

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This half-term really has flown by, how are we half way through the academic year already?!

The Celebration Assemblies, for the first time ever opened up to parents to attend, were a lovely way to start this half term – thank you so much to parents that came along and supported us in celebrating our students' achievements. We'll start next half term with more celebrations and certificates, and the next opportunity for parents to join us will be after Easter – do come along if you can (we'll circulate details towards the end of the next half term).

Lots of highlights this half term including: sporting victories; musical and drama performances; well attended Parents Evenings; numerous visits from local primary school pupils; workshops, trips and special assemblies. The favourite event for many students was our Careers Fair at the very end of January. All students had the opportunity to speak to people from a wide variety of employment areas, and also interact with various further and higher education providers. More on that event, and many others, in this Newsletter.

Thanks as always for your support – enjoy this edition of our Newsletter, and have a wonderful half-term break.



GENERAL SCHOOL NEWS

Jack Petchey Winners

Congratulations to our Jack Petchey winners, Karen (year 7), Maliq (year 9) and Aslam (year 11).

Shakespeare Workshop

Jessica Aquilina (actress who played Fergie on the Netflix series The Crown) came in and hosted a Shakespeare workshop with our students.

Reading Buddies

We welcomed a local primary school to our Library this term to work with our reading buddies, it was a worthwhile experience for all.

Drama Trip

Year 8, 9 and 10 attended the Unicorn Theatre to see Pig Heart Boy; they had a fantastic day and taught them valuable acting skills.

Brilliant Club Graduates

Congratulations to our students who graduated from the Brilliant club programme, focusing on cryptic biodiversity and climate change.

KEY REMINDERS/DATES

Reminders:

Being prepared is vital to succeed at school, please ensure your child has the correct equipment. The equipment list can be found in the planner on page 22. A pack containing all required items can be purchased on ParentPay for £1.50.

Key Dates:

Thurs 27th Feb- Year 8 Parents' Evening
Fri 28th Feb- 'Macbeth' performance at Unicorn Theatre, London
Thurs 6th March- Year 9 Parents' Evening
Weds 12th March- Science Fair
Thurs 13th March- Year 9 Options Evening
Thurs 20th March – Year 11 Parents' Evening
Tues 1st April and Thurs 3rd April- Academy Days



HIGHLIGHT OF THE TERM

TALA Careers Fair!!!!



MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

Children's Mental Health Week is an annual initiative that raises awareness about the importance of mental well-being in young people. This year's theme, "**Know Yourself, Grow Yourself**," encouraged students to develop **self-awareness** and **understand their emotions**. As a school, we marked the week by hosting assemblies focused on mental health and dedicating our PSHE lessons to exploring self-awareness. Through discussions and activities, students reflected on their emotions, strengths, and personal growth, reinforcing the importance of looking after their mental well-being.

Here are some ways you can support their development:

Encourage Reflection – Encourage your child to identify strengths.

Praise Effort, Not just Results – Reinforce the idea that mistakes are learning opportunities.

Teach Emotional Regulation – Help your child recognise their emotions and encourage them to talk about how they are feeling.

Model a Growth Mindset – Use positive and encouraging language.

Set Small, Achievable Goals – Set personal goals with your child and praise them when achieved.

TEACHING & LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

Teachers in all subjects have continued to focus on adapting tasks within lessons so that all pupils can achieve the challenging learning goals.

Teachers use strategies to engage all pupils in the learning dialogue, and use good model answers and supportive scaffolding of tasks to allow all to reach their potential.

“ The best way to make dreams come true is to wake up. ”



EXTRA CURRICULAR

Football News

Year 7 have played 2 fixtures this term, beating Meridian 8-2 and losing to Riddlesdown 7-0. **Year 10** lost to Harris Crystal Palace 3-2 and drew with Thomas More 3-3.

Well done to both teams!

Music News

Our Brass band and Harp ensemble continue to make great progress, during their group sessions, we can't wait to hear them perform at our next school event.

Check out our extra-curricular clubs on page 6 of our newsletter!

HOUSES

🏆 House Competition Update! 🏆

The House competition is heating up! **Malala** continues to lead with the most **achievement** points, but **Attenborough** and **Jemison** are not far behind—every point counts!

