

The Sonar

Your fortnightly update from West London Academy

Issue 28: 11 March 2011

Academy Accommodation Expansion: Traffic and Access Update

FOLLOWING the fourth consultation meeting on Thursday 3 March in the Academy Theatre, which included a presentation by the preferred contractors Kier, Officers from London Borough of Ealing, senior staff of the Academy and representatives from the local residents who live in the roads surrounding the Academy, the following was discussed:

From March 2011:

- London Borough of Ealing, as part of the planning application process, to appoint an independent traffic survey company to analyse the pedestrian and vehicular traffic at both the Compton Crescent and Bengarth Road entrances to establish the extent of the parental vehicular traffic issue at the Primary Phase and the extent to which cars not associated with West London Academy business are using the local area as a rat run.
- London Borough of Ealing to work with Ealing Council on various aspects associated with access and parking in the local residential roads surrounding the Academy. This includes the possibility of making the areas around the Academy Controlled Parking Zones, patrolled by wardens who will issue penalty notices for anyone parking or dropping off who does not have a valid permit displayed during the core Academy hours of 8am-6pm.
- London Borough of Ealing to discuss the mini bus contracts that they issue regarding the co-located John Chilton Special School which is housed on the Academy site regarding access via Bengarth Road in the future coming off Church Road and also discuss with Transport for London the possibility of mini-bus access to John Chilton School directly from the end of the bus lane in Church Road

From April 2011:

- Primary Phase parents involved in strategic initiative of Walk your Child to School led by staff in the Primary Phase

From September 2011:

- Walking Bus system established and running with Primary Phase pupils who currently contribute to the vehicle drop off congestion



Traffic congestion on Compton Crescent

at the Compton Crescent end of the Academy site. This will be coupled with the drive to continue to raise attendance levels at the Primary Phase and build upon the high attendance levels already achieved at the High School where the majority of students walk and use public transport to get to school

- Academy to implement the staff car sharing policy which is already being trialled and implement the revised staff parking policy to reflect the significant reduction in the number of available parking spaces for staff and visitors both during the build (which is subject to planning permission) and upon completion (if planning permission is granted).

From September 2012:

- Intention of West London Academy to expand the pedestrian footpath as part of the construction work and in doing so double the existing path to 3m wide from the bottom of the Bengarth Road gate to the main entrance of the Academy and to install a railing along the ¼ mile length of the footpath beside the access road to ensure safety of students and visitors
- Establish a small gatehouse towards the bottom of the Bengarth Road entrance and make Bengarth Road entrance the main entrance and exit point for vehicles coming to the Academy

Year 10 Work Experience

REMEMBER to start looking for your work experience places. The sooner you find a placement the better.

Also remember that you are not the only student(s) looking for work experience... every one in Year 10 in the country is! When you have found your placement return your form to Miss Bowater.

WLA is committed to sustainable travel
and has recently updated the Travel Plan

You Said, We did...

DURING the November Parental Consultation Evening at the Primary Phase and Progress Day in the Secondary Phase many parents and carers completed surveys. We use the results of those surveys to help West London Academy improve further and want to update you on what you said and what we have done in response.

99% of parents found that the Primary Phase

- keeps their child safe
- that overall you are happy with your child's experience at school

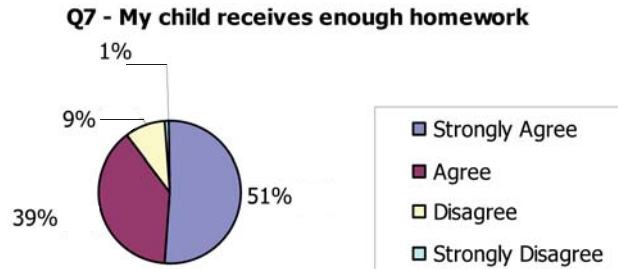
99% of parents found that the Secondary Phase had

- good teaching
- their children enjoy coming to the Academy
- their children are well prepared for the future
- that the Academy informs them of their child's progress
- the Academy is well led and managed

However, one area that a proportion of parents raised some concerns over in both the Primary and Secondary Phases was the amount of homework their child receives. Many parents felt that it was not enough. In response to this feedback we have taken the following action:

