

FLORENCE FOCUS



A Message from Mrs Clewlow

As we come to the end of another half term at Florence, I would like to thank all of our students, families and staff for the support and strong sense of community that continue to make our Academy such a special place to be each day.

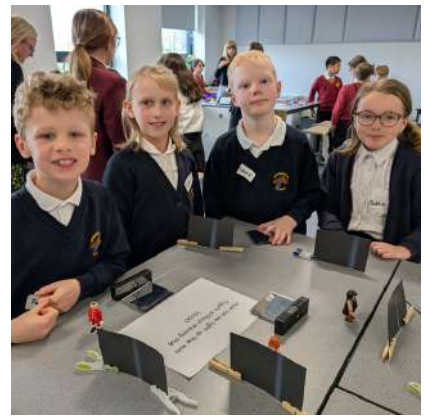
This half term has been filled with a wide range of opportunities for our students. From STEM events to university visits and welcoming our future Year 7 families into the Academy, it has been wonderful to see students approach each experience with confidence, maturity and curiosity.

Students have also completed their summative assessments this half term and we have been incredibly proud of the determination, resilience and ambition shown throughout this period.

With the weather beginning to improve, it has been lovely to see students enjoying time together outside at break and lunchtime, making the most of the sunshine and continuing to show such positive relationships with one another and with staff. These everyday moments are often the clearest reflection of the caring and inclusive community we are continuing to build together at Florence.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support throughout the half term. We look forward to an exciting final half term of the academic year.





Bringing STEM to Life

Practical learning and exciting opportunities with students across our local community.

This half term has been filled with exciting STEM opportunities across the Academy, helping to inspire curiosity, creativity and ambition in our students.

We were proud to host the Stoke Meir & Ogden Partnership Science Fayre at Florence, welcoming pupils and staff from local primary schools across the community. Throughout the event, pupils showcased fantastic scientific thinking, creativity and confidence whilst sharing their projects and ideas with others. It was wonderful to see so many young people brought together through a shared enthusiasm for science and discovery.

Our students have also enjoyed an engaging STEM Roadshow assembly this half term, where they explored a range of scientific concepts through interactive demonstrations and practical experiments. The assembly encouraged students to think creatively, ask questions and consider future opportunities within STEM subjects and careers.

Alongside these events, students have continued to develop their scientific knowledge and practical skills in lessons, approaching challenges with curiosity, resilience and enthusiasm. We are incredibly proud of the ambition our students continue to show across STEM subjects.



Pathways and Possibilities

Students explored university life and future opportunities through visits designed to raise aspirations and broaden horizons.



Students have recently taken part in a range of university visits designed to broaden horizons, raise aspirations and encourage them to think ambitiously about their futures.

Our First Story elective graduates visited the University of Cambridge to celebrate the completion of their programme and experience university life firsthand, whilst students graduating from The Brilliant Club visited the University of Manchester following the completion of their final assignments and programme work.



Year 8 students also visited Keele University as part of the Higher Horizons programme, where they explored future pathways and opportunities through a range of engaging activities. Meanwhile, Year 7 students enjoyed their visit to Staffordshire University, learning more about university life and future possibilities from an early stage in their Florence journey.





Summer Term Electives

Students have embraced a wide range of new experiences through our electives programme.

This half term saw the exciting launch of our summer electives at Florence, with students taking part in a wide range of opportunities designed to develop new skills and encourage students to explore their interests beyond the classroom.

Electives continue to play an important role in helping students build confidence, develop new talents and strengthen relationships across the Academy community. We look forward to seeing each of our electives continue to grow over the coming term.

From SCDC Dance, Moddershall Cricket Club, the City Music Service, the Tennis Youth Leaders programme and Gaelic football to creative writing through First Story, French Film, Ancient History and Archaeology, hydroponics, Food Technology and community projects, students have embraced the opportunity to try something new and challenge themselves in different ways.



Competing with Pride

Across a range of competitions, students have continued to represent Florence with confidence, commitment and ambition.

Students have been representing Florence brilliantly in competitions across the local community, demonstrating pride, ambition and excellent sportsmanship throughout.

