

12th November 2021

Updates from Royds

Dear Parents/Carers,

Over recent weeks we have been able to welcome many of our families into the academy building for the first time since Covid restrictions lifted, with parent information evenings being held for every year group. It has been fantastic to see so many visitors, as you can see in the table below, and we have received great feedback across the board. Thank you for your continuing support with these events. Royds is committed to an open-door policy and welcomes individual face to face meetings with parents and carers. Appointments are not always necessary, please phone or pop into reception.

Date	Year group	Event	Number of Visitors
23rd September	Year 8	Parents' Information Evening	246
30th September	Year 5 & 6	Open Evening	903
7th October	Year 10	Parents' Information Evening	218
13th & 14th October	Year 7	Settling in Evening	160 & 168
4th November	Year 9	Parents' Information Evening	171
11th November	Year 11	Parents' Information Evening	328

Parent Partnership

We believe a supportive partnership between home and school is an essential ingredient for a child's successful education. Therefore, we have been following the Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA) framework which is a nationally recognised award aimed at developing effective communication between the academy and home. This area of work is a key part of the Royds Academy Development Plan. The framework encourages parents to be involved in their children's learning leading to improved outcomes in all aspects of school life.

Covid Vaccinations

The COVID-19 vaccinations for children aged 12 to 15 years of age were administered by the Leeds School Immunisation Service today to all those who had given consent to receive their first dose. The purpose of the COVID-19 school age vaccination programme is to provide protection to the children who receive the vaccine, to reduce transmission of COVID-19 in the wider population and to reduce disruption to education. Feedback from the nursing team was very positive and they commended our students for their calm, mature behaviour.

Online Learning

Please talk to your child about the online learning platforms we have available for them to access homework and encourage them to complete the tasks set by their teachers each week as these are invaluable in securing success in the classroom and beyond. Students receive a variety of online homework to support their learning via Hegarty Maths, Educake, GCSE Pod and Seneca. If students have any issues with accessing these for any reason, please contact the subject teacher straight away for help.

The Big Draw Competition

The Big Draw Festival is a worldwide celebration of drawing and this year's theme is 'Make the Change'. Royds Academy and the art department will be asking students to design and create a poster based on the theme which could include sustainability, recycling or even climate change. Other changes could be about making a positive change in life, such as eating healthier, having less screen time and even being more active. All these small changes can help us to reconnect with people and shape a better future.

We would like students to work collaboratively with parents and carers at home to show their families what fantastic skills they have. The deadline for poster designs to be submitted in school is Friday 3rd December. If you have any questions, please speak to a member of the art department. Please visit www.thebigdraw.org for more information, resources and ideas.

Mock Exams

Year 10 and 11 mock (PPE) exams begin next week. Walking talking mocks are a chance for students to go through exactly how the exams work and how each question is answered. It will be led by either a subject director or head of department. Students will be told by staff when they need to go to their session. Please help and encourage your child to attend revision sessions. Further details will follow as soon as possible.

Week Commencing	Event	Year Group
16 th November 13:40 - 14:40	Walking talking mock history	Year 11 only
17 th November 11:10 - 12:10	Walking talking mock triple scientists	Year 11 only
17 th November 12:10 - 14:40	Walking talking mock geography	Year 11 only
18 th November 12:10 - 13:40	Walking talking mock history	
19 th November 08:30 - 09:30	Walking talking mock science higher tier	Year 11 only
19 th November 11:10 - 12:10	Walking talking mock science foundation tier	Year 11 only
19 th November 12:10 - 13:40	Walking talking mock history	Year 11 only
30 th November 08:30 - 10:30	Walking talking mock English	Year 11 only
22 nd November to 10 th December	Year 11 Mock Exams	
13 th to 17 th December	Year 10 Mock Exams	
10 th January 2022	Cambridge National Exams Sport Science, Health & Social Care and Applied Business	Year 10 & 11

VIP Dining Experience

Royds' first exclusive dining event was well-received by all the student guests today. The lucky diners were drawn randomly from all those who received 100% attendance plus positive behaviour value points for the week across year groups 7-10. Next week this incentive will be extended to years 7-11. The dining experience included: an extended lunch break, having lunch in a private dining area, selecting their lunch from the set menu and having the Senior Leadership Team waiting tables. This event will take place for the next four Fridays, then during the final week of half term there will be an exclusive Christmas lunch.

Laser Tag

On Friday 17th December Laser Tag will be coming to Royds Academy. Every student in the academy that has achieved 100% attendance between 9th November – 17th December and has positive praise points will be eligible to play. Not only this, but students will be served hot chocolate and receive a Christmas gift. Game on!

Yours faithfully,



John Higgins
Principal