



Principal's Newsletter: Belonging with Joy

Dear Parent and Carer,

I hope this message finds you well and enjoying the sunshine; let's hope this summer weather continues over the next couple of months. As we move into the final weeks of the school year, there is a real sense of energy and togetherness across the school. As I have said on several occasions, the summer term is a great chance to celebrate and reflect upon the many moments that have brought our community closer together. Over the past fortnight, there has been so many great stories and events to mention which have showcased our school in the best way possible.

I would like to begin by celebrating the outstanding Year 8 trip to the World War One Battlefields earlier this month. The pupils represented the school with maturity, curiosity, and compassion. Staff who were involved in the trip spoke of how deeply moved the students were by the experience, and how powerfully they engaged with the history. It was a trip that not only enriched their learning but also strengthened their sense of empathy and connection to the wider world.

Back at school, we've been working through the recent heatwave with a great deal of care and positivity. Pupils have shown resilience and good humour, and I'm grateful to staff for the thoughtful adjustments made to ensure everyone's wellbeing. It's been a reminder of how adaptable and supportive our community can be, even in challenging conditions.

We were also pleased to host a successful test visit from Ofsted last week, supporting the development of their new inspection framework due to launch at some point next academic year.

Also last week, we have held our celebration assemblies for Year 11 and Year 13 pupils. These events marked not only the end of their exams but also the end of their time at Joyce Frankland Academy. They were uplifting, emotional, and full of pride. I would like to thank all the staff who supported these pupils throughout their journey. And to our Year 11s; we are very much looking forward to seeing you at your celebration party this evening.

Meanwhile, our Year 10 pupils have completed their end-of-year exams with real determination and maturity. They have risen to the challenge admirably, and I know they will carry this momentum into the next academic year. Their work ethic and focus have been a credit to them.

Today, we also had the pleasure of welcoming our new Year 7 cohort for their transition day. It was fantastic to see their excitement and enthusiasm as they explored the school, met their new teachers, and began forming new friendships. They seemed to thoroughly enjoy their day, and we are looking forward to seeing them again in September.

Even in the busiest and most demanding times, joy can be found in the connections we build, the kindness we show, and the pride we take in each other's achievements.

In the powerful words of reggae artist, Jimmy Cliff, "Good thinking brings good feeling and good feeling brings good thinking."

Best wishes,

Duncan Roberts

Principal

27th June 2025

Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport

Community news



- **Zebra Crossing improvements:** We are excited to inform you that significant improvements will be made to the zebra crossing which divides our site, over the summer holiday. From 28th July to 29th August, a small proportion of Bury Water Lane will be closed. This will not affect access to the site for sports events or results days. The work will include brand new marks, signage and lighting and is something we have been working on for several months. This will make the crossing much safer as it will be far more visible for road users throughout the year.
- **Easyfundraising:** The JFAN PTA have recently joined Easy fundraising, the UK's biggest charity shopping site and now need your help. Easyfundraising partners with over 8,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend online to the Academy. It won't cost you any extra, the cost is covered by the brand. All you need to do is sign up [here](#) and provide a few details to set up your profile and download the app. You will be notified automatically when you shop to let you know when a donation is available. Please sign up as soon as possible to help us reach our target in June to qualify for a promotion of additional gifted money!

- **Anglian Leisure:** A reminder that our facilities can be hired through the summer months for a range of activities including birthday parties and sports events. For more information, please access [this link](#).



