



NEWSLETTER

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**ACTIVE
APRIL**

DEAR PARENTS AND CARERS

Changes to the School Day

You will remember that I wrote to you in March, seeking your views on proposed changes to the school day. The consultation period has now ended and I wanted to provide you with a summary of the responses and the plans for September 2023.

A very small number of responses were received, less than 3% of the school population. Some of these responses were fully supportive of the changes, whilst the remainder highlighted a small number of concerns, which I have addressed below. I would like to thank everybody who took the time to respond to the consultation, each one has been considered carefully.

Concern	Response
<i>The change in the start and end time of the school day will impact on current drop off/ pick up routines.</i>	By raising the proposed changes early, we hope this would allow ample time to make any necessary amendments to current routines. The school will continue to open from 8am until 4pm each day, to enable pupils to be on site before and after classes. A range of extra-curricular activities, homework clubs and revision will continue to be offered free of charge. We would encourage families to use these opportunities to add flexibility to their daily routines.
<i>How will all year groups be served in a 45 minute lunch break?</i>	The school's catering is provided by Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council (KMBC). KMBC are responsible for the catering of all Knowsley secondary schools and already deliver a single breaktime and lunchtime to similar sized schools in the borough, within 45 minutes. KMBC currently operates six food service outlets at lunchtime, this will increase to 10. New food service outlets will be located in the atrium, the assembly hall and on the first floor. Additional dining tables and chairs for 300 pupils will be situated in the atrium and the assembly hall. We will also continue to promote the 'pre-order' service which enables pupils to order a range of sandwiches and salads each morning, freshly made for collection at lunchtime. Please note that no dining or food service will take place in the Sports Hall, as some responses suggested may be the case.



Concern	Response
<i>The end of the school day will now only be 15 minutes before Yew Tree Primary Academy (YTPA) finishes, this may cause congestion within the car park.</i>	<p>We have liaised closely with YTPA during this period and both schools are confident this does not need to be an issue.</p> <p>I would ask all families to consider the variety of methods available to pupils to travel to and from school; particularly those who live in the local area. The school provides bike sheds on site for those who choose to cycle and local bus companies operate services on and near to the school grounds.</p> <p>For those who do choose to drive into the school car park, we will be ensuring they only stop in designated areas and do not use the disabled bays without a clearly displayed blue badge. Please continue to be considerate of the local residents when using your car to drive onto the school grounds.</p>

I hope the above helps to reassure you that as part of this process we have considered all eventualities and I remain confident that these proposed changes to the school day will have a positive impact on the whole school community.

The new school day timings (detailed below) will come into effect from **Wednesday 6th September 2023**, when pupils return for the Autumn Term.

<i>School open to all pupils from 8.00am</i>	
Start of the Day is 8.30am – lines or tutor room	
Registration	8.35am - 8.55am
Period 1	8.55am - 9.55am
Period 2	9.55am - 10.55am
Break	10.55am - 11.15am
Period 3	11.15am - 12.15pm
Period 4	12.15pm - 1.15pm
Lunch	1.15pm – 2.00pm
Period 5	2.00pm - 3.00pm
Finish of the Day is 3.00pm	
<i>Pupils able to remain in school until 4.00pm</i>	

Yours sincerely,
Mr I Critchley
Principal



A GREAT
PLACE
TO BE A
PART OF

REWARDS & RECOGNITION ICE SKATING & VELOCITY VISIT

During last half term, over 20 school days, from the 21st of February to 21st March every pupil at Halewood Academy were taking part in the HC20 (*The Halewood Challenge 20*).

This was a new reward and recognition initiative where all pupils were invited to attend a number of surprise reward visits for each year group on the condition[s] of no behaviour points and excellent attendance during this period.

Those pupils that were successful on this occasion by meeting the behaviour points and attendance thresholds, attended *Velocity inflatable theme park* and *Planet Ice* where pupils had an enjoyable and fun filled morning to celebrate their successes!

Watch this space for information and news on this terms *Halewood Challenge!*

Mr A Roberts
Assistant Vice Principal



A GREAT PLACE
TO BE A
PART OF



CHILDCARE EASTER PARTY



HALEWOOD
ACADEMY

Well done to year 11 for achieving excellent results in their childcare exam this term.

To celebrate their achievement we had a little Easter party to celebrate handing in our coursework!



