



Principal's Newsletter: Belonging as a community

Dear Parent and Carer,

I hope you are well and had an excellent half-term break at the end of last month. The summer term at JFAN is now, very much in full-swing and we are busily working hard to create special memories for the pupils in our school.

I would like to begin by saying a very special well done to all of our pupils in Years 11 and 13 who continue to work tirelessly throughout this exam period. Every year it seems as though the exam period accelerates in pace and intensity and, although it isn't over yet, we are definitely starting to glimmers of light at the end of the tunnel. Pupils in these cohorts have set a wonderful example to our younger year groups about how to approach the exam season when it is their turn, which has been very pleasing to witness.

In other year groups too, there is a sense of anticipation in relation to upcoming assessments; it is the season. However, when speaking to pupils in a range of cohorts, it is great to hear how seriously they are taking them. Our young people want to do well and this is one of the reasons why they are such a pleasure to work with. I would greatly appreciate it if parents and carers could reiterate the importance of the balance between revision and breaks. Of course, independent study is vital to build confidence, motivation and consolidate knowledge, but, breaks in study are equally important to factor in, as well as continuing to play sport and practice musical instruments, and do all the things that they enjoy.

Also this half-term, rehearsals for our annual school production, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, have been accelerating at pace. Our staff and pupils always put an enormous amount of effort into this piece of work and this year is clearly no different. These annual productions have such a significant impact on our pupils. They create a real sense of belonging within our community which, as I have been reiterating throughout this academic year, is absolutely key in order to shape a culture of success and aspiration.

Last Thursday, it was great to be able to open our newly restored Eco Garden. With the incredibly generous funds given to us by Cultivating change charity, we have been able to transform the space into a welcoming and tranquil environment. On the afternoon of the opening, it was brilliant to see pupils planting all types of vegetables in the newly built raised beds and talk to them about their passion for ecology. I must also thank our dedicated team of staff who have been instrumental in building a community who care greatly about this unique and special part of our school.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our community for the way that they have responded to some of the changes we have implemented this half-term, specifically, the trial reduction in lunch time. I do fully understand the drawbacks to this change as well as the benefits and it is important that we continue to use the next five weeks to evaluate these carefully, draw upon a specific evidence base, and make an informed decision in the autumn term. A special note of thanks must go to a small group of Key Stage 3 pupils who met with me in my office last week to discuss this further. They were so thoughtful, articulate and empathetic about the situation. The future is in great hands with those young people.

I finish my introduction to this week's newsletter with a quote about the importance of a strong community and in the words of Henry Ford, "Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success."

Best wishes,

Duncan Roberts

Principal

13th June 2025

Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport

Community news



- **Social media usage amongst teens:** The evidence of the negative impact that social media has on teenagers is starting to gather pace. If you haven't come across the book, *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt it is worth exploring, as is the dedicated website which can be viewed [here](#). The text thoughtfully and academically links the uptick in teenage social media use with increasing mental health issues over the past decade. Haidt is also the podcast *Rest is Politics: Leading* this week where he summarises the ways that leading social media sites create addiction problems.
- **Update on school buildings:** We continue to do significant work on our site to make it safer, brighter and greener. Over half-term, the fencing project has continued to gather pace and we are now only awaiting the electronic gates to be installed before the

project is complete. Painting upgrades have taken place in the canteen and further work will take place over the summer holiday. Brand new toilet doors have been installed in the Peake Building as well as new water refill points to replace the drinking fountains. Further plans are in motion for new furniture in some of our science labs, improving the quality of the stage in the Main Hall and new flooring in Peake Building over the summer break. We are committed to providing the best possible learning environment for our community despite the financial challenges that the sector continues to find itself in.

- **Volunteering at JFAN:** At JFAN, we are always looking for volunteers to support some of our projects. This could be to support staffing on a school trip or providing some support with speaking assessments if you speak French, German or Spanish. If you might be willing to speak to some of our pupils about your exciting career and how you got into it, we would also really like to hear from you. Contact us via email at jfaadmin@joycefrankland.org and a colleague will get back to you as soon as possible.



1 - Newport Fun Run

Reuben, part of Joyce Frankland's Alumni is organising a Newport Fun Run to raise money for the Church and the Church Building. It is taking place on Sunday the 13th of July at the recreation ground and you can enter a 10K or 5K race or the 1K fun run. The races are on multi-

terrain routes around the village and are for everybody, from those just starting out running, to experienced racers, to people who just want to walk it! There will also be refreshments and a cake stall so please come along and support this great cause. You can book a place [here](#)

