



23rd February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope my letter finds you and your families well.

It has been lovely to welcome students back refreshed and ready to work hard over the new half term. Last half term was a very successful one with the majority of students focused on their learning and doing their absolute best every single day.

Once again, thank you to the many parents and students who consistently meet our behaviour and uniform expectations. Your support to ensure students adhere to the school rules helps to remove any barriers to learning and enables our staff to focus fully on students' learning and progress.

As we are now more than halfway through the academic year, I felt it would be helpful to share with you the upcoming priorities for each year group:

- ❑ Our Year 13 students now only have nine full school weeks left before their first A- Level exam on 13th May. This half term, many students will also have subject coursework deadlines to meet. The overwhelming majority of our Year 13 students are working hard, both in and out of school, and are committed to putting in their best performances in their final exams.
- ❑ Year 12 students will be introduced to the UCAS application process after Easter and hopefully will attend a UCAS Discovery Exhibition at a University. On w/c 8th July they will also take part in work experience.
- ❑ Our Year 11 students will have an opportunity to discuss their current progress and areas for development next week at our Achievement Evening. They now only have 10 teaching weeks left before the first written GCSE exam on 9th May. Certain subjects also have practical performances/exams scheduled before that date. I am convinced that our Year 11 students will take full advantage of the extras that teachers provide: these include the additional revision sessions that run before and after school
- ❑ Our Year 10 students will spend this half term acting on the feedback they received at their Achievement Evening last half term. In addition, they will be preparing for their work experience week which begins on 18th March. This is a wonderful opportunity for them to explore potential future career opportunities and develop attributes that employers value - maturity, resilience and responsibility, for example.
- ❑ Our Year 9 students will embark on the KS4 options process this half term. We be inviting families to our Options Evening Event which aims to provide you and your child with the information and guidance they need to make positive and informed option choices when opting for the subjects they will then study at KS4.
- ❑ It is also an important and busy time for our younger students. Year 8 and Year 7 students will be building on the knowledge from the previous half term and acting on the feedback they received following their KS3 assessments. This half term, I would also like students in Year 7 and 8 to focus on improving their ATL scores.

Information, guidance and advice regarding the key priorities for each year group will also be posted and shared with you via **Satchel One**. If any parent/carer is still having problems logging on, please contact Ms Rogan as soon as possible. (grogan@newarkacademy.co.uk)

In other news, at the start of the week there was a near miss, involving a car and a child from Newark Academy. Residents and parents have contacted me to share their concerns over children crossing the roads and riding their bikes unsafely. Whilst this behaviour is not happening on school premises or during school hours, the safety and wellbeing of our students, both in and out of school, is our number one priority. **With this in mind**, could you please remind your child/children about the importance of road safety.

Key Events Half Term 4

Staff at Newark Academy are very much looking forward to seeing you at any of the key events below that will take place this half term.

- 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 had a productive and enjoyable first week back at school after the half term. Have a restful weekend.

Kind regards,



Inma Peña
Headteacher