

Tudor Grange Academy Redditch – Weekly Bulletin 5

Dear Parent/Carer

Letters attached

I have re circulated these letters as a reminder.

- Emergency Closure Letter
- Year 11 Extra mock letter

General information

League Tables

As you may have heard through the national media, the government have recently released the annual school 'league tables.' These tables are designed to help parents assess the quality of local schools with reference to a range of national data. To view the tables, please visit:

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance/index.html>

There are a couple of important 'headlines' to look at.

	5A*C (with E & M)	Value added
Arrow Vale St Augustin es	48	1010
TGA Redditch	56	1015
Trinity	68	1007

The most well known is '5 A*-C with English and maths'. This is the current standard that schools are measured against. The reason this is so important is that it is the basic standard for the majority of further qualifications. Our figure is 56%, shows how well we are doing within our group of schools, however, we are not complacent and are continuing to work to ensure all students achieve their very best. However, what must also be considered is the massive changes to GCSEs in the last academic year (see for example <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-22854908>) and the subsequent national 'drop' in performance – with many schools experiencing a fall in performance of over 10%. Furthermore unlike many schools, our data has not subsequently 'altered' since results were given out in the summer. I hope you will appreciate that this underscores not only our ability to accurately analyse our own performance but our determination to give you an accurate reflection of where we are.

I would also like to draw your attention to the 'value added' data. The value added 'score' measures schools against a nominal 'norm' of 1,000 – where over 1,000 means the school adds value to the child's education (in other words they make greater progress at the school than they did before they arrived) with less than 1,000 showing the reverse. Our figure of 1015 is very encouraging and confirms that TGA Redditch continues to challenge and support students to achieve their best.

Mobile Phones

Following a recent review of some areas of the standards and expectations of students at TGAR, the Academy is making the following change. Students who are caught using their mobile phone during the day will have their phone confiscated and receive a sanction in accordance with the current policy. The confiscated telephone will be

placed in a sealed envelope in student services for collection by the student at the end of the school day at 3:20pm. We are always looking to ensure students are safe travelling to and from the Academy and are making this change to allow students to have a method of contacting their parents / carer during their travel home. The sanction will remain the same, as any students caught using a mobile phone during the day will serve a 1 hour detention with their Head of Year on a Friday from 3:20-4:20pm.

Year 11 Revision

As you may be aware your son/daughters's exams are now **only** 12 weeks away! We are now working with our students to help them prepare for these exams. During tutor time, students will be introduced to a range of revision techniques which will then be followed up in an hour's PSE lesson every week. This will give every student in year 11 an opportunity to revise a range of techniques and produce revision materials. The topics we will focus on include:

- Target setting
- Strategies for memorising
- Producing and updating revision timetables

I will invite you to an evening before the Easter break when you will be given a complete overview of the revision plans and support for Year 11 students in their final weeks before the exams start.

Year 11 reports

These will be issued during the week of the 9th February.

6th Form Mock Results

The 6th form mock examination results will be released in mock results day on Friday 13th February. This celebration

of student's achievement is an excellent opportunity for our 6th form students to reflect on their own progress and reflect on what else can be done to ensure success in the June examinations.

In addition, students who have also sat mock AS re-sit examinations will have a discussion with Mr Hulme or Mrs Thomas between the 11th and 13th so that exam entries for the summer can be confirmed.

Year 11 Mocks.

There will be a second set of mock exams week beginning 9th March. This will give students a final practice for their GCSE examinations. We will use the results to inform our final revision and preparation for the exams. A timetable will be issued shortly.

Author Barbara Spencer

We have an author Barbara Spencer-Jones who writes as Barbara Spencer coming into the school on Monday 9th February. She very kindly donated a copy of her book 'Time Breaking' to the Library and asked if we would be interested in her coming to talk to our students.

In addition to 'Time Breaking', she has written two other books for older teens - 'Running' and its sequel 'Turning Point'. She has also written books for younger children.

She will be arriving around 9.00am and the programme is as follows:

Period 1 - Talk and workshop with 9P1

Period 2 - Workshop with 10G1

Break - in the Library selling and signing copies of her books

Period 3 - Workshop with Year 13 English students

Period 4 - Humorous talk to approx. 32 Year 9 students

For your information her website is
<http://www.barbaraspencer.co.uk>.

Sports Results

U15 boys basketball team beat St. Augustines 45-22 and are now due to play Bromsgrove School on Tuesday 3rd February. U15 boys previously beat Arrowvale too.

U14 boys basketball beat Trinity and lost to St Augustines.

U16 girls basketball beat Arrowvale.

Further information

We try to ensure that the data we hold on our students is as accurate as possible, both for ease of administration and for students' own safety. We would be grateful if you could advise us of any changes (e.g. mobile number, email address etc.) as soon as possible. Please note that our 'Data Protection Policy' is available to view on the website.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me on 01527 523088 or email

rrees@redditch.tgacademy.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Rose Rees
Principal