, Kitty L and Lilly W in year 10 and George H, Ellie X, Raymond A and William C in year 11 as well as two pupils who moved on from our academy last year in year 11 and year 13 were

all award winners. These pupils have all demonstrated our values of independence, imagination, insight and inquisitiveness in different ways. We are proud that they are part of our community.

In the words of the first African-American woman to serve in the U.S. Senate, Carol Moseley-Braun, "Magic lies in challenging what seems impossible."

Have a great weekend,

Duncan Roberts

Principal