

# JOSEPH SWAN ACADEMY

*Emmanuel Schools Foundation*

w/e 10th May, 2019



## Academy Council – Inviting interest from Parents/Carers

You will be aware from the publication 'Towards Outstanding Together' that we are planning a number of exciting developments in the next few years. (If you don't have a copy of this publication these are available from Main Reception). At this point the School Improvement Board has asked me to extend an invitation to parents/carers to consider supporting the Academy Council.

The Academy Council will consist of two parts, a section gathering contributions from students and the other working closely with parents/carers. Together the Academy Council will work closely with the School Management and Mr Matthew Waterfield, Executive Principal. We will consider questions like the future name of the school, how the school operates and details such as the badge and uniform. We want the school to retain its own identity while being very clearly an equal member in our family of schools. The aim is to ensure all developments focus on improving the education and experience of all the young people in our care.

Julie Morrow, Parent Governor on the School Improvement Board will be working closely with a group of key parents/carers to form the second part of the Academy Council as described above. We want our parent body to feel fully involved and therefore invite written expressions of interest to be part of the Academy Council to be forwarded to Matt Waterfield using the following email address [JSA@esf-schools.org.uk](mailto:JSA@esf-schools.org.uk) by 4pm on Friday

**17<sup>th</sup> May 2019.** Matt Waterfield will work closely with Julie Morrow to consider all expressions of interest from parents/carers.

If you have any questions about the commitment involved or the process I describe above please feel free to contact me directly.

The articles below once again provide you with an update with all the things that have been going on at school.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Hall". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Mark Hall  
Principal

## Key Stage 5 Options Evening



This week saw Year 11 students and their families attend the Key Stage 5 Options Evening which gave them the opportunity to discuss the requirements of KS5 courses with teachers and current Year 12 and 13 students. Prior to this was a talk in the main hall detailing all of the exciting opportunities available to students next year, including leadership, enrichment and co-curricular activities.

This was an informative and inspiring evening and set out our vision for the Sixth Form next year. If you were unable to attend on the evening or would like more information regarding the Sixth Form at Joseph Swan please contact Mr Divers.

## Key Stage 4 Options Evening for Year 9s 23<sup>rd</sup> May 6-8pm

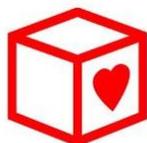
Our Key Stage 4 Options Evening for 2019 will take place on the Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, between 6-8pm.

During the coming week, parents/carers and students will be receiving our prospectus and information on the options process here at Joseph Swan Academy. This information will also include your personal invitation to a briefing in our main hall on Thursday evening.

Before submitting your options form, there will be additional time to talk to Heads of Departments and student ambassadors as a part of this evening.

We very much look forward to welcoming Year 9 and their parents/carers on this evening.

## We are proud to be a part of the fight against Period Poverty



### *The Red Box Project*

Last week, the Red Box Project began at Joseph Swan. This nationally-run initiative aims to give all girls and young women in schools access to free sanitary products whenever they need them. This ultimately aims to reduce the number of young people missing school time due to not being able to afford products, or because they need supplies during the school day.

There are three red boxes in school in the following locations: The Attendance Office, Year 10 Office, Year 8 Office. The boxes are fully stocked with a range of sanitary items as well as new underwear and tights. All are completely free of charge.

Girls simply need to go to one of the locations in school and ask for "The Red Box" at any time.

## Year 10: Preparing for the World of Work



Over two mornings this week, all of our Year 10 students enjoyed a great opportunity to develop and practice their interview technique - a key employability skill - with the support of over 30 visitors from business and industry. Each student had at least two practice interviews in a one hour session that, with feedback and coaching each time, enabled them all to see real improvement. Student comments included "I thought it was really good", "I felt comfortable speaking to them (the visitors) and they were all very welcoming and friendly."

Our visitors commented upon how impressed they were with so many of our students - especially remarking on how smart they were and how their second interviews demonstrated how well they listened and learned. The confidence of many was certainly boosted by the experience and it was a valuable lesson for the future!

## Supporting Students' Reading



Students in 7S2, S3, S4 and 7A are working hard on improving their skills with Mrs Pinchen in their reading hour. They have enjoyed reading 'The Maze Runner' and are very welcome to continue reading this exciting and engaging dystopian novel at home. Students are now working on a programme called 'Lexia' to support the development of their skills and understanding of Language. Lexia is a web-based programme and students who are registered with the system can log into the programme at home to be able to continue to improve on these skills. Being a proficient reader is not only a vital life skill, it is also gives students access to the world of books and imagination.

If you have a child in one of these classes, please ask them about Lexia, they have their user names and passwords in their planners and will make even greater progress if they log in and work on the programme at home too. We will be monitoring students' progress and there will be rewards for those who make the greatest efforts to improve their work.

[Click here to access the Lexia Programme](#)

## Fantastic Sporting Results from Year 8



We are thrilled to announce that 4 of our Year 8s who took part in the Tyne and Wear Regional Athletics Championships organised the Activity Alliance: Disability Inclusion in Sport Organisation have been placed in the top three for their age and classification and have made it to the National Finals!

Morgan Henderson and Abby Kane have both qualified for the next level of the competition in the 100m and Long Jump. Calow Stephenson has qualified for Shot and 100m and Stephen McCartney has qualification for Shot too. Our congratulations go to them, we are so proud of their achievements. The finals will be in July, the precise date and venue are yet to be confirmed.

## Co-curricular Opportunities: Come and help us to save our world!



Our Green Team is a group of keen environmentalists that have been working on projects to improve the ecology surrounding the Academy.

Recently we have grown our own herbs and made tea from them, designed and decorated bird houses, designed living walls which we hope to build soon along with a vegetable patch and full size greenhouse made of recycled pop bottles.

We have also signed up to the Big Battery Hunt where we ask anyone to drop off used batteries (of any size) so that we can recycle them with the organisation and swap them for rewards and prizes for our students and Academy.

As well as batteries, we would kindly welcome donations of seeds or small plants for our living wall and greenhouse.

If you would like to join the Green Team, or if you have any donations or used batteries, please see Mrs Stevenson in the Science office.

## Be an Everyday Hero!



Joseph Swan Academy is very proud to be taking part in such an incredible event: the North of England Children's Cancer Fun Run. Over the past 2 years we have raised around £3,000 as an Academy and would like to add to this amount this year.

We would love you and your family to join our school team at the 37<sup>th</sup> Children's Cancer Run held at Newcastle Racecourse, Gosforth Park on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

The Children's Cancer Run is a family fun run and there are a choice of one, three and five mile courses. The run raises funds for the North of England Children's Cancer Research fund.

All participants will receive a 37<sup>th</sup> Anniversary medal and Gregg's picnic on the day, all children will also receive a limited edition t-shirt. Metro Radio will also be there to entertain everyone with music and competitions.

To register please see Miss Wilkinson for a letter which includes instructions about how to enter the run as a part of the Academy team.

## Feel the Thunder with Rugby League



We may not have a tradition of Rugby League in the North East but this is something that Newcastle Thunder (our local League team) is seeking to change. Lauren Warn in Year 7 represented Joseph Swan at the Newcastle Thunder game on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May to signal our support of Newcastle Thunders' work to widen participation and engagement in Rugby League in our local area. We are proud to enter a team into the School's League (and are hopeful that our team will get to the final on the 30<sup>th</sup> June).

## Coming up ...

**Week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

**Monday 13th May** - Year 11 and 13 Terminal Examinations begin.

**Thursday 23rd May** - KS4 Options Evening (for year 9) 6-8pm.

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May** - Greggs Cancer Run (Newcastle Race Course.)