Key reminders and updates

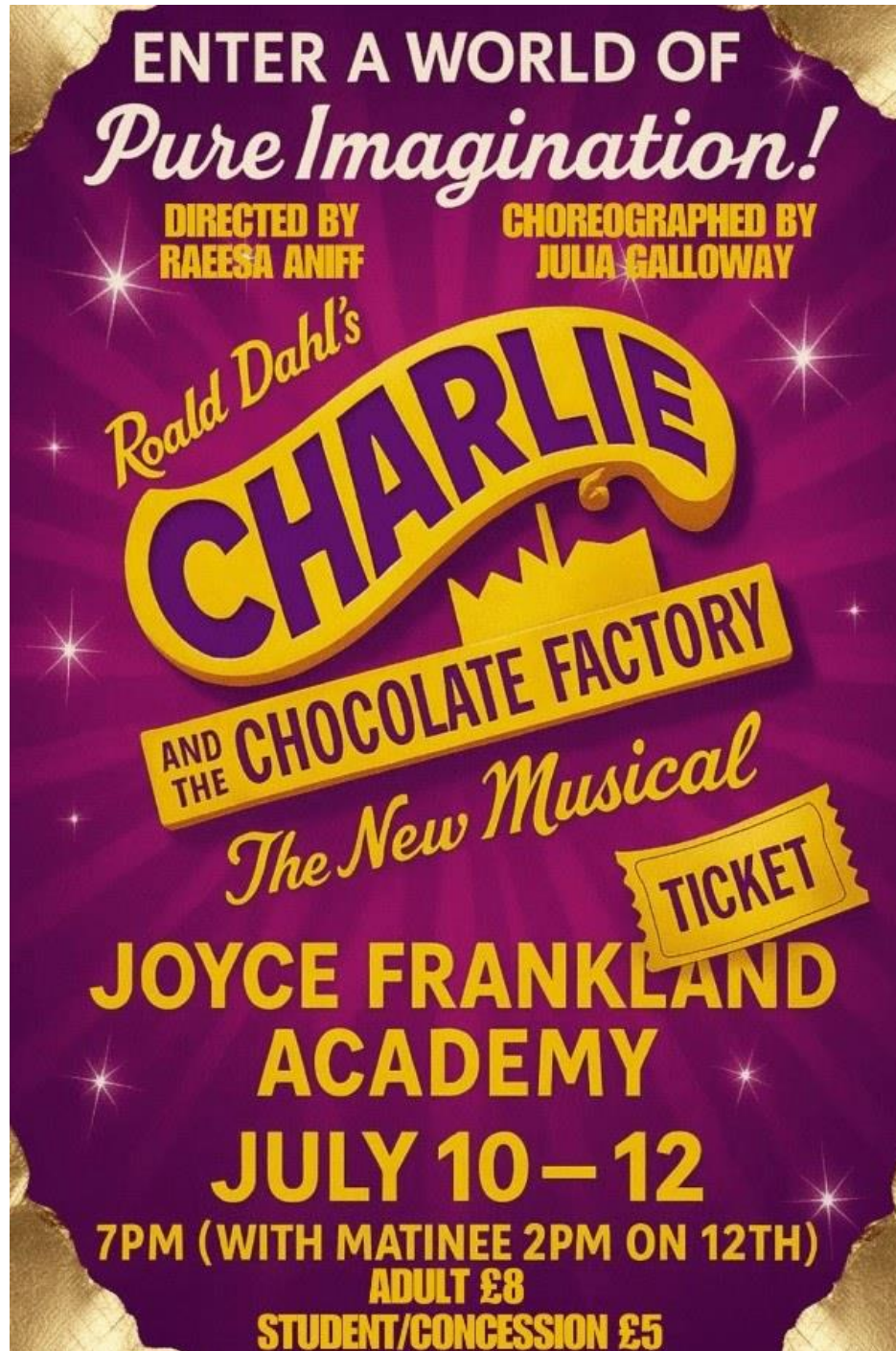


- **Uniform:** The Academy wrote to all parents and carers before half-term to explain that we are now in the period of summer uniform policy. Thank you as ever for your support with this change. As a reminder, this is what is acceptable:
 - → Shirt and tie
 - → Shirt, tie, and blazer
 - → Shirt, tie, jumper and blazer
- **Teaching staff update for next year:** The Academy is pleased to inform you that the Academy is fully staffed for next academic year after an appointment was made last week for a Teacher of English. We clearly are unable to predict what staff absence may occur during the year, however, our retention rates this year have been strong and we are delighted to have recruited three new teachers in core subjects. This will

undoubtedly help to support our drive for high expectations, consistency and high quality teaching and learning in every classroom.

