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ACADEMY

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you and your families had an enjoyable Christmas break spending quality time together.

High Expectations

We started this week with our on-boarding assemblies to welcome all the students back to the Academy and provide a reminder of our expectations. We were very proud to see how the vast majority of our students have come well-prepared and ready to learn, with the correct equipment and standard of uniform. We would like to thank our Parents/Carers for supporting us with these standards and expectations for uniform and equipment from the very start of this academic term.

With that in mind, may I politely remind you that as per our existing uniform policy, students must not wear any jewellery apart from a pair of small stud earrings in the lower lobe of the ear. Hoop earrings, 'drop' earrings, necklaces and bracelets are **not** permitted for health and safety reasons and therefore will be confiscated.

In addition, where a student has a piercing in the nose that is not in line with this policy, they will be expected to remove it and wear a small plastic retainer. If a student has had their jewellery confiscated this will be put into a labelled envelope and stored in the pastoral safe. Students can collect the items at the end of the day from reception and we would request that any confiscated items are kept at home in future, and not brought back into school.

Enrichment

We are launching a new register system this half term for all enrichment clubs. Parents/Carers have already received communication about how to sign up their children using the new system. Our enrichment programme is designed to enhance students' academic experience and develop life skills such as teamwork, resilience and organisation.

If you would like to enrol your child onto an enrichment club please go to **parent portal My Child at School app**. You can find the enrichment timetable by clicking on the link below:
https://www.newarkacademy.co.uk/data/uploads/web/files/Enrich_Sept23.pdf

Personal Development Programme

This term we have started our new unit, 'Digital Literacy and Media Influence', which is primarily focused on how to stay safe online, understanding sources and their credibility and how to use social media effectively. It is important to remember the age guidance for the different social platforms;

WhatsApp – 16; TikTok – 13; Snapchat – 13 and Instagram – 13

This is mainly because of data protection laws; young people shouldn't give other people access to data about themselves.

Fundraising for school

We are very grateful for all the support from staff and parents in our recent fundraising venture. I am pleased to inform you that we have set a new date of Thursday February 1st 2024 for the Pie and Pea Quiz night to take place and we hope you can join us to ensure this is an enjoyable community event that supports us in raising funds for students at our Academy.

I have attached the poster advertising the event to this letter and the tickets will be available through Squid.

Key Events for Half Term 3 and Half Term 4

- Friday 12th Jan till Friday 26th Jan Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams
- Thursday 25th Jan Year 10 Achievement Evening
- Friday 9th Feb Half Term 3 ends
- Monday 19th Feb Students return to school/ HT4 starts
- Thursday 29th Feb Year 11 Achievement evening
- Thursday 7th March Year 13 Achievement Evening
- Thursday 14th March Spring Recital
- Thursday 21st March Year 9 Options Evening
- Thursday 28th March Half Term 4 ends
- Monday 15th April Summer term starts

I hope your children have enjoyed their first week at school. We look forward to meeting many of you at the Year 10 Achievement Evening on 25th January where we will have an opportunity to discuss the progress of these students, identify what is going well and agree on next steps and actions.

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Inma Peña

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