

8<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

GAA prides itself on ensuring students are listened to, and students are fully aware why we appreciate them. This is all part of our long-term vision of recognition, all about the why not just the who. We have made the conscious decision to move away from 'rewards' as a 'thing' and instead trying to promote the recognition of students. This is the motive of why we needed a culture shift; there's a class full of students getting it right without a postcard on their Mum or Dad's fridge.

We wanted to recognise the students who showed GREATness every lesson, and ensure they are told why. We also acknowledge that our students could recite the Great Values, even by day. However, we noticed that our students couldn't give you examples of how they can be genuine or how they can demonstrate they've achieved. We didn't wish to just say 'well done to you'. We set about ways to get students to undertake some training, in understanding applied ways to show our values. We created form time materials; showing students practical methods to demonstrate values.

SAVE THE DATE - NEW POSTCARD WEEK – MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH- FRIDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

- Staff will receive 20 postcards in an envelope
- Form Tutors will deliver a slide about one of our school values in form time – telling students practical ways to demonstrate the value. So hopefully all students are aware of how they could win a postcard and the rationale is fully explained – creating a fairness culture.

Value Day Focus

Monday	Genuine
Tuesday	Respect
Wednesday	Excellence
Thursday	Achieve
Friday	Together

- Teachers will be told they have to pick one star of the lesson based upon the value of the day; example Monday 5 postcards awarded to 5 students for being Genuine.
- Teachers will write the postcards, giving justified reasons for their choice of student, but also will verbally explain at the end of the lesson why they showed genuine attitude, respect etc....
- We previously trialled this 'Postcard Week' in January and it had an incredible impact on the students; we witnessed amazing effort and heartwarming and genuine acts of kindness, self-motivation and motivation. Let's aim for much of the same again.

## GREAT VALUES CHALLENGE REPORT – 18<sup>TH</sup> -28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

To further strengthen our student's understanding of the values we will follow up this strategy the week after in creating a positive fortnightly report challenge – some targeted students will be chosen to receive this report, they will have to collect signatures when

they demonstrated a value. Last time we had positive engagement; and we will make sure that when students are successful positive phone calls home will be made, and postcards handed out.

We look forward to more positive outcomes this time around. If a child receives more than 5 postcards within the week - they will automatically be rewarded with 'Principal's Breakfast' the following Tuesday; where they will be treated to a breakfast during form time with the Principal.

Have a wonderful Easter break.

Kind regards

Anthony Jacques  
Assistant Principal - Behaviour Culture and Engagement  
Great Academy Ashton

Positive Recognition "GREAT" Values Challenge	
	
<b>Name:</b> _____ <b>On Report To:</b> _____ <b>Date:</b> ____/____/2024	
✓ Your daily challenge to get as many staff signatures as you can. Your teacher will sign at the end of the lesson when you have demonstrated a GREAT value. ✓ You will show your report to the person you are on report to; at the end of each day. ✓ You will receive daily recognition – phone calls home, postcards if you are successful.	
Daily Rewards	Praise postcards
Positive phone call home	

Monday	
<b>GENUINE</b>	
I was helpful to staff and other students (opening doors, lending to others, being really honest).	
I helped supporting teachers in the classroom e.g. distributing/collecting materials.	
I made a genuine effort to complete classwork.	
<b>RESPECT</b>	
I used manners - saying please and thank you.	
I showed politeness to staff and students - especially focussed on respect for other children in the class.	
I was polite in discussion-taking it in turns, allow others to speak and not shouting out.	
<b>EXCELLENCE</b>	
I went above and beyond in my work - producing really good work that I was praised for.	
I overcame something I couldn't do - and managed to do this by hard working, determination and resilience.	
I contributed/joined in positively in lesson discussions and offered my opinions when asked to do so.	
<b>ACHIEVE</b>	
I completed all of my tasks in lessons - every single one.	
I aimed high and my teacher praised my written work - achieving something I didn't think I could do.	
I gave 100% effort in the lesson today.	
<b>TOGETHER</b>	
I did some working with others (collaborative working) ie. cooperation, worked well in group/ pair.	
I worked in silence/very quietly at some points (when asked) so that everyone in the class can do their best.	
I listened to other people's opinions respectfully.	

Tuesday	
<b>GENUINE</b>	
I was helpful to staff and other students (opening doors, lending to others, being really honest).	
I helped supporting teachers in the classroom e.g. distributing/collecting materials.	
I made a genuine effort to complete classwork.	
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