- **Wearing of PE Kit:** Please can we remind all parents and carers that pupils must not come to school in PE Kit unless they have been instructed to because of a sports event by our PE faculty. This sometimes occurs as the weather gets warmer. We have amended our uniform policy (see above) to support the change in season.
- **New one-way processes:** The Academy has started new one-way systems in Peake Building, E and D Blocks as well as a new canteen queue process. We have so far been very pleased with the outcome of this and it is helping to ensure that our community can move more freely around the site. Currently, like the reduction in lunch time, these changes are being trialed this half-term in order to evaluate its impact before all the school community return to school after the summer holiday. We welcome pupils' views on these changes so please do encourage them to share these with their form tutor.
- **Supporting with Ofsted's new framework:** On Monday and Tuesday of next week, we will have a team from Ofsted visiting Joyce Frankland as we are working with them to look at the next inspection framework. There will be no judgements made or report after this visit. We are pleased to be able to have a key part in the national conversation about how Ofsted might work in the future.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory



Charlie and the Chocolate Factory is a vibrant and imaginative journey into the whimsical world of Willy Wonka's chocolate factory, based on the beloved book by Roald Dahl. It follows young Charlie Bucket as he, along with four other golden ticket winners, discovers the magic and the lessons within Wonka's fantastical creation.

Charlie Bucket, a kind-hearted boy from a poor family, wins a golden ticket to Willy Wonka's mysterious and magical chocolate factory. He joins four other spoiled and greedy children, each with their own flaws, as they embark on a tour of the factory. The show features the eccentric Willy Wonka, the quirky Oompa Loompas, and the memorable characters from the book. The musical brings to life the fantastical world of the factory, with its chocolate river, nutty squirrels, and other amazing inventions.

It explores themes of family, kindness, and the importance of staying true to yourself. It also highlights the dangers of greed and selfishness, as the other children face consequences for their actions. The musical features a new score by Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman, with songs that are both catchy and creative. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory is a heartwarming and entertaining experience for all ages, leaving audiences smiling long after the final curtain call.

This years show features over 60 students from years 7 - 12 at JFAN with the combined creative team of Ms Aniff, Ms Galloway, Mr Cooke, Ms Birss, Ms Sommerville, and two students who graduated from our Sixth Form last year, Emily Veale and Sebastien Colclough. There are 3 casts performing over the run. RED, BLUE AND PURPLE. Please check with your child which cast they are in before booking tickets.

Tickets can be purchased from Ticket Source [here](#) or by using the QR code below.



Thought of the week



“Life is not easy for any of us. But what of that? We must have perseverance and above all confidence in ourselves.” Marie Curie

Dates for the diary coming up...



Friday 20th June Year 11 Final Assembly

Friday 27th June Year 6 Transition Day

Friday 27th June Year 11 Celebration

Tuesday 1st to Thursday 3rd July Year 10 Work experience

Thursday 3rd to Monday 7th July Iceland Trip

Friday 4th July INSET Day

Thursday 10 to Saturday 12th July Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Monday 14th July Years 7-12 Sports Day

Tuesday 15th July Thorpe Park trip - Year 9

Friday 18th July Academy closes at 1.20 pm



2 - Eco Garden opening ceremony



3 - Eco Garden opening ceremony



4 - Eco Garden opening ceremony



5 - Eco Garden opening ceremony - Cultivating change



7 - Charlie and the Chocolate Factory



8 - Charlie and the Chocolate Factory



9 - Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Success stories



Congratulations to Beatrice in Year 7 who recently competed at the Royal Windsor Horse Show. Beatrice competed in and won the Show Pony class earning her the incredible opportunity to ride in the main arena in front of royalty. An amazing achievement and experience. Well done Beatrice!



10 - Beatrice

Congratulations to Ayda in Year 8 who has successfully competed in two tough rounds to reach the Suffolk League Swimming finals at the end of the month. Finalists for this competition are selected on their performance and Ayda has been up against some of the strongest talent in the the county and region to secure a place. An incredible achievement and we wish you lots of luck for the finals!

JFAN PTA



Now known as JFAN PTA, formerly referred to as the Newport Parents Association (NPA), is a registered charity (289783). Our mission is to bring together those with parental responsibilities and teaching staff to raise vital funds to buy items or provide support for JFAN students not covered by the school budget. For example, our recent projects include; upgrading the library, updates to the medical room, therapy and counselling sessions, provision of sport and dance equipment and covering costing for travel to career events.

We need three types of volunteers:

Firstly, you can sign up as an Events Volunteer, sparing just an hour or two at a school event or uniform sale.

Secondly, new Committee Member Volunteers, we meet on a 6-weekly basis in our local waterhole, allocating funds, brainstorming ideas on fundraising and finalising arrangements for events with the PTA Board members.

Lastly, we are looking to recruit to our new Supportive Volunteer roles, to work in the background, helping to improve our income generation, these roles include; social media, website administrator, graphic design and researcher for grants and local community funding. If these are areas that you work within or are interested in – **We Need You!!**

If you're interested in getting involved and would like to find out more, please contact our chair Kerinda Trigg via the academy's administration email address

jfaadmin@joycefrankland.org

Vacancies



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

Contact Us



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Visit us on our website at www.joycefrankland.org

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