In attendance, **Malala** is also on top with 94.17%, followed closely by **Attenborough** and **Jemison**.

Well done to all Houses for their improvements! Keep earning points, attending every day, and representing your House with pride. Who will win next half term? Stay tuned.

#TeamTALA 🙌



TALA Values Award

Learn numbers, colours and types of food in a different language.



CAREERS

We've had an exciting term filled with career-focused activities and opportunities for our students. We recently hosted a Careers Fair for all year groups, allowing students to explore various career pathways and engage with professionals from different industries. Year 10 students attended an Apprenticeship Roadshow, gaining valuable insights into apprenticeship opportunities, while Year 9 students participated in an informative webinar about apprenticeships and T-levels to help them make informed decisions about their future. Our weekly Career Spotlight in TALA News continues to inspire students by showcasing diverse professions and pathways. Additionally, students have been meeting regularly with our dedicated Careers Advisor for personalised guidance, ensuring they feel supported as they navigate their career journeys.

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHT

Team Maths

This term has been an exciting one in the Maths Department, with students across all year groups engaging in inspiring units of work that build confidence, teamwork, and real-world problem-solving skills.

Key Stage 3 students have been exploring sequences and graphs, helping them see the connections between maths and everyday situations—from tracking trends to planning journeys. Meanwhile, **Key Stage 4** has been mastering fractions, ratio, and percentages, essential skills for financial literacy and practical decision-making. Our Year 11 students have been working hard preparing for their final mock GCSE exams, refining their mathematical thinking and exam techniques.

Year 7 have particularly enjoyed using **Mangahigh**, an interactive game platform that makes learning maths fun and engaging. Many students have also celebrated success by securing spots on the **SPARX homework completion and XP leader boards**, showcasing their dedication and

Well done to all!

“Reading at TALA”



Upcoming Events

LGBTQ+ History Month - February

Pancake Day - March 4th

World Book Day - March 7th

International Women's Day -

March 8th

International Day of Achievers -

March 24th

Pop by the library to see what exciting things we have in store!

Loan Data

Look how many book loans have been made since September!

Year 7 – 247

Year 8 – 87

Year 9 – 119

Year 10 – 29

Year 11 - 4



Book Suggestion *A Series of Unfortunate Events*

Lemony Snicket

“Never trust anyone who has not brought a book with them.”



Library monitor comment

"I've really enjoyed using the library this half term! I didn't realise how many different types of books there were until I started coming. I've discovered that I really like comedies and historical fiction – they're both so fun and interesting. I've also been using the library as a quiet place to do my homework, and it's been helpful because there are computers and revision guides to help me out. It's a great space to focus, and I look forward to spending more time there!"

(Imran, y7)

Reading Strategy

Can you work out the anagram?

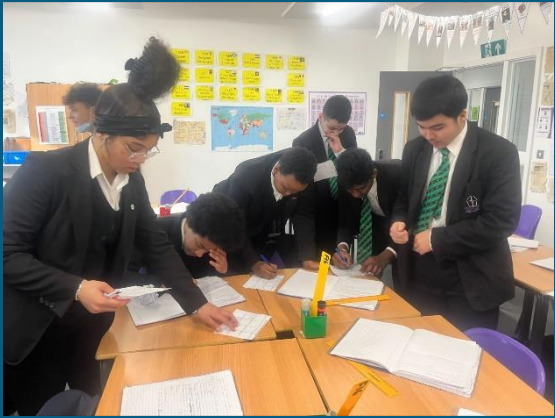
Astronomer

Word games are a brilliant way to help build vocabulary and conversations. With some children experiencing a 30 million word gap by the age of 5, it is essential we find ways to improve our vocabulary. So dust down the Scrabble set and download Wordle!

News in Picture



It's wonderful seeing our students working hard in their lessons and engaging with their learning.



Year 8,9 & 10 went to see Pig Heart Boy at the Unicorn Theatre.

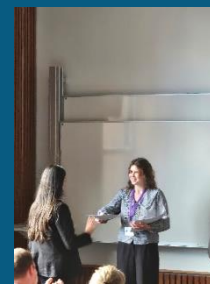


Our TALA wellbeing garden continues to grow and support students with their mental health.

Year 7 enjoyed their Jack Petchey trip to Oxygen trampoline Park. WELL DONE to Karen for winning the award!



