

Newsletter

November 2011

Dear Parent/ Carer

Punctuality

I would like to thank you for your support in ensuring that your children get to school on time. Before we became an academy there were, on average, 65 students late to school every day. This was dreadful. Last year we worked hard to improve it and managed to reduce it to an average of 35 a day. We were delighted with the improvement but know that this could be even better. We appreciate any help you can offer in ensuring that Students are on site and in the building by 8.40am. This includes 16+ students.

Building work

Work is continuing on Phase 2 and is due to be completed by April 2012. This will include a two story sports hall and gym as well as outside multi use games areas. We will lose the current temporary sports hall and gym at the end of this term and students will be accommodated off site for some of their PE lessons whilst this happens. You will of course be informed of this nearer the time.

Rewards

We are having a big push on the use of our VIVO miles rewards programme. Students are awarded points by staff and can use these to purchase various items. We are also running promotions in school such as "We honour You" lunches for the students with the highest number of points where they will have a special lunch served by the House Heads. At the end of the year 40 students from each house will be invited to a special event hosted by staff to congratulate them and celebrate their success. If you would like more details of the VIVO miles scheme then please look on their website.

School catering

Our new catering service run by Catering Academy is proving very popular. The take up of students using their free school meals entitlement is the highest it has ever been and feedback from staff and students is very positive. The All day cafe is open from 9am until 4pm and many students are now staying after school to eat rather than go up to the local shops and coming back if they have after school activities.

An easy way to pay for school meals is through our **Parent Pay service**. This allows you to pay securely on line and also to monitor what your child is eating. You will need a login number and we can supply this. Contact the school reception and they will issue with your details.

Ofsted - your say

Ofsted are very keen to hear the views of parents and have recently launched a new facility on their website for parents to comment on the school that their child attends. We recently ran a survey for parents of our new Year 7 students and the results were extremely positive and we will share them with you in the next newsletter. If you would be prepared to make comments on your satisfaction with the education offered by Sidney Stringer Academy then please log onto their website at <http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

In the meantime if there is anything we can do to help you or your child then we want to know and please do contact us

Wendy Tomes

Principal



In this issue.....

Page 2:

16+ Deeper Learning day, Diwali Celebrations,
The myth of Autumn

Page 3:

School uniform prices, Free school meals, Letter
of thanks, Parent pay

Page 4:

House News, Key dates



If a good news story arises during the year which the Media cover (newspapers, radio, tv), photographs may be included unless you notify us in writing to reception that you do not wish your child to be part of any media coverage.

16+ Deepening Learning Day

On the 30th September all of the 16+ students had a fantastic day out at the MOD in Stafford.

The weather was on our side and the sun was shining.

We were given the chance to really bond with in our tutor groups with the activities that we participated in. We all worked in a team and communicated well with each other in order to finish the given task.

We developed our communication and team building skills as we completed each task and could not have completed the tasks set without them.

Each tutor was given a soldier as an instructor and we were given the chance to ask questions about life in the army. Our instructors lead us through each task and if we made a mistake or put our hands in our pockets we were on the floor doing press-ups.

We all completed each task to the best of our ability and really felt like we achieved something. This day out really helped to break the ice between the Year 12 and 13's.

Overall we all believe that this was our best ever Deepening Learning Day.

Mizbah Iqbal



Restaurant 71 Hot drinks promotion winners

Congratulations to Mrs Newman who won £100 in Debenhams vouchers and to Rani Khaum in D11 who won a bike. Thank you to Catering Academy for organising it, there are more promotions to follow this half term!



The Myth of Autumn By Safiyah Khan (L05)

Once upon a time there was a land of seasons, there lived three seasons; summer, winter and spring. They were all good friends, however. They were always arguing about who looked the best. Winter thought that she looked the best with her inky black sky and a soft, white layer of snow that covered the floor. Spring argued that she was the best because she was the mother of life and she brought out all the flowers and animals, and summer argued she was the best because she had beautiful sunsets and wild flowers, she had slight breezes and bright skies.

Soon, they all grew so obsessed with their appearances they quit their jobs. The world became a lifeless, cold world. Someone had to put a stop to this so God sent Autumn to do something. But Autumn was not used to her job, even though she loved it. She brought coldness, wetness and misery to the world, all the leaves fell off the trees and it would rain almost every day.

This went on for some time until all three seasons realised the world needed them because without spring there was no life, without summer there was no summer holidays and without winter there was no snow or Christmas, just endless rain. So, all four seasons decided to work together and never argued over their looks again, for they are all beautiful.

Diwali Celebrations

The Faith Room is a popular feature of the new Academy, with built in washing facilities and prayer space. This is available for people of all faiths and is used daily for Muslim Prayers.

On Friday 21st October a group celebrate the festival of light, Diwali, with Hindu devotional prayers, devas, a traditional dance, sweets and samosas, as well as learning about the story behind this festival. Thank you to Mrs Bajaj and Mrs Mistry for organising this event!



ACADEMY UNIFORM

Uniform can be purchased from the Academy First Aid room.

Alternatively you can go onto the Academy website where you are able to order and pay online using Parent Pay. Purchased uniforms can then be collected from the Academy Medical nurses. If you are unsure of your size please come along to the First Aid room and we will be happy to measure you.

Prices for uniforms vary according to your size.

