



14 MARCH 2025

Principal *Letter*

Our weekly letter - bringing you the Academies current week's news, as well as helpful information and reminders for future events.

This letter is available in different languages upon request.

Dear Parents, Carers and Students...

I hope you had a good week, here's how ours went...

Sporting News

Brought to you by our Student Reporter Dominic Paling (photos taken by Olivia and Amber):

CoPA make history at GAT Sports Festival!

The Academy was represented in badminton by students Preston and Henley. They ended up losing all their games but showed great effort as they never gave up, giving each of their opponents a worthy opposition to play against. Although the boys had a tough time, the girls representing CoPA made no mistake grasping every opportunity given to them.



Ana-Maria and Zara won all 7 games they played by a large deficit, proving to be the most prolific pair in the tournament. Due to their ruthlessness, this managed to win them the trophy for girls doubles and make CoPA history by winning an event at the GAT festivals for the first time! This helped push CoPA to a 5th place finish across the whole festival.

Mr Snitkas and Mrs Lane were proud of the group's effort and was ecstatic with the amount of effort and teamwork they saw on display. Mr Snitkas commented:

'It was pleasing to see so many of the CoPA students participating in and competing in a different range of sports. All students showed great team spirit and determination throughout the day. Overall, the day was a success with few wins across the year 7 boys and girls football, year 8 boys and girls cross country teams finishing 3rd overall as well as finishing 3rd in the team relay. Boys' badminton doubles had a challenging day, but they have never lost their team spirit and fought hard and gained some valuable experience for future tournaments. Girls' badminton which consisted of Ana-Maria and Zara finished 1st overall in the tournament and should be proud of the tireless work they have put in over the last 3 months of training. Special mention to our sports leaders Dominic, Amber and Olivia who have supported their younger peers excellently and took on the leadership roles throughout the day.'



On Thursday, several students from Years 7, 8 and 9 went to Stanground Academy to take part in the sports festival which included 6 other Greenwood academy trust schools. There was a Year 7 boys and girls football team, a Year 8 cross country team and 2 girls and 2 boys from Year 9 representing the school for badminton. The footballers went in high hopes and spirits to prove themselves at this tournament, however despite the great effort they showed, they did not come home as winners. The girls won just one of their games, with a

1-0 win against Kingswood Academy thanks to a tidy finish from Chloe. The boys won 2 of their 7 games with a 3-1 win to Nottingham Academy and a 5-0 victory over Skegness. Although both teams did not win, they displayed great sportsmanship and teamwork throughout the day.

There were 6 year-8 cross country runners participating, each of them doing themselves proud by putting in a valiant effort. The conditions were cold and windy, and they had to show perseverance to get through the races, the star performers were Giulia and Kornel K, who both finished 6th in their respective races. This managed to get CoPA a 3rd place finish overall for relay. In addition to this the runners completed a relay race, seeing how many laps each school could get done in 30 minutes. They managed to come away with 3rd place in the relay after some excellent individual displays.



Raspberry Pi Workshop / British Science Week 2025!

As part of British Science Week 2025, Year 9 and 10 students had the incredible opportunity to participate in the Astro Pi Mission Zero, a global initiative that allowed them to write code which will run aboard the International Space Station (ISS)! This once-in-a-lifetime experience was made possible with the support of Raspberry Pi and has inspired a new wave of excitement in Computer Science and space technology among the students.

The task at hand was to write a simple Python program that would collect data from the colour and luminosity sensor on the Astro Pi computer aboard the ISS. Using this data, students had to adjust the background colour of a personalised image that astronauts would see while going about their daily tasks on the ISS. This unique coding challenge gave students the chance to connect their work directly to space, learning how their programs could influence real-world situations in the vastness of space. The program's simple yet powerful design taught students about how sensors and coding can interact in exciting ways.