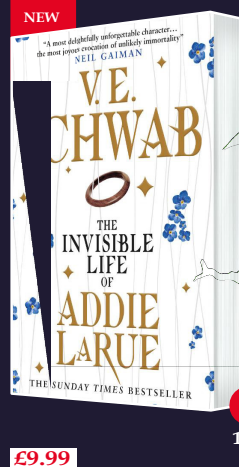
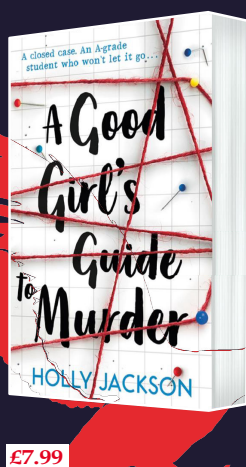
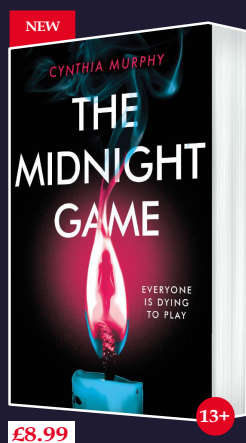
A GREAT PLACE
TO BE A
PART OF





COME TO THE
BOOK FAIR

and earn **FREE BOOKS** for our school*



The best new books from only £2.99

When: Thursday 4th May until Tuesday 9th May
Library opening times:
08:00-08:40 - break time, lunchtime, after-school - 14:45-15:45

Reading for pleasure is transformative for pupils' academic success and personal wellbeing. We want to inspire and excite them by bringing books to our pupils in the heart of our school with a pop-up book fair which will run in the library from 4th to 9th May. These books are carefully curated by a team of experts so there's sure to be something for every age, ability and interest. Prices start from only £2.99 and each purchase made rewards our school with tokens that we can use to purchase new resources. Pupils will have the opportunity to browse and purchase the books before school, breaktimes, lunchtimes and after school. We will also be open late on Thursday 4th May from 4pm to 7pm exclusively for Year 7 parents' evening. We invite all parents and carers to come through and enjoy choosing new books with your children. Last year was a huge success with almost 300 books sold and we aim to better that this year! For a sneaky peak at some of the new and exclusive titles, please visit <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases> to pre-order and purchase.

DEBATE MATE CUP



HALEWOOD ACADEMY

On Wednesday 26th April ten brave and courageous young people took on 20 other schools from Merseyside in the **Debate Mate Cup**.

The **Debate Mate Cup** was held at the prestigious Redmonds Building associated with **Liverpool John Moores University** across multiple lecture rooms. The students have regularly participated in weekly sessions and took part in virtual debates but this was the first on this scale. The students were impeccable and incredibly supportive of each other throughout the debates that included motions such as:

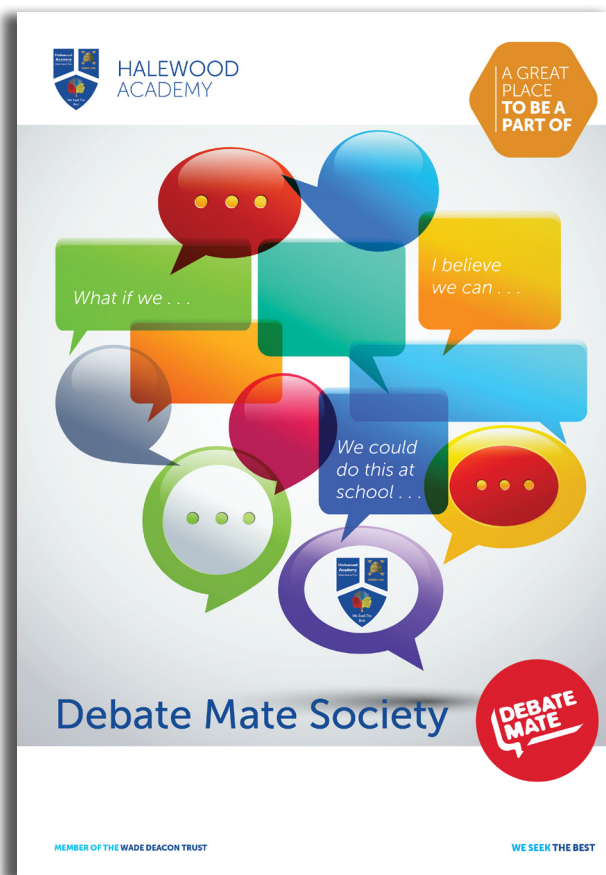
- Should employees take strike action
- Should cosmetic surgery be banned
- Should 12 year olds have compulsory bank accounts

Halewood Academy students were successful and won a number of debates, but lost to the eventual finalists. Our students' attitude and etiquette to debating was celebrated by the organisers who recognised the amazing team spirit and resilience they had, whilst cooperating and being respectful to all involved.