BOYS/GIRLS BLACK BLAZER (COMPULSORY) Sizes 27-36 = £18 each or sizes 38-50= £22 each

BOYS AND GIRLS BLACK TANK TOP Sizes 26/28-32/34 =£12.00 or sizes 34/36- 50/52 =£15 each

HOUSE TIE= £6each

BOYS/GIRLS BLACK or WHITE POLO SHIRT (COMPULSORY) Sizes 26/28-32/34 =£10 each or Sizes 34/36- 50/52= £10 each

BOYS & GIRLS BLACK?WHITE FLEECE (COMPULSORY) Sizes 26/28- 3 2/34 = £14 or Sizes 34/36- 50/52 = £17 each

GIRLS HAJIB Rectangle or Square = £8 each

BOYS AND GIRLS COATS (OPTIONAL) Sizes 22-40= £22 OR NAMED UP TO 8 LETTERS ONLY= £25 each

Uniform Order forms are available from reception

DO YOU WANT FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

You are eligible if you claim any of the following:

- > Income Support (IS)
- > Income Based Job Seekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- > Immigration & Asylum Act 1999 (Part VI)
- > Employment & Support Allowance ESA (IR)
- > Child Tax Credit Only
- > With a household Income Less than £16,190 per annum Award Notice TC 602
- > Pension Credit (Guarantee Element) & Proof of Child Tax Credit
- > Children who receive Income Support or Income Based Job Seekers Allowance in their own right are also entitled to receive Free School Meals.

Please note working Tax Credit is NOT a qualifying benefit.

You can pick up a free application form from our reception or contact

Marie Marsons
Admissions and Benefits
Earl Street
COVENTRY CV1 5RI
Telephone 0247683155
Email marie.marsons@coventry.gov.uk

Somalia Resource centre send a big "Thank you"

Below is a letter of thanks shared by Mr Collins for some equipment that we gave to the Somalia cultural recourse centre during the move to the new building. It's good to know we've been able to help.

Dear: Collins

27th September 2011

I am delighted to write this letter to thank Sidney Stringer Academy for supporting us by giving our charity, resources such as books, tables, chairs, whiteboards, library shelves, some bags and stationery, display boards and a few TV's to ship to Somalia specifically the Gal-gudud region where we are in the process of building a school for the orphans.

We hope you understand that with the Resources you have given us we will be able to give the new generation in that region a reality perhaps they had only dreamed about. We thank you for your support and your recognition will not go un-noticed as you will be the supporters in an educational movement to our deprived fellow people in Somalia.

The Resources will be of use for many years to come and we hope it will produce the future leaders of our country. We are still in the process of shipping the equipment and we hope it will reach there safely. Somalia known for its violence and poverty is a life no one would want to live in ,yet with the resources you have provided we hope there will be many children who will be smiling again despite what they went through they now will know that there are people out their who actually care.



Setting up a Parent pay account

Visit www.parentpay.com

The school will have issued you with an activation letter to enable you to set up your Parent Pay account. The activation letter contained a personal activation username and password so that you can login to ParentPay. During the activation process you will be guided through changing your username and password to something more memorable. Don't worry if you have forgotten your password or lost your activation letter please let Sue Sanders our Finance and Information Manager know and she will reissue details to you.

Sidney Stringer Academy

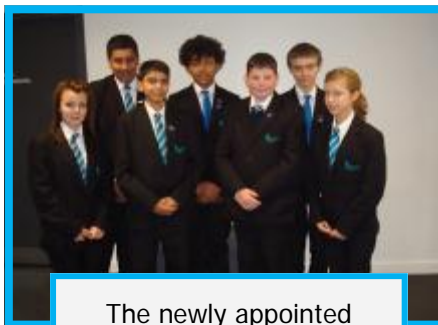
2 Primrose Hill Street
Coventry
CV1 5LY

Phone: 024 7625 1756

Fax: 024 765627400

E-mail: jksingh rao.staff@sidneystringeracademy.org.uk

Web: www.sidneystringeracademy.org.uk



The newly appointed
Lanchester House Council



DLD Lanchester Quiz
Winners L4

Key Dates

Thursday 1st December 6-8pm
Academy Awards Evening,
Coventry Cathedral

Tuesday 13th December
Progress Day
(appointment times will be posted)

17th December - 2nd January
Christmas Holidays

3rd January 2012 8.40am
School Starts

11th January
Teacher Training Day

Swanswell House News



Mrs. Southerton believes that excellent attendance is the key to top class achievement and so far So1 are proving her right!

Other special mentions must go to So6 for winning 1st prize not only in Swanswell but in the whole Academy for making the best DLD flag.



So3 also deserve a special mention as coming top in the DLD puzzle challenge in Swanswell. Well done all Swanswellians!

Jaguar House News

We are so proud of our fantastic Jaguar talent! We have Bernard Boamah who is our fantastic drummer, Simran, Asma and Sabira are our fantastic Jaguar singers and with our rapper Samba to top it all off we have talent worthy of a Grammy award! Some of these performers will be showcasing their talent at our up and coming end of term assembly.



We may have been in last place on the last Deeper Learning Day but this year Jaguar students proved that you can't keep a big cat down! With hard work and effort we can continue to rise to the top!

Congratulations!



Jo7 won the ECO PLAY for the whole Academy!

Jo3 won the Jaguar flag competition and came 2nd place overall in the Deeper Learning Day competition.