Congratulations to our students who graduated from the Brilliant Club at Reading University!



Our reading buddies welcomed Gonville primary school into our TALA library.



Year 10s visited the National Portrait Gallery



TALA Careers Fair!

TALA
Termly Scoop



Learning Changes Lives!

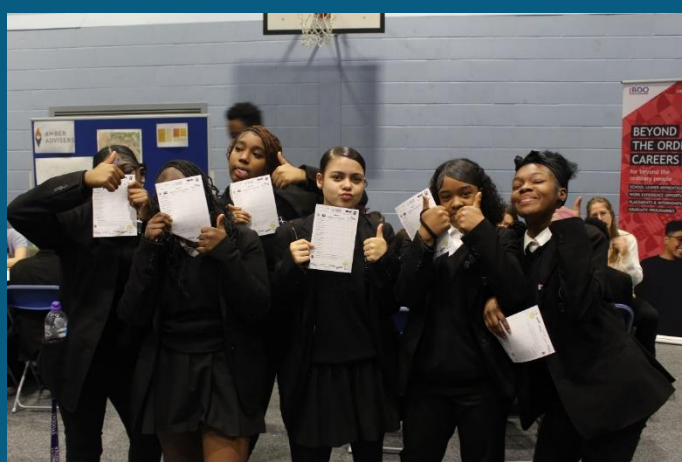
Careers fair was in full swing, giving students the opportunity to think about their futures.



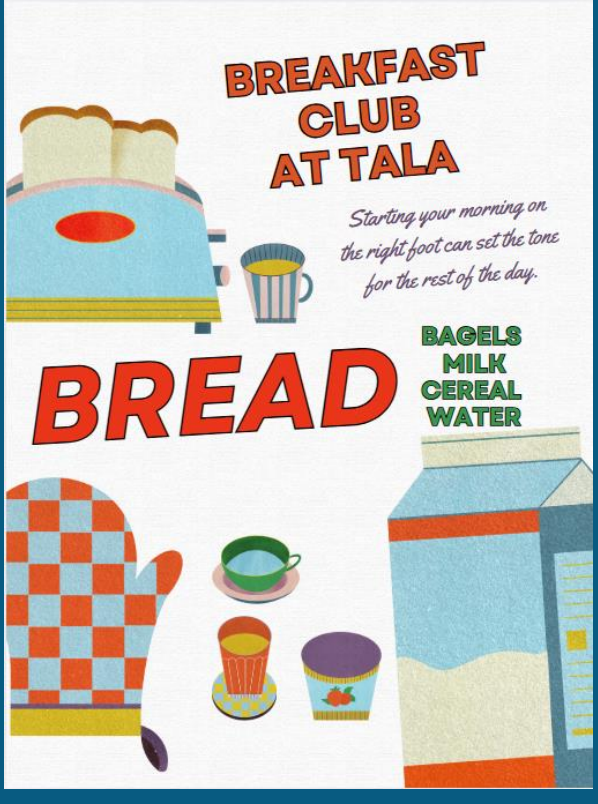
AMBER ADVISERS

TALA CAREERS FAIR Friday 31st January

ARMY
BE THE BEST



Extra-curricular clubs at TALA



ARCHBISHOP LANFRANC

WANT TO LEARN ABOUT DIFFERENT IDENTITIES?
WANT TO SUPPORT YOUR LGBTQ+ FRIENDS?
WANT A SAFE SPACE WHERE YOU CAN BE YOURSELF?
QUESTIONING YOUR SEXUALITY OR GENDER?

LGBTQ+ CLUB!

- YOUR VOICE MATTERS -

JOIN MR MANOHARAN, MISS ADESIDA, MISS O'MALLEY & MISS KOLADE IN S24
EVERY MONDAY @ 2:40-3:30

FOOTBALL CLUB

COME AND JOIN US
FRIDAY 2:45-3:45
YEAR 7,8,9 & 10

MORE INFO:
SPEAK TO THE PE DEPARTMENT

THURSDAYS - S24

YOUNG SCIENTISTS CLUB

MISS ADESIDA
MS ALLEN

CHESS CLUB

MONDAY 2:45-3:45
ALL YEAR GROUPS

IN THE LIBRARY

IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW GOOD YOU ARE (OR IF YOU HAVE NEVER PLAYED BEFORE) COME ALONG AND PLAY!

