

PRINCIPAL'S END OF AUTUMN TERM MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

Firstly, I would like to thank parents and students for their continued support in maintaining the high standards expected at the academy in terms of business dress, punctuality and behaviour.

Every year about 50% of our school community is new to us and it is wonderful to see how the students in Years 10 and 12 have settled in and made a fantastic start to their educational journey at WMG; embracing our ethos and demonstrating the academy's values of Respect, Aspiration and Professionalism on a daily basis.

Years 11 and 13 have quickly settled back into the academy life showing increased maturity and determination, particularly over the last few weeks in the run up to their mock examinations in January. These mocks are the next step in the process of rigorous preparation for their Summer examinations. The mock exams enable students and staff to identify their strengths and weaknesses so that they can receive the best possible education to reach their full potential so it is vital that they prepare to the best of their ability.

As the Autumn term draws to a close, it provides a moment to reflect on this term and look forward to the challenges and opportunities next term. This term, the academy has hosted a large number of

employers and many students have taken part in various workshops, activities and talks from our business partners and Warwick University. Further details are later in the newsletter.

Key Stage 4 finished the term with our annual 'Rewards Trip' which is a lovely way to acknowledge their hard work since September. Key Stage 5 will also be 'rewarded' in the new year and details will be sent out in January. In addition, we have many other trips and visits planned for both the Spring and Summer terms for all year groups, so it is vital that your child checks their emails so that they do not miss out on any of the amazing opportunities available to them.

Finally, may I wish all families and students a well earned break, a chance to recharge and spend time with loved ones. My thoughts and best wishes are with you over the holiday period; stay safe, take care of yourselves and each other.

Adele Wallis
Associate Principal



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO OF WMG ACADEMY

Another successful and busy first term draws to a close in both WMG academies that has again seen record numbers of companies attend on site provision of engaging activities for the students, particularly during the Tomorrows Engineers Week and National Engineering Week in October and November. The festive break will be welcomed by students and staff as a period to rest and recharge batteries following either sitting or preparing for Mock examinations. As always, both academies value and hugely appreciate the support that parents and carers provide for sons, daughters and the school staff. On behalf of all the staff, I wish all students, parents, carers and families a restful break and a very Happy New Year for 2025!

Stewart Tait - CEO



JOHNSON AND JOHNSON VISIT THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

On Tuesday 26th November, WMG Academy Science department had the pleasure of being taught by the Associate Director and Safety Analysis Scientist for Global Safety Strategy and Risk Management at Johnson and Johnson Innovative Medicine, William Frempong. In a fantastic session, KS5 scientists explored the concepts behind how a medicine is made, allowing them to work through a range of scenarios to develop and present their solutions back to an inspirational scientist in William. A fantastic opportunity for all students to learn how concepts taught in the curriculum can lead to such a vital career!



HYDROGEN CAR BUILD

At the start of term we took a group of year 10 students to the Advanced Propulsion Centre at Warwick University to understand the work they are doing to find sustainable solutions to the net zero targets. The student also had the opportunity to build and race a hydrogen powered car as part of the activities of the day.





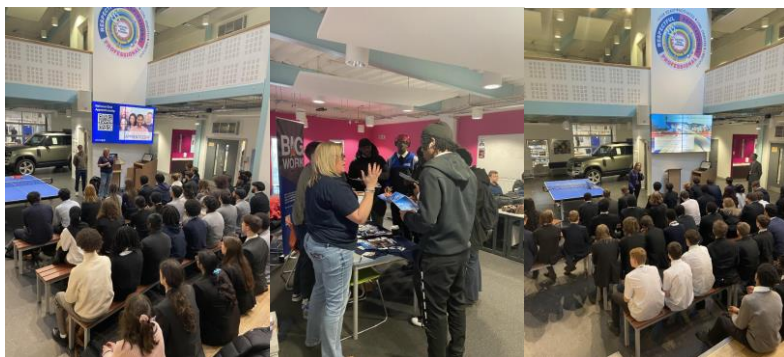
VISIT TO APPRENTICESHIP CENTRES MTC AND MGTS

As part for our Year 11 options support, we took groups of interested students to view the faculties at MTC and MGTS, the two apprenticeship centres in Coventry. The students were a credit to the academy and hopefully it will inspire them to apply for apprenticeships.



COMPANIES COMING IN TO PROMOTE APPRENTICESHIPS

We have been lucky enough to have BMW and National Grid come to speak to our Year 11 and 13s about the opportunities that they have available. These company insights aim to raise student aspirations and help them prepare for the working world.