Whilst the group were initially nervous this soon changed and they were involved in dancing, celebrating and questioning other groups and teachers involved with debates even taking the mic to address over 100 people. An amazing achievement by this group and a first for **Halewood Academy**. We look forward to many more debates moving forwards into the next academic year.

Well done and as a school we are incredibly proud of all those who took part.

Mr Harrison
Vice Principal



A GREAT PLACE TO BE A PART OF

Debate Mate Society

This club is about debating and challenging each other on topical situations and current affairs.

If students are interested in joining please see Mr Harrison or Mrs McGrath for more details.



PRECISION TEACHING



HALEWOOD ACADEMY

This past term we have been fortunate enough to deliver a new form of Literacy Intervention called **Precision Teaching** in the LRC to a cohort of **Year 7** students with the hope of being able to offer this to an increasing number of students as time goes on.

So far, we are seeing encouraging progress and students are enjoying this while feeling that it is increasing their confidence with reading and approaching unfamiliar vocabulary.



A GREAT PLACE TO LEARN

DUKE OF EDINBURGH (DofE) EXPEDITION

What is the DofE?

A life-changing experience. A fun time with friends. An opportunity to discover new interests and talents. A tool to develop essential skills for life and work. A recognised mark of achievement; respected by employers.

The DofE is many things to many people, supporting generations to successfully navigate adult life.

14-24 year-olds can do a DofE programme at one of three progressive levels which, when successfully completed, leads to a **Bronze, Silver or Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award**.

There are four sections to complete at **Bronze and Silver** level and five at **Gold**.

They involve helping the community/environment, becoming fitter, developing new skills, planning, training for and completing an expedition and, for Gold only, working with a team on a residential activity.

Halewood Academy are planning a expedition trip between May and June in Lancashire.

Saturday 13th May – Training day at school - 9:00am - 4pm

Saturday 3rd June - Training walk within the local area - 10:00am – 4pm

Saturday 17th - Sunday 18th June Expedition

Clitheroe - 11am (9am Pick Up) – Sunday 3pm – Clitheroe (Leaving the site)

Further details will follow in future editions of the newsletter.



If any students are interested in completing their DoE please contact Mr Riley for more details

Duke of Edinburgh Award Leader & Teacher of Geography

NUMERACY CHALLENGE



HALEWOOD ACADEMY

Numeracy Word of the Week

N

Definition:

A positive integer that will divide exactly into a given positive integer.

Characteristics:

- Factors are normally identified in pairs.
- The smallest factor of any number is 1.
- The largest factor of any number is the number.

Factor

Examples:

Factors of 8 = 1, 2, 4, 8
 Factors of 9 = 1, 3, 9
 Factors of 20 = 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 20

Non Examples

4 is not a factor of 2
 2 is not a factor of 1
 4 is not a factor of 18

Exam Question:

Write down a factor of 15

(1)

NUMERACY

Maths Challenge of the Week

N



Using ALL the numbers 3,5,5 only once each, with + - x ÷ available, which FOUR numbers from the following list are NOT mathematically possible to make?

1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 15,
18, 20, 22, 25, 28, 30

Send your answers in to Miss Devonshire
adevonsire@halewoodacademy.co.uk or to your progress leader.