BADMINTON CLUB

WEDNESDAY 2:45-3:45PM
YEAR 7, 8 & 9
MEET IN THE SPORTS HALL
MORE INFORMATION SPEAK TO TEAM PE!

ART Club

Every Thursday after school in T07 (ART ROOM) 2.40-4.00pm
KS3 and KS4 students
All welcome!
Come and complete work, do your homework, or try something new.

BASKETBALL CLUB

COME AND JOIN US
MONDAY 2:45-3:45 SPORTS HALL YEAR 7, 8 & 9
FRIDAY 2:45-3:45 SPORTS HALL YEAR 9, 10 & 11

MORE INFO:
SPEAK TO THE PE DEPARTMENT

Come join us!
Every Friday, Starting 22nd November 2024.
Lunch 1 (12.25 - 13.00) & Lunch 2 (13.15 - 13.50)
School Library

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD

Humanities Film Club

We'll be watching titles by lots of independent screenwriters, and discussing some of the most pressing issues facing our modern world.

NETBALL CLUB

COME AND JOIN US
TUESDAY 2:45-3:45
SPORTS HALL
YEAR 7, 8, 9 & 10

MORE INFO:
SPEAK TO THE PE DEPARTMENT

START TRAINING TODAY

- GYM
- CARDIO
- TRAINING

Come along to Gym club:
Thursday 2:45-3:45pm
Year 9 & 10

TEAM TALA

TALA TABLE TENNIS CLUB

BRING A FRIEND

JOIN NOW

TABLE TENNIS

MONDAY 2:45PM-3:45PM DANCE STUDIO

IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW GOOD YOU ARE (OR IF YOU HAVE NEVER PLAYED BEFORE) COME ALONG AND PLAY!

DANCE CLUB

Come join, and be a part of the dance club

ALL YEARS
THURSDAY 2:45-3:45

MESSAGE FROM THE ACO

Well done to the year 7 cohort for making an excellent start at TALA. Students have been making excellent progress, building positive relationships and starting to develop their holistic skills.



ATTENDANCE SHOUTOUT

100% and 0 lates

Name	Reg	% Present	Late
Alpha A	7EOM	100.00	0
Aariya A	7MKO	100.00	0
Josephine A	7FDE	100.00	0
Sohaib A	7RSO	100.00	0
Karen B	7FDE	100.00	0
Kimberley A	7MKO	100.00	0
Ramatoulaye D	7RSO	100.00	0
Valerie E	7HAD	100.00	0
Ilias G	7FDE	100.00	0
Aaron J	7HAD	100.00	0
Sera J	7MKO	100.00	0
Aron J	7FDE	100.00	0
Rayheem M	7VOG	100.00	0
Kayden M	7RSO	100.00	0
Tre N	7RSO	100.00	0
Rohit N	7FDE	100.00	0
Emmanuel O	7FDE	100.00	0
Michael K	7VOG	100.00	0
Jal P	7MKO	100.00	0
Georgia P	7RSO	100.00	0
Ashish P	7MKO	100.00	0
Montana R	7FDE	100.00	0
Mason S	7EOM	100.00	0
Mariya T	7EOM	100.00	0

TUTOR GROUP OF THE TERM

Well done **7FDE** for achieving the highest attendance and the most conduct points!



CONDUCT SHOUTOUT

The students below have obtained the highest conduct points (Achievement Points - Behaviour Points) across the whole year group so far.

Name	Reg	Conduct Points
Montana R	7FDE	320
Frankie D	7FDE	284
Beloved A	7MKO	268
Josephine A	7FDE	262
Imran S	7FDE	262
Karen B	7FDE	250
Kimberley D	7MKO	240
Diem My P	7FDE	239
Malleson F	7FDE	236
Valerie E	7HAD	234
Aron L	7FDE	234
Heet S	7FDE	227
Seriyah F	7FDE	226
Carole-Ann F	7FDE	225
Mario G	7EOM	223
Lucas V	7MKO	222
Alpha A	7EOM	219
Lilly Ann M	7VOG	212
Andreea P	7MKO	208
Laura Z	7RSO	205

YEAR GROUP KEY REMINDERS/DATES

4th March: Residential assembly (for parents and careers of students that are attending the trip)

31st March - 2nd April: Residential trip

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MESSAGE FROM THE ACO

Well done for the continued improvement in attendance and conduct, as well as with HW. HW detentions have decreased and HW club attendance has increased.



