



**CLAYTON
HALL**
ACADEMY



A part of Windsor
Academy Trust

Headteacher

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CRE/JFI

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Dear Parents and Carers

It feels fitting that, on the first day of May, we are firmly into a new season - longer days, brighter mornings and a real sense of momentum across the academy. May often brings with it a period of growth and reflection, and in school this is certainly a time when we begin to see the results of students' hard work coming together.

As a reminder, school will be **closed on Monday for the Bank Holiday**, and we hope you are able to enjoy a restful long weekend together.

Last weekend, we were incredibly proud to host our recent **Community Health Fayre**, which welcomed over 20 partner organisations onto our site, including the NHS, Asthma + Lung UK, Diabetes UK and Citizens Advice. This fantastic event was made possible through our developing partnership with the Newcastle Central Primary Care Network, whose energy and commitment helped bring it to life. Hosting health services within a school setting is a powerful way of improving accessibility for families, and this event demonstrated just how impactful collaboration between education and health services can be. As part of the Newcastle Children and Young People's Coalition we are committed to continuing to develop opportunities like this for the benefit of our community. If you haven't already done so, I would encourage you to take a look at the highlights video shared on our social media and here: <https://youtu.be/UZGB3vX9Pfs>

It has also been an important week for our **Year 10 students**, who have begun their PPE examinations. Experiencing formal exam conditions, including the use of external invigilators, is an important step in preparing students for their GCSEs, and I have been pleased to see the maturity, focus and resilience with which they have approached this new experience. Examinations will continue next week, from Tuesday through to Friday, and we wish them every success as they continue.

Celebrating success...

As always, we have much to celebrate across the academy and I try to bring a snapshot to you each week:



- Our **U15 Rugby squad** recently took part in a county-wide Rugby 7s competition, showing great determination throughout a day of closely fought matches and some excellent team performances.
- Our **Clayton A Table Tennis team** finished as runners-up in the North Staffs League this season - an excellent achievement against strong competition.
- Outside of school, some fantastic news about **William (Year 7)**, whose U12 North Stafford Hockey team recently competed in the Midlands Regional Finals in Nottingham, where they were crowned champions and will now go on to represent the Midlands at the National Finals in London.
- We are also incredibly proud of **Isabelle (Year 10)**, whose achievements in volleyball continue to go from strength to strength. As captain of the Newcastle Staffs U15 girls' team, she recently competed in the national cup final, alongside which, she is now in the running for England U18 selection! We look forward to following her continued progress.

We are immensely proud of all students who represent the academy or who excel outside of school, whether through sport, the arts, academic competitions or leadership roles and more. Please continue to follow our social media channels where we share many more of these successes.

Looking ahead...

Next week, we are launching our "**Minutes Matter**" initiative to promote punctuality and a positive start to the day. Arriving on time helps set the tone for learning and establishes strong habits for the future. Each Monday this half-term (Tuesday next week), the first 500 students through the gates will receive a raffle ticket, with the chance to win a shopping voucher - just a small way to reward strong routines and commitment.

We are also excited to launch the **Switzerland Trip for Year 9***, with information shared previously with families on 28 April about the expression of interest process. This has become a real highlight of our calendar, offering students the opportunity to experience a range of cultural and educational visits, including CERN, one of the world's leading scientific research centres. We look forward to seeing the excitement build for this fantastic opportunity.

In only a couple of weeks from now, we are looking forward to welcoming you all to **WAT a Run 2026**, where Clayton Hall Academy will proudly host the finish line for Day One of this inspiring challenge. Several of our own staff will be taking part, raising funds for the Bed & Breakfast campaign, which supports families across our trust who may be facing hardship. So, on **Saturday 16 May (1pm–3pm)**, we host this community celebration here at school, with inflatables, food, ice cream, craft stalls and live entertainment, including appearances from musicians and the Staffordshire Rock Choir. **You are all warmly invited to join us** for what promises to be a fantastic afternoon.

* Trip takes place during Year 10; sign-up is during Year 9

In keeping with our focus on staying active, please also find attached a list of **summer term clubs** being offered by our PE department.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable Bank Holiday weekend, and we look forward to welcoming students back on **Tuesday – remember those Minutes Matter!**

Warm regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'e_j', followed by a horizontal line.

CATY REID
Headteacher

Enc Club List (PE)
WAT a Run 2026 flyer

Dates for your diary:

Mon 4 May	Bank Holiday (school closed)
Fri 8 May	Year 10 PPE's end
Mon 11 May	Year 11 GCSE's begin
Sat 16 May	ALL WELCOME - Community event - WAT a Run 2026 (further info at WAT a Run 2026 Windsor Academy Trust)
Thurs 4 Jun	Info Evening for Parents - Switzerland trip (further info from awhite@claytonhall.windsoracademytrust.org.uk)
Thurs 11 Jun	Year 8 Big Bang Fayre trip (further info from cashton@claytonhall.windsoracademytrust.org.uk)
Fri 12 Jun	Year 8 HPV Vaccinations (further info from www.mpft.nhs.uk/services/school-age-immunisation-service)
Mon 22 - Tues 23 Jun	DofE Bronze Practice Expedition (further info from tlongshaw@claytonhall.windsoracademytrust.org.uk)
Wed 24 Jun	Year 11 Prom (further info from cdunleavy@claytonhall.windsoracademytrust.org.uk)
Fri 26 Jun	Inset Day (school closed to students)
Mon 6 Jul - Tues 7 Jul	DofE Bronze Final Expedition (further info from tlongshaw@claytonhall.windsoracademytrust.org.uk)
Mon 13 Jul - Fri 17 Jul	Year 10 Switzerland trip (further info from awhite@claytonhall.windsoracademytrust.org.uk)
Fri 17 July	Term ends