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**NEWARK**  
ACADEMY

27<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Last week the Department for Education released the 2023 GCSE provisional outcomes measures. This information is presented as a figure called progress 8. This number measures the progress of students across their best 8 subjects. The P8 figure enables schools to compare their students' results to the achievements of other students with the same prior attainment. The average national figure is 0.

Our provisional P8 figure for GCSE 2023 results is +0.33. This means that on average our students achieve a third of a grade higher than students in other schools with the same KS2 scores. More impressively, our P8 of +0.33 places Newark Academy as the highest achieving school in Newark and the 9<sup>th</sup> in Nottinghamshire (out of 79 schools). You can find more information about the performance of school in the area/nationally on this website [Compare schools](#)

These GREAT results do not happen by accident. They are the result of hard work over time. What makes Newark Academy an amazing school is the relentless determination to see learners succeed and I am delighted that the hard work of our staff and students has been reflected in these provisional results. Of course, none of this would be possible without the parents and carers who have supported us over the last five years in shaping the academic and personal experiences of our students.

In addition to this excellent news about our GCSE results, this week I have really enjoyed seeing and sampling the food produced by our Year 9 students in their Food and Nutrition lessons. This term the students have been learning about the importance of using seasonal foods for the provision of not only nutritious and tasty products, but to also consider the increasing problem of rising food costs and food waste. We would encourage you to celebrate their practical work they are bringing home to share with the family and discuss the skills they have applied to create the products, the success of the dishes made and to also show gratitude for the opportunity provided for them.



This week we have also rewarded our students for their attendance, behaviour and attitude to learning. I have sent 460 emails to the students with 100% attendance and 371 emails to the parents/carers of students with zero negative behaviour points. Alongside, attendance and behaviour we believe that attitude to learning is the third key factor that leads to success at school. This is why we have asked our staff to grade the ATL of your child in their lessons so that we can use that information during half term 2 to support and praise students. All our parents/carers have received their ATL report this week via MCAS. If you have not received this report, please contact Ms Rogan at [GRogan@newarkacademy.co.uk](mailto:GRogan@newarkacademy.co.uk)

It has been lovely to meet many of you during the events of this half term and I have been delighted to hear such positive feedback regarding our school and the start of this academic year. I am confident this is a result of our very high expectations, excellent standard of teaching and learning and our consistent commitment to our GREAT values. Our high standards mean we are always striving to improve and this is why I would be very grateful if you could take a few minutes to fill in this short survey to give us your constructive feedback.

<https://forms.office.com/e/iAnCWsthgs>

### Uniform and equipment expectations

As a polite reminder please can we ask that you check that your child is fully equipped for school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November. This includes a pencil case containing two black or blue pens, two pencils, a ruler, rubber and pencil sharpener.

It is important that students should have a sense of belonging and common purpose, which is encouraged by a uniform so that social difference should be avoided. We will be conducting uniform checks on the first day back and we expect all students to continue to be in the correct uniform. This also includes a bag pack. Just a polite reminder that piercings, jewellery and false eyelashes or nails are NOT part of the school uniform.

### Key Events for Half Term 2

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| • 8 <sup>th</sup> November                   | Careers Fair  |
| • 9 <sup>th</sup> November                   | Autumn Recital 1  |
| • 16 <sup>th</sup> November                  | NA6 Open Evening  |
| • 23 <sup>rd</sup> November                  | Year 11 Achievement Evening                                     |
| • 30 <sup>th</sup> November                  | X13 Achievement Evening   |
| • 6 <sup>th</sup> & 7 <sup>th</sup> December | Christmas Concert   |
| • Christmas holidays                         | Break up 15 <sup>th</sup> December till 8 <sup>th</sup> January |
| • Student return to school                   | 9 <sup>th</sup> January   |

I hope you and your families have a restful and enjoyable half term.

Have an enjoyable weekend.



Inma Peña  
Headteacher