DYSON INSTITUTE

On November 20th WMG Academy Coventry students went to the Dyson Institute as part of a day which focused on UTC students.

The students gained an insight into the early career pathways within Dyson and were given a tour of the campus and teaching facilities.

The students also worked with Dyson apprentices and were challenged to create a robot to scatter debris across a track. The students had to design, build, program and test their prototypes within just 2 hours working in teams of 4 with students from other UTCs which they had never met before.

As a teacher I got to speak with senior lecturers and the early careers team and have joined the Dyson teachers hub. The experience was a great networking opportunity for both me and the students professionally and was such a fantastic day.



TOMORROWS ENGINEERING WEEK 2024

Day 1: the academy hosted the Army, who spoke about careers in the armed forces as part of our Remembrance Day activities.



Day 2: the academy hosted colleagues from the Institute for Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering | AME Coventry University. Course leaders Emma Cygan and Kam Gill ran two masterclass engineering sessions with our year 13 engineering students that explored iterative problem solving and team collaboration. Both essential skills for any future engineer!



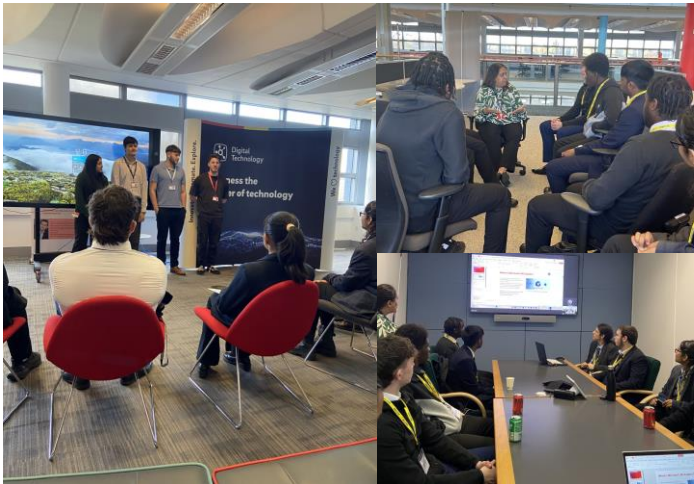
Day 3: the academy hosted engineers Jak Stevens and Flynn Dodsworth from Tata Consultancy Services. Both Engineering consultants in current roles at TCS; Jak and Flynn delivered an innovative session for our year 12 computer science and IT students.

The day was split up with short focused tasks throughout from TCS's GoIT programme. The activities in the GoIT programme support students in becoming more digitally literate, focusing on the 21st century skills required for a career in the computer science sector of engineering industries. The students were exposed to case studies and problem solving activities across a diverse range of STEM careers.



Day 4: the academy had the pleasure of attending E.ON UK in Coventry to view their internal Hackathon event.

Kara Flook from E.ON shared an insight into the inner workings of the Digital Technology team and showed us how AI impacts businesses to improve productivity. The very knowledgeable Bal Atwal then took our students through the breadth of apprenticeship opportunities available at E.ON UK. Giving our students insights into how to stand out from the crowd.



Day 5: the students from KS4 and KS5 visited Schneider Electric Innovation Hub in Coventry.

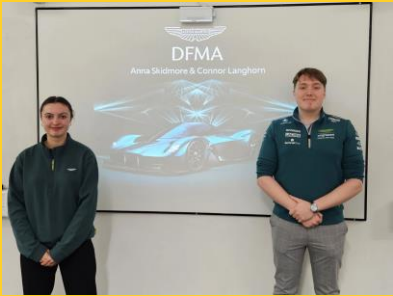
The students experienced a carousel of three activities focusing on the core values of the company, a workshop in robotics programming and a live demonstration of system design. All the sessions were supported by Schneider Electric's Engineers, the Early Careers Team and current apprentices.



ASTON MARTIN

On November 27th, we hosted two WMG Academy Trust Alumni from Aston Martin, Anna Skidmore and Connor Langhorn.

Our Alumni presented to our Year 12 Cambridge Technical engineering students who are investigating the components and assembly methods used in a door handle assembly. The session focused on the principles of design for assembly with the students investigating the estimated orientation and insertion times for components across a range of contexts that Anna and Connor shared.



HOUSE OF LORDS

Such a fantastic afternoon at the House of Lords, celebrating our WMG Academy Trust Gold Baker Award winning students, Summer Flitcroft, George Parry and Amneet Bhara.

The Baker Award for Technical Education celebrates outstanding achievements in technical education by rewarding students who have participated in work experience placements and employer-led projects whilst developing essential workplace skills, like communication and problem-solving. This award highlights the unique aspects of technical education that goes beyond the curriculum.