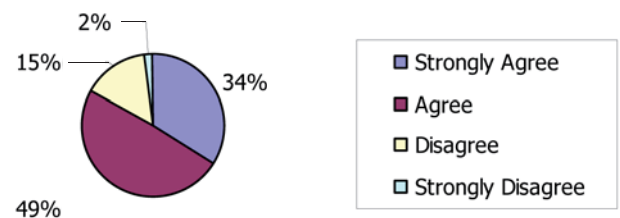
- all homework for Primary and Secondary Phase children continues to be recorded in LAP Records© so that parents and carers can check what homework has been set
- all Primary Phase pupils will be receiving an independent research project to work on
- after a successful trial in the Secondary Phase all Primary pupils have been enrolled into 'Mathletics', an internet based independent study programme for mathematics, which can be completed at home or as part of the after

Primary Phase Parent Responses



Secondary Phase Parent Responses

Q7 - My child receives enough homework



school homework clubs

- Secondary Phase homework timetables were published on the Parent Zone and students have been aware of this since September with Form Tutors going through them with students.

In order for children to get the most out of their education it is vital that parents and the Academy work together.

Please remember to log on to LAP Records© on a regular basis and check what homework has been set and whether your child has completed it and to what standard as assessed by the teacher.

Don't forget to check your child's LAP Records

Banned: Mobile Phones/iPods/Hand-Held and Electronic Games

WLA has a very clear rule that mobile phones / iPods / hand-held electronic games are not allowed in the High School.

This is communicated on a daily basis to High School students. However the number of these out and about in the High School and their use and indeed misuse has reached unacceptable levels prior to Half Term.

A letter was posted home during Half

Term to all families of High School students explaining exactly what the consequences are regarding students and the presence of a Mobile Phone / iPod / Hand held electronic game.

In Brief:

- They will be confiscated and locked in the year base safe.
- Mobile Phones / iPods / hand-held

electronic games will be returned when a parent comes in at an agreed time to collect them.

The use and misuse of Mobile Phones / iPods / hand-held electronic games by students and the amount of time taken up dealing with these issues takes us away from our core business of providing high quality education without unnecessary distractions.

Zumba Classes

Tuesdays 6-7pm in the **Dance Studio** and Thursdays 8-9pm in the **Dance Studio**. Both run by fully qualified Zumba instructors. Great music... great workout... great atmosphere! For more information contact: **0208 842 7930**. email: csc@westlondonacademy.co.uk

Flipping Great!



SERVING UP a special treat this week Primary Phase Pupils prepared (and of course ate) their own pancakes.

The pupils talked about the different ingredients needed to make the batter and then helped the adults measure out the ingredients.

Some of the Year 6 pupils used their knowledge of ratio to adapt the quantity of ingredients in a recipe before making their pancakes. They had lots of fun having a go at flipping them as well.

Winners Announced



THE PRIMARY Phase is delighted with the amount of entries we received for our latest writing competition which was to write a book review.

Our finalists now have their work displayed in the Northolt Library (please do visit to see the fantastic quality of writing).

We also had the pleasure of having a representative from the Library come into our assembly and announce the winners and runners up from Phase 1 and 2. Everyone involved received a book voucher.

The winner from Phase 1 was Antonia from Rose Class and the runner up was Mohammad in Lily Class.

In Phase 2 the winner was Fatima from John Chilton School, who comes to WLA for Literacy and Numeracy lessons. The runner up was Matthew from Elm Class.

Congratulations to all our winners and keep an eye out for the next writing competition coming soon.



WLA

Notices:

Uniform Shop

THE ACADEMY Uniform Shop is open every Wednesday after school from 3:30-5pm for High School students.

We are delighted to be able to accommodate student requests by introducing a WLA cardigan as a uniform option for £16.50.

You can buy uniform online from WLA by going to: <http://www.parentpayshop.com/schools/3076905/shop.html>.

Non-negotiable items

THE PRIMARY Phase would like to remind all parents that they are not to come into the school building through the playground doors at any time of the day, including after school.

This is for the safety of children and staff. If you do wish to gain access to the school for any reason please report to Reception where they will be able to help you.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents that this includes taking their children into the toilets.

If your child needs to go to the toilet before/after school, then please contact a member of staff and they will be happy to help.