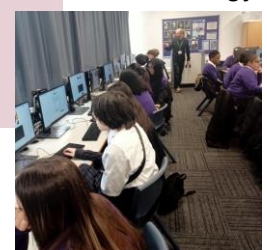
External facilitators from Raspberry Pi guided students through the project providing expert advice on writing the code, explaining how the sensors on the Astro Pi worked, and helping students understand the connection between coding, technology, and space science. Students also learned about the importance of precision in coding, as their programs had to be perfect to ensure everything ran smoothly once launched into space. The excitement was tangible when students discovered that their code would be executed on the International Space Station—an experience very few people will ever have!

In recognition of their hard work each student will receive a certificate in June, marking the exact time and coordinates of when their program ran on the ISS. This certificate will serve as a memento of their contribution to a global space mission—a remarkable achievement for any young coder.

This experience has sparked new interests and passions in Computer Science and space technology among the students. Many are now considering pursuing further studies in coding, space science, and engineering, inspired by their involvement in this groundbreaking project. The Computer Science department is incredibly proud of their achievements and their enthusiasm for exploring the possibilities of technology. Their participation in the Astro Pi Mission Zero project has truly opened their eyes to the potential of coding and the vast opportunities in the world of space science and technology.



A huge thank you to Raspberry Pi for making this opportunity a reality and for supporting the students every step of the way. We look forward to seeing where these experiences take them in the future!



Alison Cope Visit: Anti Violence Campaigner

Tuesday our academy welcomed Alison Cope to present an assembly to our year 8-11 students. Alison Cope is the mother of Joshua Ribera who was murdered in 2013. Alison now works tirelessly to help prevent youth violence by sharing her son's unique life and death story to educate young people on the realities and consequences of youth violence. Her powerful presentation conveys: the importance of prevention, the emotive realisation of how choices affect loved ones and how young people retain hope for the future.

For further information please follow the Link:
[Alison Cope Anti-Violence Campaigner](#)



Cameron Parker: Dreams to Reality Mentor

Tuesday also saw us welcome Cameron Parker back to our Academy to work with a range of our Year 10 and 11 students.



Cameron is regarded as the UK's #1 motivational speaker who looks to inspire students through their educational journey to ensure ultimate success and positive outcomes come the end of their secondary education.

Cameron worked with a wide range of students throughout the day looking to unlock passions, interests and dreams for the future and how to make those dreams become more of a reality.

Year 10 Heros Foundation

This week our Year 10 Heroes continued their Heroes journey by taking part in Icon training with Humanutopia.

Here they continued to develop their leadership skills, communication and teamwork in preparation to deliver inspirational mini workshops to Year 8 students. They worked really hard designing engaging presentations and preparing resources and motivational talks.

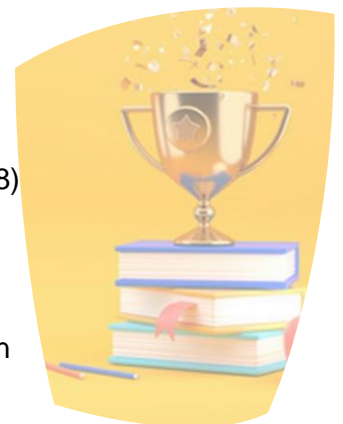
The Heroes are now working on improving their confidence to deliver these in future tutorial sessions after Easter.



Students of the Week

Our Students of the Week for this week are:

English	M Nwachukwu (Year 9)	EAL	Student M (Year 8)
Maths	Student S (Year 11)	Year 7	Student B
Humanities	Student M (Year 11)	Year 8	Naglis Zulpa
Science	Aneeba T (Year 7)	Year 9	Mohamad Kadir
Performance	Student H (Year 10)	Year 10	Shania Horgan
Spanish	Student D (Year 9)	Year 11	Megan Balderston



Congratulations to them all!

If not done so already, please can I ask that you take a moment to complete our 'Permission to Publish Student Details Form', whereby you can opt in or out of certain student details being published within newsletters (such as the above table). We'd love to share your child's success! Thank you to those that already completed this. Please note that if your child is 13 years old or older they can grant permission themselves as per government guidelines.

And finally...

Happy Holi to those celebrating - have a restful weekend all.

Yours faithfully

Mrs N Treacy
Principal

