

Year 10 Newsletter

Issue 4 - April 2024

Welcome

Welcome to issue 4 of our Y10 newsletter. As always, we have been extremely busy preparing students towards the back end of year 10. Lots of official assessment have been taking place in our vocational subjects which the students involved have worked hard to prepare for.

On Thursday 2 May we are excited to welcome you to our Year 10 Partnership evening. This is a great opportunity to speak with your child's teachers to discuss their progress towards exams and what students needs to do to support their learning journey. We look forward to welcoming everyone to this event and if you haven't already, you will receive further details in the near future.

Mr Cawley

Mr Friar



Achievement
Leader

Head of Year

Assessment Focus

Our preparation and focus is already turning towards tracking 3 which will take place around 17 June. These will consist of Y10 exams and will take place in our exam venues. This allows for exam venue preparation for the students, with exams extended to accommodate for all the content covered in Y10 so far.

Further details will be sent out closer to the time.

Achievement

Following our recent tracking we want to take the opportunity to recognise the efforts of all our students but in particular highlight the fantastic attitude to learning of a select group of students. These students achieved average attitude to learning grades of 1 - well done to all students.

*Hannah L
Jasmine S
Macy D
Mia H
Tayler M
Finn P
Billy H
Amyee-Jayne R
Oscar D
Leon H
Simon W*

Congratulations to March's Student of the Month **George R.**

This award is given to recognise students who have made outstanding progress, excellent effort or gone above and beyond our high expectations. "Well done!"



Well Done

Home Learning Focus

As you will have noticed, we put a lot of emphasis on independent learning for our students. Students completing homework is imperative for the subjects they are studying for their GCSE's. Please try and support your child to complete all homework - students do have access to homework club which takes place each day after school in EG02.

Our home learning policy can be found on the Academy website.

[CLICK HERE](#)



Attendance Matters

As always, one of our main priorities is student attendance to school. We strive that all students achieve 96% and above and work hard with them to achieve this. Your support in getting your child to school each day is imperative - thank you for your continued efforts with this. As always we encourage students to attend school as much as possible. We know that better attendance not only leads to better outcomes but also the development of life skills that students will need when they leave us.

We regularly communicate rates of attendance home and are always available to discuss any concerns you may have with your child's attendance.

Find us here:



Curriculum Spotlight

Drama

Students are currently completing their presentations/portfolios for Component 1. This component is called Exploring the Performing Arts, the component is about the students learning about a live theatre performance and creating a presentation/portfolio about this. This component is to help develop students understanding of the theatre industry including the different roles within theatre, how these roles come together to create live theatre, the stylistic qualities of the performance and the reasons behind why the playwright wrote the play. The main skill required here, will be to apply the knowledge that they have learnt and discovered and create a presentation explaining this and linking this also to the theme of hope and how this theme can be found within the play. The deadline for this work to be completed will be 10th May.

Dance

In practical lessons students are about to start learning their final performance component. The set phrase Shift requires students to demonstrate their physical, technical, expressive and mental skills. This will be assessed and filmed after May half term and contributes towards their final grade. In theory lessons students are finishing their 3rd professional work called A Linha Curva. When analysing the professional works students have to be able to describe the production features (set, costume, lighting, aural setting, number of dances and dance for camera). They also have to explain how the production features contribute to the choreographic intent or stimulus of the work. Revision and 12 mark questions for all 3 professional works will then be the focus of the lessons running up to the Year 10 mock exams.

Music

Students are continuing explore the third Area of Study; Traditional Music. This area of study includes the music of Cuba, fusion music from Africa and France, the blues, the development of jazz music and its sub genres and the music of the Caribbean focusing on Reggae. The students will also study the set works for Area of Study 3 – Paul Simon's 'Graceland', this is singer song writer

Paul Simon's most popular work selling over 16 million copies world wide. The album encompasses the music of South Africa which is coupled with elements of American folk music, Americana and country music. The students will study three works from the album as they progress through this half-term.

Reading Spotlight

Year 10 continue to be exposed to a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts at the Academy. During Ready to Learn, they are currently reading their chosen novels and some are already onto their second!

The importance of reading cannot be understated. As our Year 10 students look forward to the challenges and opportunities of Year 11, more than ever they need to be actively reading a range of fiction and non-fiction texts (including news / current affairs / articles etc.) to support their learning.

Our library will be available to them throughout Year 11 and provides an array of texts, both entertaining and informative.

On the following page you will find two book recommendations our students might find inspiring!

Aspirations

Parents from across the academy are invited to join us for an evening with Edge Hill University. This event will be taking place in Arts Centre at 5pm on Thursday 25th April.

Parents and carers have been sent a separate communication requesting confirmation of attendance.

The event will focus a range of themes focusing on preparation for university life, suitability of courses and student finance.

Parents and carers are very much encouraged to attend.