In recognition of winning the Gold Baker Dearing Award it demonstrates the skills all our students have developed over their time at WMG Academy Trust Coventry and how collaboration between the students and our industry partners have prepared them for their future career as an apprentice or in higher education.



WMG SHOEBOX APPEAL

Here at WMG Academy our students regularly support various charitable events and causes, local and national.

This Autumn term, tutor groups, staff and parents have helped support the creation of Christmas Shoeboxes for distribution to families and young people across Warwickshire. Recipients include refugees, asylum seekers and young people and families.

Previous year's Shoebox collections have also included support for Samaritans Purse gifts to Eastern Europe and North Africa as well as local families across Warwickshire.

The shoeboxes were filled full of small toys, games, personal items such as; gloves, scarves, hats, as well as pencils, crayons, colouring books, personal items and toiletries. The boxes were age profiled for girls and boys aged 2-4 years, 5-9 years, 10-14 years.

The shoeboxes, which were donated by Clarkes Shoes, have now been collated, filled and wrapped in Christmas gift wrap. This year we have created 35 boxes to be distributed by St Basils.

Well done and thank you to everyone involved, for every item gifted and all the thought and care.



SIXTH FORM TASTER SESSIONS

Our sixth form taster sessions gave Year 11 students a chance to experience 5 different subjects from our post-16 curriculum. As well as learning about the subjects, students were able to find out about the assessment structures, core topic areas, and in the case of T levels, what is involved in the employer set project and work placement.

We had a live presentation from University College Birmingham, which explained some of the pros and cons of higher education, and gave useful information on the cost-benefit of a degree versus alternative pathways.

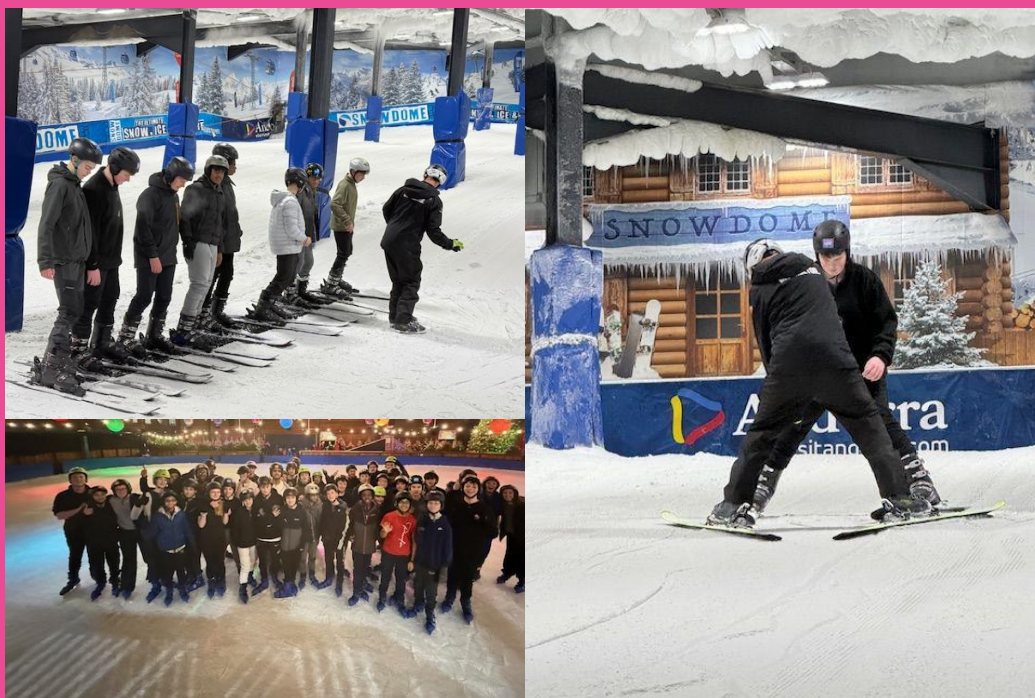
Around 25 students ventured a little further afield to Rugby college, where they explored the further education options available in our local area, before returning to the Academy to complete online applications.

We are looking forward to welcoming many of our young engineers back to our sixth form however, we believe it is important that our students are well-informed and prepared to make the right choices as they move into the final stages of compulsory education.

