

# JOSEPH SWAN ACADEMY

*Emmanuel Schools Foundation*

w/e 17th May, 2019



Interviews have taken place this week for Head of RE, Teacher of Geography, Teacher of Mathematics, Teacher of French, Teacher of Music, Teacher of English, Teacher of Biology and Teacher of Chemistry. A number of highly qualified and experienced teachers applied and we have been going through a careful process to ensure we appoint the most suitable candidates. Our aim is to provide high quality teaching across the full breadth and depth of the curriculum.

I am pleased to let you know that plans for the future developments of the school are moving forward at pace. This coming week we will bring together staff, student and parent representatives to consider our current thoughts regarding the length of the school day, adaptations to the uniform and possible changes to the school name. Tutor representatives have been appointed to the Academy Council who will feedback to their tutor groups and staff representatives have been appointed to the Staff Forum. Thank you to all parents/carers who have expressed their interest in joining the Academy Council. If there are any parents/carers who are still interested in being involved could you please submit an expression of interest to Matt Waterfield using the following email address [JSA@esf-schools.org.uk](mailto:JSA@esf-schools.org.uk) by **12 noon on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019**.

This half term has been incredibly short but packed full. The Year 11 and 13 students have started their exams and I hope that their exams so far have gone well and they remain motivated regarding revision. With one week left students in Year 7 to 10 and in Year 12 should be thinking about how they can maximise their learning, making full use of the five days before the May half term. The habits we practice from day to day will enable us to progress in life; let's make every moment count next week.

## **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 Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, between 6-8pm.

Parents/carers and students will shortly receive information concerning the options process. This information will also include your personal invitation to a briefing in our main hall on Thursday evening.

On Thursday evening there will be additional time to talk to heads of departments and student ambassadors before your child submits their options forms.

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

## Joseph Swan students play at Wembley!



The weekend saw a number of our music students from Joseph Swan Academy, who are all members of the Durham Army Cadet Force Band and Bugles, travel to Wembley to perform in front of over 10,000 football fans for the Vanarama cup final. AFC Flyde against Salford City. A student in Year 9 was given the privilege of carrying the cup out on to the pitch, which was viewed live on BT Sport. Other students from Joseph Swan Academy played the National Anthem to the fans in the ground and entertained them in front of the Bobby Moore Statue. This was a fabulous opportunity for our band and great experience to see Wembley Stadium.

## Outstanding enthusiasm for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award from participants in Year 9 and 10



We would like to offer a massive well done to the 52 students in Year 9 and 22 students in Year 10 who attended Duke of Edinburgh Application process on Thursday last week. Their attitude was outstanding. Students had to complete a problem-solving task using a rope as well as putting up a tent unaided and without any instructions. Students were assessed on how they contributed to these tasks and should be incredibly proud of how well they worked together. The afternoon was a resounding success!

Parents of students who have expressed an interest in taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award should look out for a letter concerning a parent's meeting on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June which your child will be bringing home for you.

## Year 8 and 9 Athletics at Gateshead International Stadium



On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May, Mr Mann took some Year 8 and 9 students to Gateshead International Stadium to take part in The Gateshead Schools Athletics Championships. The students showed real passion, courage and determination in all of the events they competed in. They were a real asset to our academy and I was proud to see their grit and determination.

### Coming up ...

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

### Week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May - Year 11 and 13 Terminal Examinations continue.

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May - KS4 Options Evening (for Year 9) 6-8pm.