

9 February 2024



**Smestow Academy**  
www.smestowacademy.co.uk

Dear Parent / Carer

### **ClassCharts Launch and Updates**

Since September we have been using a new data system called ClassCharts as a way to monitor and manage behaviour and attendance at Smestow Academy. This has allowed the school to monitor the number of behaviour points each pupil has received. I'm pleased to say that the vast majority of these points have been for positive reasons. Since September staff have recognised and rewarded over 34,500 positive behaviour points!

We are now going live to parents with this system to use it as a tool to communicate the positive events in school and negative events such as detentions and poor punctuality.

You will soon be receiving an email (to the email account you have provided school) before Friday 16 February inviting you to download the ClassCharts Parent app. The email will also provide you with your unique code and instructions of how to log into your parental account so that you can monitor how we are recording the behaviour and attendance of your child or children during each school day. Please check your junk email box for this also. If you do not receive this code, please contact your child's House Office.

We have found ClassCharts to be an excellent way of identifying those pupils who really are putting in the extra effort in their studies. It also supports us to identify those pupils who need to pay more attention to their behaviour and punctuality in school for us to intervene.

You can find more information about ClassCharts by clicking on the following link:  
<https://pages.classcharts.com/why-us/#parents>.

The app will help us work together so we can support the young people we care so much about to maximise their potential and to make the most of their opportunities at Smestow Academy.

### **MMR Vaccination Clinics in Wolverhampton**

*Message from Wolverhampton Local Authority – please do not contact the school regarding this, as it is a message from the Local Authority that we have been asked to share.*

Increase in measles cases across the West Midlands and MMR catch up clinics. In response to the increasing number of measles cases across the Black Country, MMR vaccination clinics are available during half term for school aged children and adults who have missed a dose. The clinics will be staffed by healthcare professionals from the NHS and Vaccination UK who specialise in childhood vaccinations and follow all necessary safety protocols. Children will need to be accompanied by a



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parent or guardian at the clinics. Where possible, please pre-book an appointment slot by calling 01902 200077 but walk-ins will also be accepted. Porcine free vaccinations are available on request (please book ahead).

- Date: Monday 12 February 2024 • Time: 9:00am – 2:30pm • Venue: Bilston Market, Pinfold Street, Bilston, WV14 0DN
- Date: Wednesday 14 February 2024 • Time: 9:00am – 3:00pm • Venue: Low Hill Family Hub, 26-28 Fourth Avenue, Low Hill, Wolverhampton, WV10 9LZ

More details can be found on the Black Country ICB website, including information on other clinics across the Black Country.

### Photography Competition Reminder

As mentioned in previous communications, our chair of trustees Sir Mark Aspinall has been invited to have his photograph taken to be placed in the Victoria Law Courts in Birmingham. Sir Mark has over 20 years' experience in Law across banking, financial, media, NHS, Government and FTSE corporate sector and is currently a Judge and a Governor of a local authority primary school.

We would like to take this opportunity to see our children's very best photography work and give them the opportunity to have their work hung in the law court for years to come. See below details that will be shared with your child to get involved with our Matrix photography competition.

**Submission Criteria:** You can submit up to three portrait style images, each image can be of the same or a different subject. Your images should be saved in jpeg format. Images should not be altered or edited, we want to see your original photograph. Cropping is allowed. Images should be sent with your full name, form group, school name and a short write up to explain your style of image. Submit your images to [photography@matrixacademytrust.co.uk](mailto:photography@matrixacademytrust.co.uk)

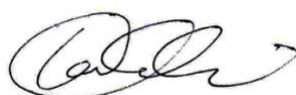
**Submission Deadline:** Sunday 18th February 2024. Speak to your media/creative arts teacher for help and guidance.

**Prize:** The winning submission will be chosen by Sir Mark Aspinall and Mrs Draycott (CEO). The winner will receive £150 and the opportunity to take the commissioned image in Victoria Law Court in Birmingham. The winners photograph of Sir Mark Aspinall will be proudly hung in the court. The oldest image currently hanging in the court currently is over 180 years old. This is a chance to take a photograph that will be seen in the courts for many years to come.

All details can be found on this link - <https://matrixacademytrust.co.uk/photography/> It would be wonderful to have a winning entry from Smestow.

If you have any queries, please contact your child's Head of House or the Sixth Form Office by calling 01902 539500 or email [postbox@smestowacademy.co.uk](mailto:postbox@smestowacademy.co.uk) and include your child's name and form group in the subject.

Yours faithfully



**Mr I Chamberlain**  
Headteacher



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