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

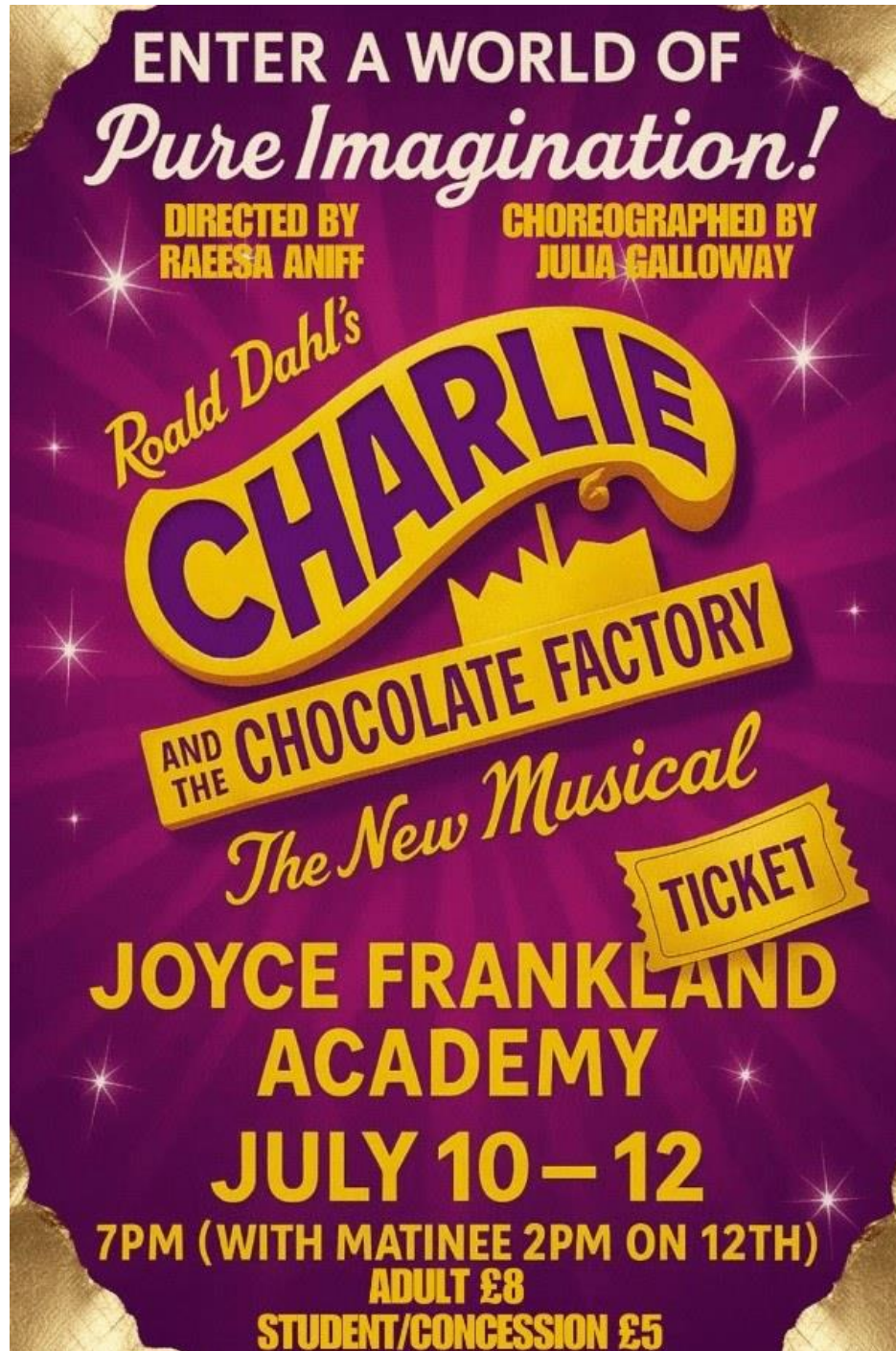


- **Network challenges:** Since Monday, the academy has experienced disruption to its network which has impacted upon our phone system and internet connection. This situation was not the fault of the academy, but our previous service provider before switching to a different provider. Although much of the issues that arose from this have been resolved, there are still some issues that we are working through and we would request your patience with colleagues responding to your email queries over the next few days whilst we work through what may have been missed as well as the problems which still remain. Thank you for your support in this matter.
- **Inset Day 4th July:** A reminder that we will be holding our last inset day of the year on Friday 4th July. This is a very useful and important training day in our calendar to help us reflect on the achievements of the year and to identify the priorities for the following one. The school will be closed to pupils on this day.
- **Coping in the heat:** Although we have passed through a heat wave, there continues to be a spell of hot conditions. Therefore please can you encourage your child/ren to bring a bottle of water to school. There two places to refill the bottle on school site and the canteen. It would be wise for children to have suncream and a hat if outside for any

length of time. Please can we remind you that summer uniform policy is in place and therefore pupils do not need to wear blazers.

- **Parent survey in relation to lunch time:** In the next edition of this newsletter, there will be a short survey that we will be asking parents and carers to complete about the pilot reduction in lunch time that we have undertaken this half-term. We are actively seeking feedback to help us inform our decision-making for the autumn. Please do look out for this in our newsletter in two-weeks time.
- **Meal costs from September 2025:** There continue to be significant catering cost pressures including a 6.7% increase in the minimum wage and an increase in employers' national insurance in April. These increases have also had an impact on food costs and the cost of delivery to schools. Despite these significant cost pressures, Anglian Learning, the trust of which this school is a member, has worked hard with our catering provider to limit the increases to be passed on to pupils and parents. I am able to confirm that the price of a meal deal will remain at £2.75. There will be an average increase of 5.0% in the cost of other items purchased in our catering outlets. For those eligible for free school meals the daily allowance will remain at £2.75. If you are unsure about your eligibility for free school meals, please contact the Academy at jfaadmin@joycefrankland.org
- **Summer reading lists:** As we start to see the summer holidays on the horizon, we thought it might be useful to share an excellent reading list from Read Brightly. [This link](#) provides an excellent range of texts for young people to get stuck into over the summer break.