ATTENDANCE SHOUTOUT

The students below have obtained the highest attendance

Student	Tutor group	% Present	% Late (both)
Aryan N	8LCO	99.44	0
Joshua Z	8LCO	99.44	0
Mithuna S	8GDE	99.44	0
Josh J	8GDE	99.44	1.11
Wania K	8GDE	99.44	0
Sanjivan S	8LCO	99.44	0
Joseph T	8LPA	99.44	0.56
Pratheep P	8JCR	99.44	0
Mohammed R	8LPA	99.44	0
Lorenzo D	8JED	99.44	0.56
Olamide S	8JCR	99.44	0.56
Habiiba N	8JED	99.44	0.56
Tikah N	8JCR	99.44	0
Aryan S	8LPA	99.44	0
Stone-Harley B	8LCO	99.44	0
Manav P	8MWO	99.44	0
Scarlett DH	8GDE	99.44	0
Syed Muhammad Arham W	8MWO	99.44	0
Wendel G	8MWO	99.44	0
Abel A	8LCO	99.44	0
Raaviben S	8LCO	99.44	0
Mariela FJ	8MWO	99.44	0.56
Mariana OG	8LCO	99.44	0
Shahmeer Z	8MWO	99.44	0

TUTOR GROUP OF THE TERM

Well done 8LCO for regularly winning tutor group of the week with the highest combined attendance and conduct scores. Undefeated this half term!!



CONDUCT SHOUTOUT

The students below have obtained the highest conduct points (Achievement Points - Behaviour Points) across the whole year group so far.

Student	Tutor group	% Present	% Late (both)	Total Conduct Points
Aryan N	8LCO	99.44	0	273
Joshua Z	8LCO	99.44	0	261
Mithuna SS	8GDE	99.44	0	251
Josh J	8GDE	99.44	1.11	247
Sahla N	8LPA	94.44	0	238
Nadine K	8GDE	98.33	1.67	235
Wania K	8GDE	99.44	0	234
Sanjivan S	8LCO	99.44	0	229
Mia J	8JED	96.11	0	227
Joseph TL	8LPA	99.44	0.56	223
Afrin MA	8JED	98.33	0	215
Pratheep P	8JCR	99.44	0	207
Leila B	8LCO	97.78	0	207
Jakub C	8LCO	96.11	0	207
Samira L	8LPA	99.38	2.47	206
Layla G	8GDE	96.67	0.56	203
Amin B	8LCO	94.44	0.56	203
Maanuja U	8MWO	98.89	0	202
Mohammed R	8LPA	99.44	0	196
Amira G	8LPA	95	0	195
Kaue Iker C	8GDE	97.78	0	192
Aum P	8JED	98.16	0.61	191

YEAR GROUP KEY REMINDERS/DATES

27th February: Parents' Evening
4th March: Residential assembly
31st March - 2nd April: Residential trip
3rd April: Academy Day

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MESSAGE FROM THE ACO

A big well done to Year 9 for a strong start to 2025! We started the year with the Year 9 Achievement Assembly, which was well attended by students and parents. It was a joyful occasion and a wonderful opportunity to celebrate all that Year 9 are doing well. Year 9 continue to work on improving their attendance.



ATTENDANCE SHOUTOUT

The students below have obtained the highest attendance across the whole year group so far (still at 100%!)

Abdul	Rayon
Prince	Masood
Qaweem	Rahman
Adnan	Manuel
Yusra	Ayushkumar
Abdullah	Davian
Andrew	Laura
Michael	Ocean
Maryam	Allananzar
Deborah	Kwame
Abin	Rachel Ester
Angelo	Chanel
Vadden	Chloe
Sharvesh	Husna
Isaiah	Kia
Drew	Jack
Nikodem	
Samiah	
Bellina	

TUTOR GROUP OF THE TERM

Attendance:
9AKO!
94.51%

Achievement:
9AKO
3149 Achievement Points!



CONDUCT SHOUTOUT

The students below have obtained the highest conduct points (Achievement Points - Behaviour Points) across the whole year group so far.