Our Year 8 Chess Elective students recently took part in the regional chess competition at Birches Head, where they approached every match with focus, resilience and determination. Throughout the event, students showed real maturity and developed in confidence with each round, leaving the competition with a renewed motivation to continue improving their skills.

Students also represented the Academy at the cricket tournament hosted at Moddershall Cricket Club. Throughout the tournament, students demonstrated excellent teamwork, commitment and resilience whilst competing against other schools. It was fantastic to see students supporting one another and representing Florence with such positivity both on and off the field.

We are incredibly proud of all students who have represented the Academy this half term and look forward to seeing them continue to grow in confidence and success through future competitions and events.





Our Florence Family Grows

It was wonderful to welcome our new Year 7 families and begin building relationships ahead of September.

At the end of April, we were delighted to welcome our future Year 7 students and families to Florence for our Welcome Evening.

The event provided families with the opportunity to meet staff, explore the Academy and begin learning more about life at Florence ahead of September. Throughout the evening, it was fantastic to see so many students already showing excitement and enthusiasm as they begin the next stage of their journey.

Events such as these are an important part of helping every student feel confident, supported and part of the Florence community before they even arrive. We are incredibly excited to continue working with our new families over the coming months and look forward to officially welcoming them into the Florence Family in September.

Over the past couple of weeks, we have started our programme of home visits for every new family joining Florence. These visits help us build strong relationships with students and families from the very beginning of their journey with us. We have also shared further details regarding our Year 6 Transition Day, which will take place on Thursday 2nd July - another exciting step as students prepare to join the Florence Family in September.



Key Dates and Events

A look ahead at important events, experiences and opportunities taking place at Florence.

June

- 8th: INSET Day (Academy closed to students)
- 9th: Y8 to their new Y9 classrooms
- 9th: Y7 to their new Y8 classrooms
- 9th: Student refresh
- 18th: Hydroponics Event @ Liverpool University
- 19th: Fathers Day Breakfast
- 26th: Y7 Road Safety Assembly
- 26th: Y8 Parents Progress Afternoon/Evening
- 26th: Debonair Uniform Shop 14:30 - 18:00

July

- 2nd: Y6 Transition Day
- 3rd: Y7 Parents Progress Afternoon/Evening
- 9th: Academy Commendation Evening
- 10th: Student Summer Celebration Day
- 16th: Debonair Uniform Shop 15:30 - 18:00
- 17th: Last day for students

August

- Academy closed to students

September

- 1st - 4th Staff INSET
- 7th: All students return
- 7th - 11th: We Are Florence Week

Noticeboard

- A reminder that any students travelling to or from the academy by bike must be wearing a suitable helmet. Any student without a helmet will not be able to take their bike home at the end of the day to ensure that they get home safely.
- As we look forward to warmer weather, please make sure that your child has a water bottle with them each day to stay hydrated.
- After May Half Term, our students will move to the spaces where they will be based from September. This is to support their transition between year groups and help with any changes to their routines. We encourage families to communicate with their child's Head of Year through the academy office should you have feedback or questions about any aspect of this transition. Thank you for your continued support.

Key Dates and Events

A look ahead at important events, experiences and opportunities taking place in our local community.



FAMILY FUN DAY

Join us for a **FREE** event filled with fun, laughter, and unforgettable memories! Have your say on how Pride in Place funding is spent

FRIDAY 29TH MAY
1 - 4 PM

StansmorePark, HendersonGrove, Meir, ST3 6LJ

- Arts, Crafts & Creativity
- Inflatables
- Multi Sports & Games
- Emergency Services



No bookings needed - just register on the day
All under 16s must be accompanied by an adult



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LOCK IT MARK IT



Free Bike Marking
by Staffordshire Police
Crime Prevention Team

Date: Tuesday 26th May

Time: 10am - 3pm

Location: Longton
Exchange Shopping Centre

Reduce the risk of your bike being stolen:

Lock the frame and both wheels to a stand using two good quality locks.

Get your bike registered and visibly security marked with BikeRegister.

Check for FREE bike marking events at www.bikeregister.com/events

If your bike is stolen, report it to **101** and register it as stolen on BikeRegister.

facebook.com/BikeRegister @bikeregister #bikeregister #LockItMarkIt