SIXTH FORM

SNOWDOME TRIP

The KS4 trip to the Snowdome was a memorable experience for all pupils, who had the opportunity to enjoy two different winter activities: ice skating and skiing. The pupils were divided into groups according to their skill level and preferences, and each group received a brief introduction to the basics of ice skating and skiing. Then, they were ready to hit the ice or the slopes, under the supervision of the instructors and the academy staff. The pupils had a lot of fun trying out the new activities, learning new skills, and challenging themselves. Some of them showed great talent and confidence, while others needed more practice and encouragement. The staff also joined in the fun, cheering on the pupils and taking pictures of their achievements. The trip was a great success, as it not only provided an opportunity for physical exercise and recreation, but also for social interaction and personal growth.



BULLRING

A delightful KS4 trip to the Bullring Birmingham for some Christmas shopping truly brought the festive spirit alive! Here's a recap of the fun-filled day:

Pupils had the chance to stroll through the streets decked with twinkling lights, wreaths, and the cheerful hum of holiday tunes. From charming local boutiques to bustling holiday markets, it was a treasure trove of unique gifts! There were heartfelt trinkets, luxurious scarves, and even some quirky finds that made us laugh out loud. Every shop seemed to have a little magic in the air. As the day came to an end, the town started to light up in a dazzling display of Christmas lights, creating the perfect backdrop for a few last-minute purchases (and some fun selfies).

It was a day filled with joy, connection, and that unmistakable holiday cheer. If you haven't yet, make sure to carve out some time to enjoy the season in all its splendour.

Wishing you a season filled with love, laughter, and perfect little moments like these!



WMG ACADEMY TRUST AWARDS 2024

On Thursday 12th December, the WMG Academy Trust held its annual Awards Evening and celebrated the success of students in both the Solihull and Coventry academies. The event took place at the University of Warwick and was hosted in the impressive Oculus building.

As well as proud parents supporting the prize winners, guests presenting awards were Lady Bhattacharyya, Alison Hodge, Samantha Frampton (Head of Solihull Chamber of Commerce), Christine Ennew (Chair of the WMG Trust), and Santina Ajdari-Bunting 'Apprentice of the Year' currently working at Arup. WMG Alumni who returned to address Award Winners included Jordan Albutt (Rolls Royce) and Katherine Fenton (JLR) who both shared their inspiring journeys, showcasing the enduring impact of a WMG Academy education.

This year's event was particularly special as it commemorated the WMG Academy Trust's 10-year anniversary, reflecting on a decade since the opening of the first WMG Academy in Coventry in 2014. The ceremony featured the presentation of numerous awards recognizing exceptional accomplishments across Key Stages 4 and 5. These included honours for academic excellence in subjects like Engineering, Maths and the Arts, as well as special accolades; the Best Role Model and Resilience Awards. Holly Hampton and Safiyah Jahic from WMG Solihull Academy and Dawid Grigorian and Demi Wood from WMG Coventry Academy were awarded Lord Bhattacharyya Student of the Year award, highlighting their outstanding contributions and dedication.

Staff dedication was also celebrated, with ten-year service awards presented to honour individuals who have contributed significantly to the Trust's mission since its inception.

The WMG Academy Trust extends thanks to everyone who made the evening a success; parents and carers for their unwavering support, students for their hard work and determination, teachers and staff for their commitment to excellence, and distinguished guests for sharing their journey.

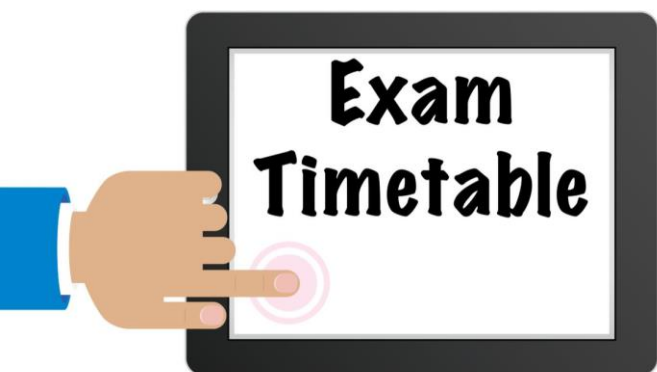


CHILDREN IN NEED

The recent Children in Need non-uniform day at WMG Coventry was a resounding success, bringing together students and staff to support a great cause. Participants donated £1 each for the privilege of dressing in casual or themed attire. The event raised an impressive total of £273 surpassing expectations.

The funds collected were donated to Children in Need supporting their mission to ensure every child should have the chance to thrive and be the best they can be. Students and staff expressed enthusiasm for the initiative, with many showcasing creative outfits that added a lively and festive atmosphere. The event not only contributed to a worthy cause but also fostered a sense of community and camaraderie among participants.

Thanks to the collective effort and generosity of all involved, this non-uniform day demonstrated the power of small contributions to make a big impact.



