



February 2021

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Academy Transformation

PROUDLY SHARING OUR NEWS

Determined to be... 'the best that we can be'

PRINCIPAL'S POST

It has been yet another busy month in the academy, albeit for many of our students remotely. Not content with having to deal all the challenges that lockdown brought, things were further compounded by the snowy weather that we all experienced at the end of the half term. It has been great to see our students continue to engage in their online learning, but we are really looking forward to welcoming all our students back over the next week or so. With regards to students returning there has been much work that has gone into the site over the last few months. Many of the leaks that had sprung up around the academy have been fixed and some much needed decoration and repairs have been carried out in many parts of the academy. All we need now are our students back and we look forward to seeing them return, settling back in and continuing to make progress with their learning. I am feeling optimistic enough to say hopefully there is a little light at the end of the tunnel so that we might be able to get back to some sort of 'normal' in the not too distant future. *Mark Woodhouse*

CHAIR'S CORNER

Our Local Area Committee (LAC) of governors met on 3 February with the main focus of scrutiny being the effectiveness of remote learning across the academy. We were already aware of the outstanding effort being made by staff, students and parents to work together to enable high quality learning to take place, but in our role as governors we wanted to scrutinise evidence that evaluated the effectiveness of outcomes for learning. At the meeting the Principal and his senior team provided a thorough evaluation. Clear evidence of a common clarity of action across the academy was provided, along with a strong, shared sense of purpose that involved all of the academy community, leading to positive learning outcomes.

The LAC is meeting again on 10 March. At this meeting we will focus, amongst other things, on well-being. Two governors have recently attended ATT training on this very important topic and some governors have already met with key staff to discuss the issue. The governors are very keen to encourage and support the actions being taken by the academy to embed its mental health and well-being provision across the entire academy community. *Phil Anderson*

WE HAD SNOW!

We certainly had a few days when the snow fell fast and the academy had to close as although it looked wonderful outside, many of the roads were just too dangerous to attempt. Donning their wellington boots and warm clothing many of our students made the most of the conditions and sent in some great examples of their snowmen.

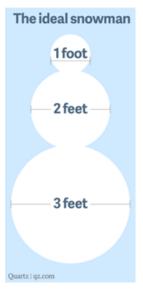








The science of building the perfect snowman — Quartz (qz.com)



"Temperature is paramount. Too high a temperature and the snow will be wet and lack strength. If the snow is too cold and dry, it will be too powdery to form stable snowballs which go on to form the base, torso and head of the snowman. The ideal snowman should have a diameter of 3 feet for the base, 2 feet for the torso and 1 foot for the head".

Next snowfall we will be ready......

Mr. Bristow found himself a little more than 'knee deep' in snow, as he ventured outside!



MEANWHILE IN THE ACADEMY

Whilst majority of our students continue with their online learning at home, we are still open to the children of our key workers who we continue to rely on so heavily during this pandemic. They too join online learning classes but are based at the academy following the necessary safety guidelines.



CAREERS GUIDANCE



Marking Apprenticeships & Careers Week, information has been sent out to our students as well as on-line guides sent to our Parents and Carers.

The guides provide information to help teenage children make the right choices to create successful futures after GCSE and sixth form. They are designed to inform, involve and guide parental support. They include the most up-todate information on topics such as apprenticeships, universities and revision techniques.





Our older students took part in a survey as part of National Apprenticeship Week designed to provide an insight into young people's aspirations and any perceived barriers they may have when it comes to considering apprenticeships as a post-16/post-18 option. The results will inform the future of apprenticeships in Norfolk.

#TNHAway

Around the academy, on our website and on communications we send out, we often refer to #TNHAway. But what does The Nicholas Hamond Way really mean? What does it look like? This is a question we posed to many of our students and staff and the responses were amazing. Words such as: Pride, Resilience, Respect, Self-Regulation and Integrity, Community, Team, Friendly, Excellence, Determination, Exceed, where mentioned, these are just a few of the 'buzz' words shared. When asked further what they meant by these 'buzz' words their responses where both insightful and inspiring:

"To have pride in our academy, our community, our work and our uniform". "To show respect to everyone, be friendly and kind even if they are not your friends". "To work as a team and show determination to reach our goals". "To strive for excellence in everything we do and exceed our expectations".

We were amazed by the depth of some of the answers given. It is hard to put what #TNHA means and is, into just a few words or a sentence or two, it's that sense of belonging to something great within the community. That sense of pride when putting on the uniform and coming into the academy. It's the "good mornings", holding the door open for the person behind you or checking on someone you don't know - if they look upset. Whilst very difficult to put into just a few words, however, nothing is impossible and we have tried to bring this all together and come up with the following mottos which are displayed in the academy:

"We wear our uniform with pride and respect our community". "We show resilience and determination to exceed our expectations". "We show initiative and act with integrity in everything we do". "We follow The Nicholas Hamond Way to achieve our goals".



FUN AT FORM TIME

One of our form groups thought they would mark 'National Pet Day 'in honour of our trusty companions who make us smile at the end of a hard day of school or work, being a source of endless companionship.

Students sent in photographs of their pets which were displayed in their on-line session and they had fun guessing which pet belonged to which student.



TRUE TALENT ON SHOW



Inspired by Valentine's Day, Katelyn blended colours together to create this stunning picture. Her talent is truly inspiring and has captured the attention of those around her. She was approached by a neighbour to sketch from photographs of family pets to be given as a present. These are now framed and hang proudly on the lucky recipient's wall.

Not easily put off, Ivan decided to tackle the rather daunting task of putting together a gingerbread house using instructions written in German only.

It looks very tasty and we think he did exceptionally well!



TACKLING LOCKDOWN WITH POSITIVITY





Isaac's Daily Mile I am running 1 mile everyday of February. for Cure Parkinson's because My Grandad died of Parkinson'



Lockdown is hard for us all and this young man has decided to use his time to positive effect, not only increasing his fitness by running a daily mile but also raising money for the Parkinson's Charity in honour of his grandfather.

The amount raised via his 'JustGiving page' currently stands at over £700 which is amazing and his running time over the mile is improving each day. Well done Isaac – we are proud of your efforts!



Our SEN Team have completed their 'London to Paris' walk after taking the amount of steps necessary to travel from one capital city to another. The Norfolk countryside provided a wonderful backdrop to their walks. A great example of how to improve fitness and mental wellbeing.



