



**University
Academy
Keighley**

Parents Newsletter

Week Ending: 13th January 2012

**Issue 1
January 2012**

Reminders:

Mathematics
GCSE Linear
examination
Friday 2nd and
Monday 5th
March.

UAK6 Celebration
of Learning
Evening Thursday
2nd February,
6.00pm. An
evening for all to
celebrate
achievement over
this term.

U13 girls' and
U14 boys'
badminton match
v Hanson (home)
Monday 23rd
January.

U12 Sport Hall
Athletics at
Beckfoot,
Tuesday 24th
January.

ICT Revision
Session will be
held for AS ICT
students from
9.00 am-12.00
pm, Monday 16th
January. This will
be run by Miss
Wiseman. Please
meet in room 115.

This Newsletter is published
fortnightly by:

University Academy Keighley
Greenhead Road
Utley, Keighley
BD20 6EB

Tel: 01535 210333
Web: www.uak.org.uk
Email: office@uak.org.uk



**Welcome from the
Academy's new team.**

**Executive Principal, Gareth
Dawkins**

I am delighted to have joined
UAK. There will be no
compromise in our
determination to improve
results and realise the ambitions we all share to
create a good school.

I will look forward to meeting you at the various
events I will attend in the community and at
UAK, as we begin the challenge of working
together for a better future.



**Associate Principal, Linda
Wallsgrove**

I am looking forward to getting
to know the students at UAK.
Every student has potential
and I want all of them
to achieve that here at
UAK. The next two terms are
critically important for our
Y11 students; we will be
setting high expectations for them and ask for
your support in ensuring that they are making
the most of all of their learning opportunities.

I look forward to meeting you on the 25th
January, and to developing a positive
partnership that will raise achievement and
move the Academy forward.



**Lead Behavioural Director,
Phil Allen**

I have joined the Academy to
sharpen the work of the
Pastoral team and to ensure
that we have the right
behaviour and attitudes for
learning.

I have been made to feel very welcome by the
students, who are very smart and keen to tell
me how they think we can make things better for
them at UAK.

Poverty Challenge

The Autumn Term Community Challenge,
focusing on poverty, resulted in dozens of
Christmas hampers being donated to local young
people facing their first Christmas alone after
leaving care.

Nearly 80 hampers, many of which had been
carefully gift wrapped, were presented to Janice
Heathcote, of Barnardo's, who said she was
"flabbergasted" by the amount being donated.
The packages assembled by students included
food, toys, books, clothes and other goodies.
Janice added, "This will really make a lot of young
people's Christmas. It can be very difficult for a
16 year old leaving authority care for the first time
if they're on their own. They're still a child at that
age and at this time of year it's hard for them to
manage and budget"

The project was led by year 11 students who,
through their citizenship lessons, researched and
produced powerful presentations which they
delivered to the rest of the Academy. This
provided the inspiration for other students to start
working in their tutor groups on fact files about
child poverty in the UK and organise for donations
towards the hampers and Christmas gifts for local
children.



We wish to extend our thanks to everyone who
supported this fantastic cause and helped to
make a difference to the lives of young people in
Keighley this Christmas.

Key Issues

Holidays in Term Time

Please help us to ensure that your son or daughter keeps focussed and up to date with their learning and exam preparation by ensuring they are in school 100% during term time. Requests for permission to take students out of school for holidays including school days that will impact on their learning and examinations will not be approved. We need collaborative efforts between the Academy and our parents to ensure students are progressing towards achieving their targets at all times.

UAK6 Focus on Attendance

Please help by making sure your son/daughter attends all their lessons and are punctual. We encourage all students to spend their non-lesson time within UAK6 for independent study. You were recently sent a Teacher, Student & Parent Success Agreement; please make sure you have completed this and return to UAK6 as soon as possible. If you require another copy of your son's/daughter's timetable, do not hesitate to contact UAK6.

Dates for your Diary

Meet your new Headship

There will be a Parents / Community meeting at the Academy on Wednesday, 25th January 7.00 for a 7.30pm start, in the Auditorium. This is your opportunity to find out more about the recent changes UAK and how this could affect you and your child.

Progress Review Day

Review Day will be held on the 26th January between 10am-5pm. All students are required to attend an appointment with parent/guardian to receive their new grades and Progress Needs. Students and parents will discuss these with their Learning Tutor and other key staff. Please return the appointment slip ASAP to ensure a time that suits you. Please note, Sixth Form teaching will continue on Review Day.

UAK6 Parents Evening

The UAK6 Parents Evening will be held on Thursday 9th February from 6.00pm. Your son/daughter will be making an appointment time for you to meet with their tutor and subject staff shortly and you will be notified of this by post. Included, will be the January grades and comments on how your son/daughter can achieve and exceed their target grade.

Half Term

The academy will be closed term from Monday 13th February and reopen to students Tuesday 21st February (Monday 20th is a staff training day).

Your opinion counts

We welcome your views on this fortnightly newsletter which we hope will give you regular news and information about life at UAK. Please email your comments and questions to:

issues@uak.org.uk

Events

The literacy focused workshops for Year 7 parents and students started again this term. The focus of the workshops are to support students' skills of reading with understanding. A big thank you to the 10 parents who have been attending since October 2011. We hope that both parents and students benefit from the literacy focused lessons and that they can use the skills learnt at home to help improve students enjoyment of reading.



The Academy hosted a visit from Dover Christchurch Academy on Friday 6th January, who have a unique student band that uses "junk" to create music! They are called Riot. They brought with them shopping trolleys, wheelie bins, and dustbins from which fantastic rhythms were produced. Our students from years 7-9 were given the opportunity to try these for themselves through collaborative workshops. Thank you to parents who sent in sweet tins and other junk items for use on the day. The event concluded with an evening performance of musical treats which included a joint performance from the two Academies and audience participation courtesy of the Silsden Town Band.



Letters Sent Home

Letter to Year 11 parents for entries for GCSE examinations this summer.

Academy Meetings and Visitors

John Chuter (Vice Chair of Governors)
Linda Marshall (All Through Principal, Bradford Academy)
Gail Khan (Governor)
Graham Soles (National College School Leadership)
Tony Thornley (School Commissioners Office)
Shahnaz Tanweer (Governor)
Paul Cox (Governor)
Steve Grasham (Governor)
Adrian Farley (Governor)
Cllr Dorothy Clamp (Governor)
Dr Liddle (AQA Exam Board)
Representative from Barnardo's Charity