



**Morton Academy**  
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# Newsletter

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

It is a great pleasure to be writing my first newsletter as the Principal of Morton Academy. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Bird for everything he has done to support both students and staff and I'm sure you will join me in wishing him all the best as he takes on his new post in April.

As we approach the Easter break I'd like to remind you all of the closing and opening dates for students for the upcoming holidays. The last day of term for students is Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2018. The academy will close at 3.00pm for students. The academy will open again for students on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2018 at 8.35am as normal.

As part of the process of leadership change at the academy I intend to hold a series of 'Meet the Principal' events to ensure that you know who I am, what my plans for the future are and how you can support us to make Morton Academy even better. The first meeting is intended for the parents of Year 6 students who will be starting with us in September 2018, this will be on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April. On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April there will be an event for all parents who wish to attend, an invitation letter will be sent to you at the start of the next term, please respond if you wish to attend.

Once again it has been another busy term for students. Our Year 11 students are now in final preparations for their exams this summer. We will be having a final Year 11 SLT Parents' Evening on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April where we will look at the results of the recent mock exams. There will be further opportunities to discuss revision skills and the programme for the exams themselves. I would encourage all Year 11 Parents and students to attend

the meetings. I'd like to say well done to Amy Wildey in Year 11 who has spent the most time on Hegarty Maths to support her revision.

Year 10 students have also completed their recent set of Mock exams, we are looking forward to meeting with parents to discuss results on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April. Again, I would encourage all parents of Year 10 students to attend to get as much information as possible as to how to support your children as they move towards their final year at Morton Academy. I would also like to congratulate Leigh Crickett, Kyron Brand, Cameron McDougall and Josh Duncan along with Mr O'Roarty for winning the Rotary BAE systems Technology Tournament. It was a fantastic performance by all four boys and we are very proud of this achievement.

Key Stage 3 students have also been working hard. They have sat their recent round of assessments and it will be interesting to see how many of them are on or above track to meet their end of school targets. There have been many other achievements too. Year 7 have been to Keppleway in the Lake District for their residential trip last week. I'd like to say well done to all students who took part in the trip and a special thanks to Mr Devlin and the other staff members who accompanied students. A number of our students have been involved in Science Ambassadors where students from local Primary Schools come to Morton and are taught by our students. Thank you to Miss Grierson for organising this and to all students involved. Year 7: Rhys Wilding, Mickey Kehoe, Niall Ward, Niamh Hewitson, Holly Pieroway, Alicia Farish, Sam Graham, Jessica Edgar, Ellen Sheals, Millie Hadden and Anya Griffin. Year 8: Jake Bisset-Minton,



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Sean Edgar, Ruby Clifford, Francesca Patterson and Poppy Christie. Year 9 (The Ambassador Team Leaders): Karis Cherry, Ellie Moran, Jodie-Lee Ackerman and Rachel Graham.

I would like to say a special well done to five students in Year 9 who have had their poetry published in *The Poetry Games: Truth or Dare*, a Young Writers competition. So, congratulations to Kieran Clark, Owen Wiggett, Luke Bain, Ellie Graham and Scott Fleming who are now published poets! My favourite was Ellie's War Poem, a big thank you needs to go to Miss Cowie for organising the competition. I am also very proud of the Library Assistants who helped organise and support our very successful Book Fair and help keep the library organised every day. So well done to Kieran Martin, Sean Edgar, Poppy Christie, Jack Carr and Josh Kirkpatrick (all Year 8), Ethan Abbot and Leah Harrison (Year 9) and Katie Perry in Year 10. I'd also like to welcome back Mrs Mulholland to the Library/Literacy after her maternity leave this year.

I have spent a lot of time with the Student Council who have helped me to appoint two new teachers who will start in September. They have also met with many visitors and are a credit to the academy. We have a new teacher joining our Maths department and I am delighted to have appointed a new Music teacher for the academy. I would also like to congratulate Mrs Bewley who has been appointed as Vice Principal from April onwards and Mr Winstanley who will be taking on the role of Head of Expressive Arts from September.

So, our work continues on the run up to the Easter break. Students are busy rehearsing and preparing for their performance of *The Little Shop of Horrors* in the next term. There will be some events to celebrate

Easter with rumours of a staff vs students egg and spoon race at some point soon. Year 11 have a full menu of revision sessions for the Easter Holidays and I expect to see many students in school over those weeks to prepare for those vital exams in the summer.

Best wishes

Richard McGuire  
Principal



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