



Principal's Newsletter: The importance of belonging

Dear Parent and Carer,

Welcome to the first Principal's Newsletter of the Year. Firstly, I hope your child/ren have had an enjoyable start to the new academic year. It has been a really strong beginning with a great sense of enthusiasm and optimism about what the next 12 months will bring.

Firstly, I would like to thank our parent community for the way that our new uniform policy has been embraced by our community. We really appreciate your support with this change and it has been excellent to see how smart our pupils look. I have also popped into a number of different lessons over the course of first two weeks; pupil engagement has been strong and learning has been purposeful. Our year 7 cohort has settled into secondary school incredibly well which is a credit to the partnership that has been forged between us and our feeder primary schools. Year 12 have also started Sixth Form life in a really positive way and are very much enjoying that new sense of freedom and independence.

It has been a pleasure to lead assemblies this week on the importance of having a sense of belonging within our community and the impact that this can have on success. It was very interesting to find out from pupils in years 7, 8 and 9 where they feel that they most belong. The focus and behaviour of all

pupils in every year group was excellent and I hope that some of the questions I posed at the end of the assembly triggered some further thinking.

This week we completed our annual Open Evening to provide a taster of what school life is like at JFAN for prospective pupils. The event was exceptionally busy and all of my three speeches were full. The atmosphere throughout the evening was warm and friendly (despite the hail storm in the middle...), and I would like to thank colleagues, as well as the pupils who attended, for their energy and passion which showcased just how special our school is. This event now kickstarts our school tours which will happen throughout this half-term for prospective parents and carers of pupils currently in year 6. We look forward to showing them our inclusive and supportive community, on a typical day.

Have an excellent weekend,

Duncan Roberts

Principal

13th September 2024

Joyce Frankland Academy

Community news



- **School Lane Road Closure:** We have been informed by Essex Highways that School Lane will be reopened on 20th September. This will mean that we return to our usual process for bus drop off and pick up where buses will travel down School Lane and exit from Bury Water Lane which should help to improve traffic conditions in the morning and afternoon. However, we would still ask that parents and carers who drop off and pick up children by car to find an alternative space in the village such as the park or the train station car park to do this so that traffic is minimised.
- **Mental health and self-harm talk:** On Wednesday 18th September our NPA are hosting a talk and Q and A on self harm for parents and carers. It is being held in the main hall from 7.00 pm to 9.00, a suggested minimum of £5.00 per person to attend the event is requested, light refreshments will be available to purchase. The talk will cover the self-harm cycle, understanding the reasons behind self-harm, effective strategies and techniques, how to support individuals who self-harm and the importance of self-care as a parent/carer. Spaces are limited and need to be reserved in advance by emailing jessieburnip1@hotmail.com.
- **Improvements to the estate:** Over the summer period we have made several improvements to the estate including resurfacing the whole of the south side of the site, redecorating our science labs and repaving the steps which lead up to English, MfL and the Peake Building. Furthermore, we are due to begin the next phase of our school rebuilding program in March of next year. The Academy will update parents and carers about this once we know more specific details of the project.

Key updates



- **Policy updates:** As promised in my communication at the start of this term, there are some policy updates which have taken place over the summer period which are now on our website for you to [view](#). This includes:
 - Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
 - Behaviour for Learning Policy (with the new dress code expectations at the end)
- **Academy four year development plan:** Also on our website is our new four year development plan and a summary document of our core values, vision and purpose along with the strategic priorities that we set out to achieve. You can view this documentation by clicking [here](#).
- **This year's drama production:** We are delighted to announce that the school show we will be performing this academic year is *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory*. Already our pupils seem very excited about the prospect of this show and auditions will take place later this month.
- **Year 7 "Meet the Tutor" event:** On Thursday 19th September, we will be hosting a "Meet the Tutor" event for our new year 7 pupils and families from 17:00-18:00 in the Main Hall. We look forward to seeing you there.
- **PE kit at the end of the school day:** All pupils must change from their PE kit back into their uniform if they have PE for their final lesson of the day. The only occasion when this is not required and pupils are to remain in PE kit is if they have a fixture after school.

