



2 MAY 2025

# Principal *Letter*

Our weekly letter - bringing you the Academies current week's news, as well as helpful information and reminders for future events.

*This letter is available in different languages upon request.*

*Dear Parents, Carers and Students...*



I hope you had a good week. We have had a great week and have been enjoying the sunshine

## Non-Uniform Day – 6th May

As part of our fundraising efforts for the Year 11 prom, we're excited to offer a

### **Non-Uniform Day on the 6th of May!**

Students are invited to attend school in clothes of their choice, provided they have purchased and received their non-uniform wristband by **Friday**.

Please remember that all clothing must be appropriate for a school setting.

Outfits should be respectful and suitable for learning. This means no offensive logos or images, no Crocs or sliders, no short shorts, no crop tops, and no hats inside the building.

If your child has PE on the day, they must bring their full PE kit. Failure to do so will result in the application of our usual behaviour protocols.

Staff will assess the appropriateness of clothing on the day, and any student dressed inappropriately may be asked to change.

Lastly, students who have not purchased a non-uniform wristband will be expected to wear their full school uniform.

## Year 8 & 9 Drama Students

Six drama students in year 8 and 9 have been selected for an exciting opportunity to perform with the Royal Shakespeare Company. Agatha, Jessica, Tanesha, Connor, Samuel and Joel will be travelling to Stratford-upon-Avon with Ms Gillespie-Beal to perform in Shakespeare's King Lear, as part of the RSC National Playmaker's Festival. The students took part in their first rehearsal this week and will be rehearsing after school for two months. Break a leg to them all!





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# Year 11 Art Examination

## **Congratulations to our fantastic Year 11 GCSE Art students!**

They have just wrapped up an incredible 10-hour examination, pouring their hearts and creativity into every moment. It was truly a joy to witness their artistic journeys as they explored a dazzling array of media—sculpting, constructing, painting, mixed media, pencil and printing their way to unique and personal masterpieces.

## **They've made us all proud here at COPA!**

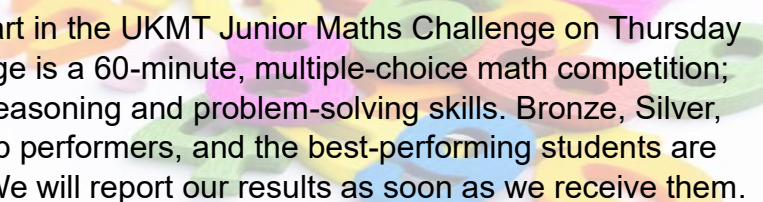
While we must keep this year's stunning creations under wraps until the autumn term, I'm excited to share a peek of last year's artwork. Get ready to be inspired by the amazing talent of our students!



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## **UKMT Junior Maths Challenge**

Selected students in years 7 and 8 took part in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge on Thursday 1st May. The UKMT Junior Maths Challenge is a 60-minute, multiple-choice math competition; it's designed to encourage mathematical reasoning and problem-solving skills. Bronze, Silver, and Gold certificates will be awarded to top performers, and the best-performing students are invited to participate in follow-on rounds. We will report our results as soon as we receive them.





# Students of the Week

Our Students of the Week for this week are:

<b>English</b>	Student L (Year 10)	<b>EAL</b>	Aaiza (Year 7)
<b>Maths</b>	Ryan Chinhema (Year 10)	<b>Year 7</b>	Student M
<b>Humanities</b>	Student P (Year 10)	<b>Year 8</b>	Hassan Hafiz
<b>Science</b>	Student A (Year 9)	<b>Year 9</b>	Tristan
<b>Performance</b>	Paula G (Year 7)	<b>Year 10</b>	Barwar
<b>Spanish</b>	Student P (Year 9)	<b>Year 11</b>	Student M



**Congratulations to them all!**

If not done so already, please can I ask that you take a moment to complete our '[Permission to Publish Student Details Form](#)', whereby you can opt in or out of certain student details being published within newsletters (such as the above table). We'd love to share your child's success! Thank you to those that already completed this. Please note that if your child is 13 years old or older they can grant permission themselves as per government guidelines.

## STEM Trips

### Babraham Institute School Visit – Year 9 & 10

On April 25, a group of Year 9 and 10 students participated in an immersive visit to our institute, delving into the dynamic world of epigenetics, cell signalling, and immunology. The day included hands-on activities in state-of-the-art laboratories, interactive sessions with leading researchers, and insights into how cellular mechanisms underpin health and disease, such as cancer progression and immune responses.

The activity day highlighted career pathways in life sciences, offering students a unique opportunity to engage with cutting-edge technology and discover how innovations in biomedical research-from chromatin remodelling to immune system dynamics-translate into real-world applications.



Through lab tours, experimental demonstrations, and discussions on topics like DNA repair and epigenetic biomarkers, students explored the intersection of genetics, cellular biology, and immunology, fostering curiosity and critical thinking.



## Year 8 Team Tackles Real-World Engineering at IET Faraday Challenge

On 28 April, five Year 8 students showcased their STEM skills at Oundle School's IET Faraday Challenge, joining a national competition with 309 events running across the UK this academic year. Competing against five other school teams, they tackled real-world engineering problems through hands-on prototyping, collaborative problem-solving, and critical thinking-all while adhering to strict guidelines that barred teacher intervention.



The challenge emphasized cross-curricular STEM skills, from designing sustainable solutions to budgeting materials, with teams vying for a spot on the national league table. Participants earned an Industrial Cadets Challenger Award, endorsed by the EDT, recognizing their teamwork and industry-ready skills. Students also qualified for the optional CREST Discovery Award, validating their project work in a real-world context. With over 7,000 students participating annually, the programme bridges classroom learning and practical engineering, fostering innovation and future career pathways.

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## Polite Reminder - Summer Term Uniform

A reminder that students are now permitted to wear the CoPA polo shirts.

After consultation with parents, students and staff, I can confirm, we will be moving to these permanently from September. These should be purple for KS3 and black for KS4.



**If students still wish to wear a white shirt for the rest of this term, a tie must be worn.**

A reminder that we added back tailored shorts to our uniform last summer for the summer term only, as with pleated skirts, these must be purchased from our uniform supplier, Chroma Sports:

<https://www.chromasport.co.uk/shop/schoolwear> - **No other shorts will be permitted.**

If you have any uniform you wish to donate, we would be happy to receive it in order to make second hand uniform available to the community. Please hand this into reception or to your child's Head of Year.

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# Key Dates for the Summer Term

**Monday 5 May**  
**Wednesday 7 & Thursday 8 May**  
**Friday 9 May**  
**Monday 12 May – Friday 23 May**  
**Monday 26 May – Friday 30 May**  
**Wednesday 18 June**

May Day Bank Holiday – Academy Closed  
Year 10 Core PPE  
Year 11 GCSE Final Written Exams Start (until 17 June)  
KS3 Assessment  
Half Term – Academy Closed  
Year 11 Leavers Day

**And finally...**

Have a good weekend, I look forward to welcoming all students back on Tuesday 6 May.

Yours faithfully

**Mrs N Treacy**  
**Principal**

  
**CITY OF PETERBOROUGH**  
**ACADEMY**  
(01733) 821440

