



University
Academy
Keighley

Name _____

October 2018

An Update from the Principal



Continued Exam Success

The young people of UAK had much to celebrate in this years' exam results, they have secured some of the academy's best results with a number of subject areas improving yet again.

A number of students achieved superb individual results too.

Nishat Feardusy received 9 GCSEs at grade 8+, with grade 9 in English Language, English Literature, Double Award Science, Citizenship and RE.

Esha Ruksha also received grade 9 in Science and RE, and grade 8 in History and Maths.

Zoya Ayman gained 8 grades at 7+, including a grade 9 in English and Ayesha Begum received 7 grades at 7+, including grade 8 in English Literature and Citizenship.

This year the majority of subjects have been graded using a new system, with a scale from 9 to 1, with 9 being the highest, only a few subjects retaining the old A* to G scale. Broadly the same proportion of students will get a grade 4 or above as would have got a grade C or above in the previous system.



Under this new system, 42.1% of students at the academy achieved a 4 or above in English and maths and more than a quarter, 25.4%, achieved a 5 or above. In Citizenship, 86% achieved a grade 4 or above, while 6% secured the top grade 9. Attainment was also good in Business Studies (89%), RE (76%), IT (91%), Child Development (73%) and History (67%), where good numbers of students achieved grade 4 or above.

Chair of governors, Joanne Marshall said: *"The school was thrilled for its young people who had worked so hard for these results.*

We are passionate about giving our students the opportunities that they need to flourish and move forward in the next steps towards a fulfilling career. 42% of our students have a grade 4 or above in both English and maths meaning that they can now go on to sixth form college or training with confidence in their abilities."



Green Head Road, Utley, Keighley
BD20 6EB

Tel: 01535 210333

Web: www.uak.org.uk

Contact us: office@uak.org.uk

Queens' College Experience

Students from Year 11 who have been part of a two-year Outreach Programme with Queens' College, Cambridge, were invited to see the University for themselves earlier this month.

The students have been regularly attending sessions held by Queens' College at the Science and Media Museum in Bradford through the University's Area Links Scheme. There have included lectures by visiting Cambridge Academic Staff, video-link tutorials and Q&A sessions with current students.

On 9th October, they made the journey to Cambridge to learn more about what the University is like and to see first-hand the College building and its facilities. Students took part in the tour of the College, job spotter activities and were presented with certificates following completion of their Summer Research Projects.



Queens' College are aware that many students are hesitant to apply for Cambridge University due to stereotypes about its culture and perceived barriers to entry. However, they acknowledge factors such as socio-economic background, school ranking and financial pressures should never prevent a student from realising their potential at any higher education institution. Schools Liaison Officer, Maria McElroy, said: *"We encourage applications from students whose schools have less experience of sending students to Cambridge, or students who may be the first in their family to progress to higher education"*.

The Academy will continue to work with Queens' College to provide guidance and advice for prospective applicants as well as working to remove misconceptions.

An Experience to Inspire Stories

A group of students in Year 7 attended the Children's Literature Festival at Broughton Hall, Skipton, in September.

The students were taken to the event, which took place on Sunday 30th September, by Staff Governor, Aziz Rafiq and Pastoral Team member Nadia Majid. Aziz said: *"We wanted to give the children the opportunity of a lifetime to meet some of their favourite authors. With the aim of inspiring them to read more and maybe write their own stories."* She added: *"The event was very well organised, fun and informative."*



Students were involved in workshops with Chris Bradford- author of the 'Young Samurai' series and Maz Evans author of the 'Who let the Gods out' series. The students also met Marcus Alexander author of the fantasy series 'Keeper of the Realms' and award winning author and public speaker Kathryn Evans.

Students had lots of fun during the workshop with author Maz Evans when Aziz was challenged to the 'Who let the Gods' out quiz – following which Aziz was given the title of 'Goddess of Wisdom' for the day!

The festival left the students inspired and proud to be representing the academy, a parent later thanked the academy for the opportunity and said that the event was so inspiring her child had already started to write his own story!

Coming Up

UAK is closed from 2.55pm on Friday, 19th October and will re-open on Monday, 29th October 2018.

Parents' Evening for Year 8: Wednesday 5th December 2018, 4.00pm-7.00pm.

We have lots of news and stories to share with you and to find out more you can visit our website www.uak.org.uk

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