

Parent & Carer Newsletter

May 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the final part of half term 5, I wanted to take this opportunity to wish all of our students and families a lovely half term break, hopefully it will also be in the sunshine!

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This half term has been really significant for so many reasons. Firstly, we received our official Ofsted judgement and although I have already written to all parents and carers, it's another opportunity to say **just how proud I am both of students and staff**, we value the partnership also with our families. Audenshaw is officially a "Good" school in all areas, as of March 2023.

The new framework is regarded as a much more challenging criteria for schools to evidence their educational offer. We welcome the value of this report and also the clear validation of what we know our students experience daily, however, we hold the highest of ambition to be, great. Each and every interaction, lesson and moment in school is given the highest regard as students only get one chance at their 5 year journey. If you haven't had chance as yet to read the full report please do, **it showcases how strong the educational offer your son receives is**, and you should also be very proud as we continue to work together to shape the lives of your sons. <https://www.audenshawschool.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Audenshaw-School-Ofsted-report-May-2023.pdf>

Secondly, I wanted to communicate specifically to the parents and carers of Y11 students, just how proud I am of them. The past two weeks have seen the exam season get fully underway with some days students having numerous examinations, it really does bring to the forefront that key value they hold in such high abundance – **resilience**. I have been in the exams hall for every exam and watched in action the strength of the relationships that our students have with their teachers/support staff and each other, it really is a sight to behold. Our exams invigilators have commented daily to be how impressed they have been with the conduct of all 197 students taking examinations. Please do share the outstanding start made here with your sons, they are managing what is a highly unique experience so very well. I can imagine at the family home you also are feeling the pressure of the season as you support your child, we thank you as ever for the crucial support you give during this time.



Also this term we had..... *los líderes lingüísticos visitan otra escuela!* For those of us not too familiar with Spanish this translates to, language leaders working with Y5 students at Holy Trinity Primary school and did an excellent job. It's always outstanding seeing our students work so closely with other schools and younger students.

Our Year 8's paid a visit to the MMU Moot court in relation to their scheme of work on Social Justice this half term. As you can see in the image they really did get that real life courtroom experience.

Our Y10s didn't just do us proud at their work experience, they absolutely thrived and only this morning as I type this, Mrs Butcher shared the amazing feedback with the year group regarding the lasting impression so many of our boys have made on employers. As I always say, it is their world that we are adults in, and it will be in such great hands when they reach adulthood as exceptional young men.

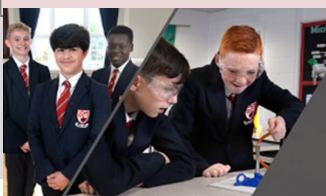
In other news, it has been typically a very busy 'Audenshaw' half term with so much happening. To provide a flavor of this I include a number of pictures showing our boys in action across such a variety of activities. We have enjoyed seeing many of our Y7 and Y8 students spend a long weekend participating in



the CastleHead Field Centre in grange over sands as part of a residential. The trip was led by Miss Drysdale and the dream team of Mrs Sykes, Mr O'Brien and Miss Perry. The boys were simply



stunning and the pictures really do speak for themselves. They took part in a scavenger hunt, a sea level traverse, rafting, assault courses and team building exercises. They also enjoyed marshmallows toasted on the campfire and ice creams, memories made here for a lifetime I'm sure!



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We value our personal development curriculum and as part of this, Ms Sheridan arranged for all of year 7-10 to receive excellent advice, guidance and information around financial management from a company called Bex Card. The feedback as ever was excellent with our students even commenting about the current interest rates, growth of digital currencies and many other relevant areas.



The Year 7 Dragons Den competition was an absolute delight. I was excited to wear my 'Peter Jones style socks' and see so many of our boys pitch in the Den. Mr Sutherland organised the competition and myself, Miss Breakell, Mr Leach and Miss Mason had the privilege to live out a lifetime ambition and to be a Dragon. The sheer creativity, planning and quality of presentations was so very strong and if your son was involved you should be very proud. My personal highlight was a group asking to have a minute to discuss an offer made for a percentage of their company, they proceeded to hold a heated debate at the back of the room as to whether to give away the percent of their company.



The year 7 football team led by Mr Donnelly, were victorious and lifted the Tameside Trophy by beating St Damian's 4-2. I managed to see some of the big match and gone are the days of going long up field, our chaps were playing the modern game, playing out from the back showing skills that could grace the professional stage in years to come. I also love the photo which really captures in essence what our schools is about, **success, happiness and a collective spirit.**

Have a wonderful half term, we will have revision sessions next week for a number of year 11 students who have already been informed, thank you for your support in ensuring those asked to attend, do. From next term I will be moving to sharing a weekly vlog, covering key highlights from the week and do hope it provides even further insight into what experience your son has, as an Audenshaw student, the clip will be accessible on our website each Friday afternoon.

Plans for me consist of lots of days out with my three daughters as Mrs Taylor will be working the first part of the week. The weather looks fantastic so I am sure a beach trip, parks and outdoor pursuits will be on the agenda.

Kind Regards,
Mr P Taylor

AUDENSHAW STEM- MAY

Science held an optional competition for Y7 over the Easter holiday, which was for 'Group/individual something to attach wildlife into the garden'. See below some of the amazing entries we had from the boys. Science had a lovely 30 minutes at the start of the department meeting this week looking at these and deciding on winners.

The winners from each class have received some chocolate and a postcard and the overall winner has received them, plus an Amazon voucher when I've received it. The winners are below:

- Isaac M Adkins T Melrose H
- Kerry Y Gabriel H Jacob H Harry F
- Overall winner: Jackson B. Well done to all

Year 9 have completed their STEM day on the 1st challenge some great entries and final presentations. Thanks to Teachers + House for coming supporting, Year 9 had a valuable experience.

Congratulations to our year 7's who has been awarded the Crest Discovery award for their STEM day

Finally it's been a really successful month for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) and Mr Baines wanted to share the successes across all areas of STEM as ever, such a rich experience for our students and so very much to celebrate.