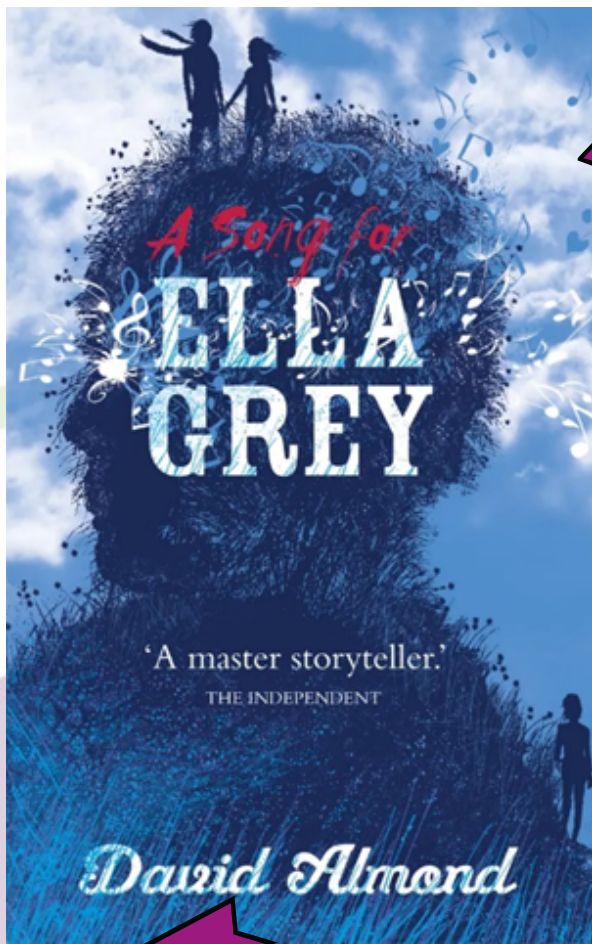
Trips and Events

On Thursday 28th March, Year 10 were involved in Mock Interviews with employers from companies such as Barclays, Very, NHS, Merseyside police, NSG and Hays Education.

Students sat down in a 1:1 interview where they answered a series of questions and had the opportunity to ask questions themselves. Year 10 have been preparing for this in RTL Careers and Aspirations sessions.

This was a hugely successful event and the feedback was excellent from both the students and employers. It gave the students a brilliant insight into the feel of real life interview, which is something lots will be involved with over the next couple of years!





A Song for Ella Grey by David Almond

Winner of the 2015 Guardian Children's Book prize -
 Winner of the 2015 Peters Book of the Year 'Teen
 Fiction' Award

Award winning David Almond is at his lyrical best in this eloquent, tender and ultimately devastating contemporary teenage love story which draws lightly but to great effect on the story of Orpheus and Eurydice.

Camping on a beach near home as a break from school and its pressures, a group of teenagers, minus their friend Ella, come across Orpheus, a wandering musician. No one knows where he comes from or whether he will appear again, but his music is so special that Claire plays it down the phone to Ella. Ella is entranced. But who is Orpheus?

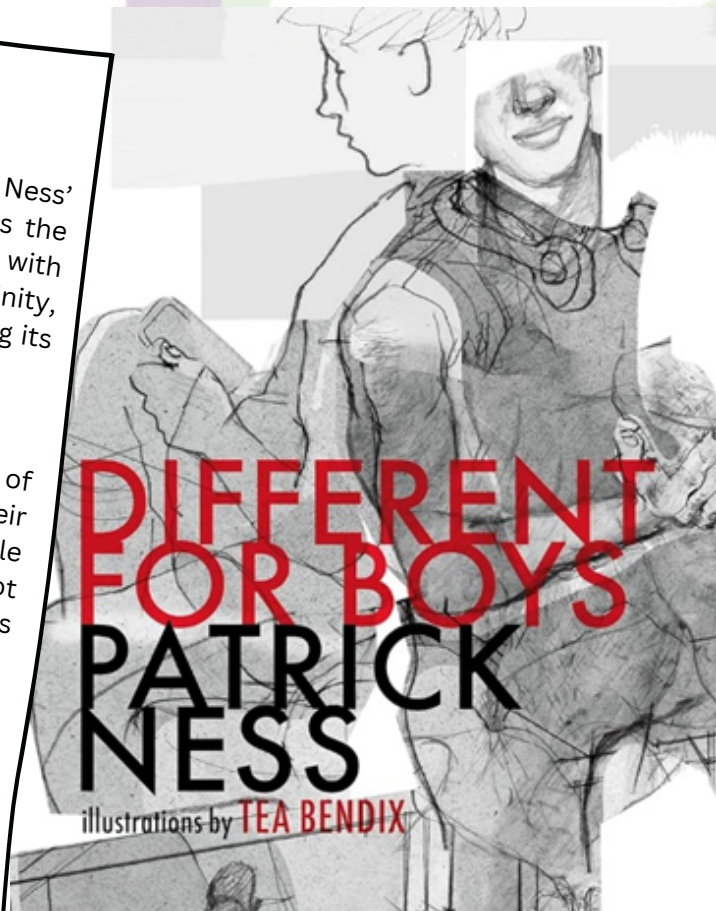
The power of love and the terrible danger it can pose drives this exceptionally touching and thoughtful story.

Different for Boys by Patrick Ness

Authentic, inclusive and refreshingly candid, Patrick Ness' *Different for Boys* packs a mighty punch as it relates the pitch-perfect story of teenage boys grappling with questions around sex, sexuality, friendship and masculinity, with Tea Bendix's cool, evocative illustrations enhancing its already-considerable clout.

Ant is friends with three very different boys – camp and confident Jack, Charlie, who's a tinderbox of alpha-male confusion, and Freddie, who's returned to their school after moving away. The boys were inseparable through primary school, but people change, and not everyone handles change well, especially Charlie, who's outright homophobic.

At the same time, Ant is awash with big questions: "Are there degrees of virginity?" Is he still a virgin? Is virginity different for boys? Is it different again for boys who like boys?" In this context, Ant and Charlie's especially intense, confusing relationship sees them come to blows before Ant comes to some clarity. Suffused in empathy, and funny with it, *Different for Boys* is a brilliantly incisive account of how it feels to be a boy who likes boys, battling homophobia while grappling with big questions around sex and relationships. It's also a fine story of courage and support.



If you would like any further information or support on how to encourage your child to read widely, or would like more book recommendations, please do contact Mr Lovelady at the Academy.