YEAR 11, 12 AND 13 MOCK TIMETABLE

To view your year group's timetables, click below.

[Year 11](#)

[Year 12](#)

[Year 13](#)

LOOKING AFTER YOUR MENTAL HEALTH AT CHRISTMAS

Among all the fun and festivities, Christmas can be an overwhelming time. See attached for tips wellbeing over Christmas. <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/blog/looking-after-your-mental-health-at-christmas/>



HAF - CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

Our Winter Fun programme, which will run from Saturday 21st December 2024 to Sunday 5th January 2025, includes free sessions to The Wave, Planet Ice, and day trips to pantomimes, farms, and trampolining! We've also got clubs for multi-sports, coding, cooking, skateboarding, performing arts, photography, and so much more.

We always aim to improve HAF, so following feedback, we are using a new and improved booking system called Eequ. Booking is simple, and we have included a guide with this letter to help you with this. This system does not need HAF codes. Follow the QR code on the right to watch a short video on how to make a booking. (You may need to zoom in for the code to work)

What do I do next?

SHARE – The HAF Eequ Brochure [attached here](#) with your receptionists, pastoral team and class teachers so they can support any parents to book HAF sessions.

WEBINAR – If you have any questions around the Winter HAF Programme, please join the MS Teams link; on Thursday 7th November at 12pm - Meeting ID: 399 977 557 919 Passcode: U534UZ

DATA LOCKER – You will receive the data locker information for those children who are eligible on 12th November.

GO LIVE – From Monday 18th November at 6pm parents will be able to book onto HAF sessions.

HAF Eligibility Criteria

[View our eligibility criteria here.](#)

HAF Referrals

If you feel a child could benefit from HAF but does not meet the eligibility criteria above, please complete our referral form [here](#). We will assess and respond to each referral.

What if parents do not have access to the internet or need help with their booking?

If families require any support with setting up their Eequ account, please direct them towards their local library or family hub and someone will be able to assist them. Our Customer Contact team can also support with HAF bookings and can be contacted on 08085 834 333.

For more information around the opening times and locations of family hubs and libraries, please call 0800 887 0545 or visit www.coventry.gov.uk/familyhubs or www.coventry.gov.uk/libraries





SAFEGUARDING AND MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS OVER THE CHRISTMAS BREAK

NEW MENTAL HEALTH EMAIL ADDRESS FOR PARENTS/CARERS TO REPORT CONCERNS WITH MENTAL HEALTH. MENTALHEALTH.COV@WMGACADEMY.ORG.UK MANAGED BY STACIE JENNINGS AND DEBBIE BROWN (MENTAL HEALTH TEAM) TO GIVE THE BEST SUPPORT TO STUDENTS.

SAFEGUARDING WILL CONTINUE TO BE MONITORED OVER THE HALF TERM BREAK. ANY SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO INFO@WMGACADEMY.ORG.UK AND MARKED '[CONFIDENTIAL-FAO SAFEGUARDING LEAD](#)'. ADDITIONAL CONTACTS ARE ALSO LISTED ON THE ACADEMY WEBSITE; [HTTPS://COVENTRY.WMGACADEMY.ORG.UK/SAFEGUARDING/OUT-OF-HOURS-CONTACTS/](https://coventry.wmgacademy.org.uk/safeguarding/out-of-hours-contacts/)

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FRIDAY 20 TH DECEMBER 2024	ACADEMY CLOSES FOR AUTUMN TERM
MONDAY 6 TH JANUARY 2025	INSET DAY
THURSDAY 16 TH JANUARY 2025	YEAR 10 SPECIFIC WELCOME AND DISCOVER
MONDAY 20 TH JANUARY 2025	YEAR 11 AND YEAR 13 MOCK EXAMS BEGIN
WEDNESDAY 22 ND JANUARY 2025	YEAR 10 PARENTS EVENING
TUESDAY 28 TH JANUARY 2025	YEAR 12 PARENTS EVENING
FRIDAY 31 ST JANUARY 2025	YEAR 11 AND YEAR 13 MOCK EXAMS END
FRIDAY 31 ST JANUARY 2025	CLOSING DATE FOR 6th FORM APPLICATIONS
MONDAY 10 TH - 14 TH FEBRUARY 2025	NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK (NAW)
FRIDAY 14 TH FEBRUARY 2025	ACADEMY CLOSES FOR HALF TERM
MONDAY 24 TH FEBRUARY 2025	ACADEMY OPENS FOR AFTER HALF TERM



we wish you a
Merry Christmas
and a happy new year

