

WEATHERFIELD ACADEMY

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Dear Parents/Carers

Yesterday we held our Easter Celebration Assembly, with Lower School coming together and KS4/5 learners viewing via Zoom due to limited capacity in the Hall. During this time, we also celebrated our achievements over the week, term, as well as our weekly Birthday celebrations.

The Happy Prince

Learners from KS4 gave a final rehearsal for The Happy Prince to pupils on Wednesday, with the performance to parents yesterday afternoon. It was a pleasure to watch the production, with outstanding contributions from everyone involved, both behind the scenes and those performing. The costumes, music and props all came together under the careful guidance of Mrs Harrington and her team to give a brilliant performance. We are very proud of the whole team.

Educational Trips & Experiences

This week there have been trips and experiences across the Academy. On Tuesday Lower School learners celebrated the work this term with a celebration breakfast in the Hall, where they experienced a variety of fruit, pastries and juice. Certificates were presented for achievements including the Spider Cup.

Today, learners in KS5, as part of their Life Skills studies, have planned and visited The Galaxy Centre in Luton. As part of the experience, students chose to go to Laser Quest, followed by a Subway lunch and before setting off on their planned route back to the Academy. The experience went very well and students were able to compare their planned routes against their experience today.

Also today, a group of KS4 pupils were given the opportunity to visit the Odeon Cinema in Bletchley to watch The Minecraft Movie in celebration of their hard work this term. Learners were really looking forward to their visit to a cinema to see the film as they left the Academy this morning!

Academy Update

Following our item in an earlier newsletter and DfE recommendations post Ofsted, we have been exploring whether joining a small Multi-Academy Trust would provide support to Weatherfield to strengthen the education, experiences and pathways we can offer to our learners. In exploring this, we have asked Whipperley Academy Trust, based in Luton, if they would be willing to accept Weatherfield into their small Trust of two schools. We have been successfully working with leaders from the Whipperley Trust as our School Improvement Team over the last 3 months. Whipperley is a well-respected 'Outstanding' Trust, with the same child-centred, family ethos as Weatherfield, with significant experience in SEND, having many SEND pupils themselves. An application has been made to the DfE to ask permission for Weatherfield to join Whipperley Trust.

The application will be presented to the DfE's Regional Panel in either late May or June and will follow a formal process of consultation, asking for comments from stakeholders including parents and staff, if the DfE Regional Panel approves the application. The Trustees of Weatherfield and Whipperley Academy Trust will then make a final decision about whether they are happy to proceed. We would like to reassure you that any decisions made will be based on providing the highest quality SEND provision for our learners.

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We will, of course, keep you updated once we know the DfE's decision and hopefully, will be able to start the formal consultation period during the summer term. The link to their website is <https://www.whipperleyacademytrust.co.uk/>

We break up for Easter next Friday at the usual time of 3.10pm, with the usual transport arrangements in place. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 22nd April.

Yours sincerely



Mr L Meenan
Head of School

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