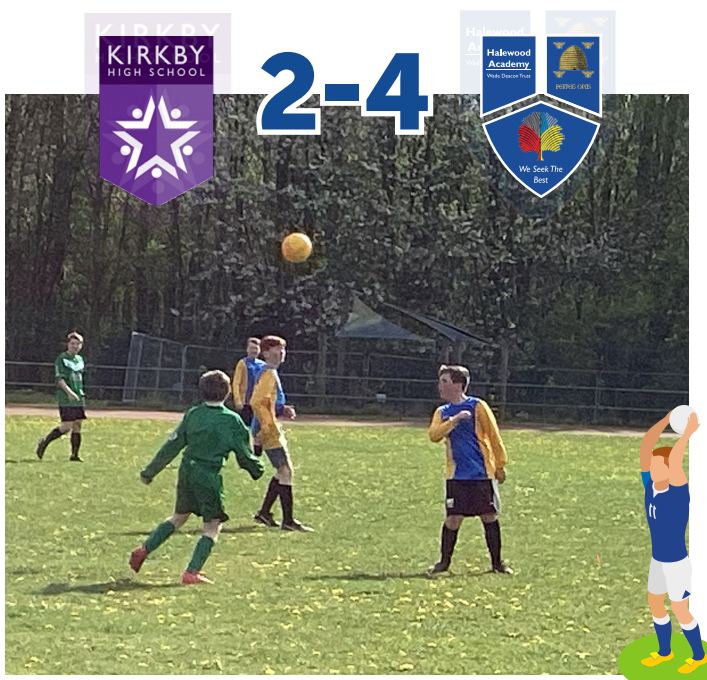
SPORTS UPDATE



HALEWOOD
ACADEMY

Great performance from the Year 8 boys football team away at Kirkby High in the Knowsley League. We started brightly and **Connolly** finished well at the back post. We went 0-2 up with a great finish from **Dobie** after a superb pass from **Spruin**! Kirkby hit us on the counter and made it 1-2. After a mix up in the Kirkby penalty area **Dobie** again finished well. **Hickey** made it 1-4 with an outstanding side foot finish into the top corner from the edge of the box! What a goal! Kirkby scored late on to make it 2-4.

We played really well but missed chances. We will now go onto the **Knowsley Final**! **Spruin** and **Mairs** with their best performances of the season! Lots of excellent performances with special mentions to **Campbell**, **Low** and **Rogers**! Congratulations lads!



WE SEEK THE BEST

PARENTS' EVENING FOR YEAR 7

We would like to invite you to
our Parents' Evening for
Year 7 pupils on
Thursday
4th May 2023
4-7pm.



A GREAT
PLACE TO
LEARN

Halewood Academy are inviting all Year 7 parents/ carers to attend **Year 7 Parents' Evening** on **Thursday 4th May 2023 from 4-7pm**, when you will have the opportunity to meet with your child's subject teachers, discuss academic progress and any concerns you may have.

We look forward to seeing you at Parents' Evening and should you have any queries regarding this please contact admin@halewoodacademy.co.uk to book your slot.





EVENTS COMING UP AT SHAKESPEARE NORTH PLAYHOUSE



SHAKESPEARE NORTH PLAYHOUSE

Thu 27 Apr, 2023 - Fri 11 Aug, 2023

FIVE ELEMENTS: A HIP HOP YOUTH PROJECT

FIVE ELEMENTS: A HIP HOP YOUTH PROJECT For 11-18 year olds. This exciting FREE youth project is called Five Elements to reflect the five elements or pillars of Hip Hop.

Come along, bring your friends, and get the knowledge on MCing, DJing, Beatboxing, Breaking and Graffiti.

This is a free event but it is ticketed with limited places available. Book in advance or get your ticket at the door. Feel free to come for the whole three hours or drop in as and when you want to. Refreshments provided.

BOOK TICKETS

SHOW DETAILS

Venue Space
The Learning Centre

Length
3 hours

Age Guidance
Suitable for 11-18

Halewood Academy are in partnership with Shakespeare North Playhouse in Prescot.

We would like to share with you a fantastic event for our young people, which is happening from **27th April-11 August**.

Please find information below, please click below link:

<https://shakespearenorthplayhouse.co.uk>



	Thu 27 Apr, 2023 - Fri 11 Aug, 2023	
<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.5em;">FIVE ELEMENTS: A HIP HOP YOUTH PROJECT</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; font-weight: bold;">PRICES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pay what you decide</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">Thu 27 Apr</p> <p>4pm £0 BOOK NOW</p> <hr/> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">Thu 11 May</p> <p>4pm £0 BOOK NOW</p> <hr/> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">Thu 25 May</p> <p>4pm £0 BOOK NOW</p> <hr/> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">Thu 1 Jun</p> <p>1pm £0 BOOK NOW</p> <hr/> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: 0.8em;">Thu 8 Jun</p> <p>4pm £0 LAST FEW</p>	
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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

WIZZ

AGE RESTRICTION
12+

12+ App Store
Teen Google Playstore

Wizz is a networking app which allows users to connect and chat with other people around the world. Its principle is similar to a dating platform: users have a profile with up to three photos, along with optional interests and hobbies tags. This allows other like-minded people to be recommended in searches. If a user likes what they see on someone's profile, they can initiate conversation through the instant message feature; otherwise they swipe on. The app does use age verification technology when an account is created and groups users by age.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

OVER-SHARING

Immediately after setting up an account, users start receiving friend requests (mainly from the opposite gender). For many young people, this will be exciting and a boost to their confidence. As young people tend to be more trusting online and may believe what others tell them, however, this can lull them into dropping their guard and revealing personal information to strangers.