Thought of the week



“People will typically be more enthusiastic where they feel a sense of belonging and see themselves as part of a community”. Alfie Kohn (philosopher)

Dates for the diary coming up...



Thursday 19th September Year 7 Meet the Form Tutor

Thursday 19th and Friday 20th September Year 8 Trip to Essex Outdoor Centre, Harlow

Friday 20th September Performing Arts trip to Harry Potter and the Royal Opera House

Saturday 21st September to Tuesday 24th September Barcelona trip

Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November - Half term

Thursday 28th November Year 8 Parents Evening

Friday 29th November INSET Day Academy closed to pupils

Friday 20th December Term ends at 1.20pm



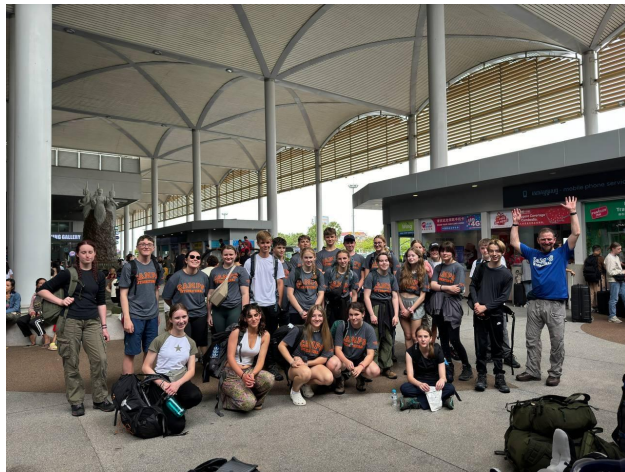
1 - GCSE results day



2 - A Level results day



3 - Performing Arts department. l-r Mrs Galloway, Miss Aniff, Miss Petrova and Mrs Sommerville



4 - Cambodia Trip



5 - Cambodia Trip

Success stories



6 - Laura Sugar

This week we would like to celebrate the exceptional achievements of an ex-pupil Laura Sugar who won another Olympic Gold Medal at the Paralympic Games in Paris. A second gold medal is one thing, but a paralympic record in the women's canoe sprint is going up another level! At school, Laura was always a credit to our community and now she is a credit to her country and Paralympic sport more broadly. Laura is an inspiration to the pupils that attend our school now and will be for the future generations who wear our school badge, confident in the knowledge that they too, can achieve greatness just like Laura.

Newport Parents Association (PTA)



The Newport Parents Association (PTA) help to raise funds for the enrichment of the school and to co-ordinate activities for school parents, families and the local community. We are also a registered charity. We aim to bring together parents, teachers and others to raise money and to support the school raising vital funds to buy items or provide support for pupils not covered by the school budget. For example, the provision of therapy / counselling for students , the provision of new sports and dance equipment , the provision of equipment for the music department and so much more!

We're always happy to welcome new volunteers who would like to dedicate some of their time. That could be sparing an hour or two to help at an event or you may wish to join the NPA committee, new members are always welcome.

If you would like to get involved with the NPA please contact the Chair of the NPA Kerinda Trigg via the Academy's administration email address. jfaadmin@joycefrankland.org

Feedback Friday: This week's Feedback Friday form is specifically for our new year 7 parents and carers to complete. You can access the form [here](#). We would love to hear your views.



WE WANT

YOUR

FEEDBACK



Vacancies



Details for all the current Academy and Anglian Learning vacancies can be found on our website [here](#)

Contact Us



Joyce Frankland Academy

Bury Water Lane

Newport

Essex

CB11 3TR

Tel: 01799 540237

Email: jfaadmin@joycefrankland.org

Visit us on our website at www.joycefrankland.org

Please follow our social media pages. [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and our dedicated [sixth form Facebook](#) page.