Primary Phase Uniform Policy

ALL PRIMARY Phase pupils must wear a sky blue polo shirt with the Academy logo, grey trousers or skirt and a navy sweat shirt/cardigan with the Academy logo. Grey or white socks only. Pupils must wear black leather polishable shoes (no suede, boots or trainers). Jewellery such as rings, bracelets, necklaces are prohibited.

WLA is committed to 'Customer Service Excellence' and has recently updated our Customer Service Charter

THE RESULTS from the Academy Parent Progress day surveys indicate that 46% strongly agree, 51% agree, 2% disagree and 1% strongly disagree with the statement 'I am satisfied with the level of Customer Service received from the Academy'.

We always welcome feedback about our customer service and our committed to continuing to improve this. We have recently updated our Customer Service Charter which can be found on the Academy website.

Make a Difference

Inter House Fundraising Week:

Monday 14 March - Friday 18 March 2011

THE AIM of this week is for each House to raise as much money as possible and to beat the record amount last year of £2,727.33! The majority of the money raised will be donated to Comic Relief with the rest of the cash donated to our Link School in Ethiopia.

Students will be able to take part in many different and exciting year team and whole Academy activities including:

- Sponsored challenges
- Online Quizzes
- Cracker Eating Challenge
- Dance Competitions
- Guessing Games
- Pie, Egg, Flour & Douse the Teacher!
- Back by popular demand the Inflatable Challenges - Boxing, Gladiator Joust, Sumo Wrestling! £1 a ticket*

• **Ball Kart:** Our new, exciting event which is a combination of football and go-karting, being led by by our RAMP students and ex-BMX world champion Mike Mullen. 50p a ticket*

• Inflatable Radar Football 20p per shot*
• Trainers to School Day - £1 donation (Friday 18th March only!) Money will be collected at the Academy gates. Stickers will be issued to show you have donated!

For more information see the plasma screens in your Pod areas and details will also be given out in your year assembly.
* Tickets will be available in advance at the Sandwich Bar at Break Times only from Monday 14 March - Thurs 17 March. A sticker will be issued for all purchases - these must be shown to gain entry at the start of the event

Scores So Far!

Wembley - 25, 406

Ascot - 21,808

Lords - 20, 803

Updated scores following Curriculum House Week will follow

True Colours:
Get behind your House in Support of Comic Relief and WLA's Link School in Ethiopia



Primary Cricket

THE YEAR 5 Cricket Team recently played its first two matches of the cricket league.

The team went into the competition without having played together and with limited training sessions.

The first match against Willow Tree Primary was an exciting match with both teams playing incredible cricket. Fortunately, the West London Academy Primary Team came out on top by 36 runs. Special mention in the

first game must go to Akshat and Charles for their fantastic bowling.

The team entered the second match on a real high, but couldn't quite emulate their first match success and lost to Downe Manor by 32 runs. Special mention in the second match must go to Emony and Liam for their accurate bowling and brilliant batting.

Well done to the whole team for showing so much enthusiasm and great sportsmanship.

The PE & Sport Department needs your help...

If you have any old football or rugby boots that you have out grown or do not use anymore please can you donate them to the PE and Sport department to enable other students to take part in different sporting activities. They would be very much appreciated and used.



ParentPay and Academy payments

West London Academy offers parents/carers the ability to use the internet to make payments to the Academy.

Using a highly secure website (www.parentpay.com) with a unique user ID and password, parents/carers are able to pay for school meals (cashless system), uniform and music lessons and lots more using your credit and debit cards. This is a free service to parents and there are no additional charges for paying on the internet.

Parents receive a letter containing their

user ID and password as soon as a child is fully registered as a pupil or student at the Academy so that they are able to start using ParentPay immediately.

ParentPay benefits our children and the Academy in many ways not least by removing the risks associated with children carrying cash to school and reducing administration which creates more time to devote to educational support and the smooth running of West London Academy.

Parents/Carers find ParentPay a more

secure, convenient and reliable option for both them and their child. Available 24 hours a day 7 days a week, it provides the freedom to make payments whenever and wherever you like. The Academy still accepts payment by cash and cheque but we encourage as many parents as possible to use ParentPay.

If you require a user ID and password, please contact the Academy finance office on 0208 842 7836 or email them at finance@westlondonacademy.co.uk

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