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.



Battlefields Trip



Year 8 pupils from JFAN spent two days on the WW1 battlefields, developing their understanding of the experience and sacrifice of The Great War. Taking part in a regular series of trips undertaken by the school, JFAN pupils participated in the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres, laying a wreath of remembrance. The ceremony has taken place every day at 8pm since the Menin Gate was opened in the 1920s, and although the school has done eight battlefields trips since 2014 this was the first recent occasion that JFAN have laid a wreath.

Sites visited by the group in Belgium included the Cloth Hall Museum, Langemark and Tyne Cot, the largest Commonwealth War Cemetery in the world. On the second day the party travelled to France, visiting the underground Musee Somme in Albert, the Somme memorial at Thiepval, the Beaumont-Hamel battlefield site and the Lochnagar Crater. At the Crater site, the school's former headmaster Major Frank Wyeth MC and former pupils who served in the war are commemorated on a plaque placed by the Old Newportonians.

Before leaving the Somme, 64 students and seven staff gathered in front of the Basilica in Albert, which has a golden Madonna and Child figure on top deeply associated with WW1 troops' memories of the Great War.



2 - Isabella, Florence and Maddie, pictured with the Last Post Association buglers at the Menin Gate



3 - Bess, Zara and Toby laying the Menin Gate wreath



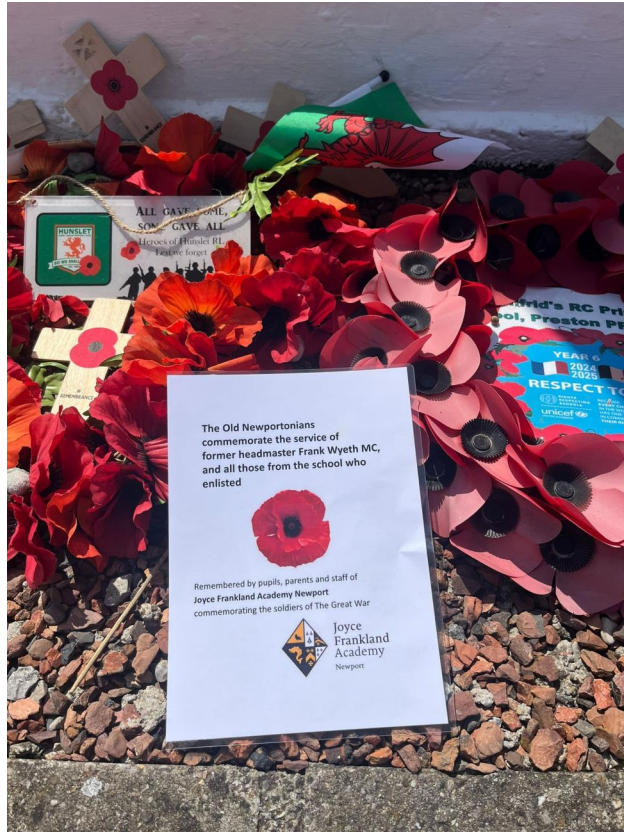
4 - Bess, Zara and Toby



5 - Bess, Zara and Toby



6 - Year 8 pupils and staff in Albert, in front of the Basilica



7 - Plaque at Lochnagar Crater



8 - Lochnagar Crater



9 - Lochnagar Crater



10 - Plaque at Lochnagar Crater

Thought of the week



"Good thinking brings good feeling and good feeling brings good thinking." Jimmy Cliff

Dates for the diary coming up...



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

Friday 11th July PTA BBQ

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

Success stories



Congratulations to Chloe, Sophia, Cerys, James and Eleanor who all performed on the pitch during the Rugby League Betfred Challenge Cup final. They were part of a team of 76 dancers from Tempos Performing Arts, they even had to run out on the pitch behind the BBC cameras. A fantastic experience.



11 - Chloe, Sophia, Cerys, James and Eleanor

Congratulations to Joyce Frankland Academy Alumni Alex Boucher. Alex has been awarded an MBE for services to entrepreneurship and the video games industry.

You can read the full story [here](#)

ALUMNI SHOUT OUT



Huge congratulations to Alex Boucher, a member of the Joyce Frankland Academy Alumni who has been awarded an MBE for services to entrepreneurship and the video games industry.



WWW.JOYCEFRANKLAND.ORG

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.

JFA PTA Uniform sales take place on the first Saturday of the month at Newport Farmers Market.

To sign up for Easyfundraising, the UK's biggest charity shopping site click [here](#)

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](#), [JFAN Performing Arts](#) and our [Linkedin](#) page.