CATFISHING AND PREDATORS

Wizz uses Yoti, a digital ID system, to verify users' age. The AI only detects approximate age, though – so an older person who looks younger could be grouped with teens (or vice versa). Also, profile pics on Wizz don't have to match the face of the person who did the initial age verification: it would be fairly easy to create a fake account using another person's photos with a made-up name and age.

EXPLICIT CONTENT

During our research, conversations on Wizz very quickly turned sexual. Users frequently suggested 'taking it to Snap' (Snapchat's disappearing image feature can make it conducive to sharing explicit selfies), connecting on other social media, swapping nude or semi-nude pictures, or holding sexual chats. These users created an impression of the platform being sleazy and unsafe for young people.

INTIMATE IMAGES

It's not unheard of for young people to be coaxed into sending suggestive images of themselves over apps of this kind. Given that Wizz connects users with strangers, who may not be honest about their real intentions, a teenager might conceivably be persuaded to share sexually suggestive selfies by someone who they believed they had a trusting relationship with.

NO PARENTAL CONTROLS

The app claims to provide a secure and inclusive environment, but our researcher couldn't find any parental controls or safety features in evidence. If you report another user for inappropriate behaviour, you are offered the option to block them – but there's no indication as to whether the block has actually been successful, and there was no follow-up contact from the developers.

SECRETS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Wizz sent our researcher occasional 'mystery' friend requests from a blurred-out profile. To discover the sender's identity, users can either watch a video (usually an ad for a game or app) or take out a monthly subscription. Cynics might suggest this could be a way to exploit young people's curiosity into making them pay for the app, and that the 'secret admirers' are bots rather than real people.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK IT OUT

If your child has downloaded Wizz, talk to them about why they like it and who've chatted with. Have they shared any personal details with this person or connected with them on other social media platforms? Refresh your child's memory of the various risks that can arise from engaging with strangers online and get them to consider using a similar app with more robust safety features.

BE SUPPORTIVE

When connecting with strangers on apps like Wizz, seemingly innocent chats can quickly progress to become sexually explicit and lead to nudes being sent. Make sure your child knows to come to you if they're uncomfortable about anything they've been sent or been asked to send. If they've already shared something that they now regret, reassure them that you'll support them no matter what.

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Young people are far more inclined to see the good in others; they often overlook the fact that scammers set up fake accounts on apps like this with the intention of getting money or personal data. Remind them that not everyone online is who they claim to be, how easy it is for someone to create a bogus profile, and why it's vital to think twice about sharing anything on networking apps.

KEEP THINGS TRANSPARENT

It might feel awkward, but regular chats about your child's online life can be beneficial. If they seem suddenly anxious or secretive around their phone or tablet, they may have something they need to get off their chest. You could also consider not allowing digital devices in their bedroom, especially overnight – that's when a lot of the riskier conversations on apps like Wizz tend to take place.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



Source: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=info.wizzapp&hl=en_GB&gl=US | <https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/sexual-offences/sextoxtion/>



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety



@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 26.04.2023

Active April 2023

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY



1 Commit to being more active this month, starting today

2 Spend as much time as possible outdoors today

3 Listen to your body and be grateful for what it can do

4 Eat healthy and natural food today and drink lots of water

5 Turn a regular activity into a playful game today

6 Do a body-scan meditation and really notice how your body feels

7 Get natural light early in the day. Dim the lights in the evening

8 Give your body a boost by laughing or making someone laugh

9 Turn your housework or chores into a fun form of exercise

10 Have a day with less screen time and more movement

11 Set yourself an exercise goal or sign up to an activity challenge

12 Move as much as possible, even if you're stuck inside

13 Make sleep a priority and go to bed in good time

14 Relax your body & mind with yoga, tai chi or meditation

15 Get active by singing today (even if you think you can't sing!)

16 Go exploring around your local area and notice new things

17 Be active outside. Dig up weeds or plant some seeds

18 Try a new online exercise, activity or dance class

19 Spend less time sitting today. Get up and move more often

20 Focus on 'eating a rainbow' of multi-coloured vegetables today

21 Regularly pause to stretch and breathe during the day

22 Enjoy moving to your favourite music. Really go for it

23 Go out and do an errand for a loved one or neighbour

24 Get active in nature. Feed the birds or go wildlife-spotting

25 Have a 'no screens' night and take time to recharge yourself

26 Take an extra break in your day and walk outside for 15 minutes

27 Find a fun exercise to do while waiting for the kettle to boil

28 Meet a friend outside for a walk and a chat

29 Become an activist for a cause you really believe in

30 Make time to run, swim, dance, cycle or stretch today



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