Haris	304
Serghei	238
Erika	207
Samiah	181
Fern	180
Manuel	175
Aaron	174
Chanel	172
Olivia	171
Sharvesh	163

YEAR GROUP KEY REMINDERS/DATES

26 February – Achievement Assembly

6 March – Parents' Evening

13 March – Options Evening

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MESSAGE FROM THE ACO

Well done Y10 for another positive term of hard work and excellent leadership shown by our prefects and sports leaders.

Please ensure you take on all the feedback given to you at Parents Evening, putting into action your teachers' advice about how to improve your grades.



ATTENDANCE SHOUTOUT

The students below have obtained the highest attendance across the whole year group so far (still at 100%!)

Enoch A	10FOS	Fareed O	10JDE
Hanan A	10JDE	Richard Kofi O	10DHU
Amraaz A	10AGR	Darsh P	10DHU
Fawad A	10JDE	Payal P	10HBU
Sofia B	10HBU	Rushi P	10HBU
Kimario B	10AGR	Edsila P	10AGR
Gabriel D	10FOS	Keona R	10LAL
Jai D	10FOS	Ritika S	10LAL
Aminah F	10LAL	Gbemisola S	10LAL
Zohrah F	10LAL	Tomiwa S	10DHU
Abira S	10FOS	Julia S	10LAL
Michelle J	10LAL	Hayley S	10FOS
Argjend M	10HBU	Kenoli Lineeza A	10HBU
Michaela O	10LAL	Ashane W	10HBU
Richard O	10HBU	Kacey W	10HBU

TUTOR GROUP OF THE TERM 10LAL

Well done 10LAL for making a great impression on your new tutor Ms Allen and dealing well with the transition.



CONDUCT SHOUTOUT

The students below have obtained the highest conduct points (Achievement Points - Behaviour Points) across the whole year group so far.

Zoya A	10JDE	173
Kumara S	10DHU	169
Daniel P	10JDE	164
Rushi P	10HBU	157
Payal P	10HBU	154
Kimario B	10AGR	149
Thadshajini A	10AGR	146
Ileana L	10FOS	145
Mihail L	10LAL	137
Hayley S	10FOS	130
Darsh P	10DHU	127
Beatrice V	10FOS	126
Maheshan P	10AGR	125
Abira S	10FOS	124
Fawad A	10JDE	122
Ashane W	10HBU	121
Taliyah B	10JDE	117

YEAR GROUP KEY REMINDERS/DATES

30th June – Y10 Work Experience week

All Year 10s need to make sure they have a filled pencil case with them every day!

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MESSAGE FROM THE ACO

Congratulations on completing your last set of mock exams!

Remember, these mock exams are not just assessments but valuable learning experiences that will help you prepare for your GCSE exams. Let's keep the hard work and momentum up.



ATTENDANCE SHOUTOUT

The students below have obtained the highest attendance across the whole year group so far. 100% attendance with 0 lates

Rudra	11KAS
Kadyi	11CCA
Shujah	11RFO
Zaviyar	11KAS
Lindsey	11PAM
Jasmera	11DMA
Ishika	11RFO
Chenaye	11SAL
Jemimah	11RFO
Haseeb	11KAS
Angel	11PAM
Kelly	11SAL
Kanyese	11SAL
Tia	11CCA
Sana	11PAM
Manal	11PAM
Kiara	11RFO
Mojirade	11DMA
Paavala	11CCA

Best tutor group!

11CCA

Well done 11CCA for making a huge effort to be at line up time in the morning. Keep it up!



CONDUCT SHOUTOUT

The students below have obtained the highest conduct points (Achievement Points - Behaviour Points) across the whole year group so far.

Name	Reg	Conduct Points
Kelly	11SAL	315
Aslam	11SAL	211
Chenaye	11SAL	204
Kanyese	11SAL	192
Denis	11SAL	191
Theo	11SAL	166
Kadyi	11CCA	159
Lindsey	11PAM	140
Denique	11SAL	136
Alfie	11SAL	122

YEAR GROUP KEY REMINDERS/DATES

Monday 10th March – Celebration Assembly

Thursday 20th March – Parents' Evening

Tuesday 6th May – GCSE Exams begin

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