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29/11/24

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have ended our week on a real high following the annual Nova Educational Trust Transformational Awards where Newark Academy was presented with the award for the Best Secondary School of the Year.

This award is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and unwavering commitment of every member of our school community. Our journey to this achievement has been driven by a shared vision of excellence in education. Our students consistently demonstrate strong academic performance, kindness and hard work. Our staff go above and beyond to provide an engaging and inclusive learning environment and experience.

The support of our families is also invaluable, offering the encouragement that empowers our students to reach their full potential. Together, we will continue to nurture our children and prepare them for a bright and promising future.



Assemblies

This week's assemblies have been delivered by Mr Thomas, Mr Wilson and Miss Barnett who have spoken to the students about the future of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). During the Full Crew assemblies, students have learned about advancements like nuclear fusion as a clean, almost limitless, energy option; the transformative impact of robotics and Artificial Intelligence and the wide range of opportunities in engineering.

KS3 Assessments

You will recall from my previous emails that students in Years 7-9 have now started their Key Stage 3 assessments window. We have been very encouraged by the mature way in which students seem to be approaching their revision and the completion of these tests.





Food Bank Donations

We are very proud of the growing links between Newark Academy and the community. To develop this further and strengthen students' awareness of Homelessness and child poverty we are supporting Newark Food Bank. We are therefore asking each student to donate one item from the foodbank 'shopping list' in the week commencing 2nd of December. This contribution will be presented to the foodbank on Monday 9th of December, allow others in the community the opportunity to access this service and support local people in crisis.

12 Days of Christmas

This week, we have launched the 12 Days of Attendance Challenge to encourage and reward good attendance amongst our students. If a student has 100% attendance for the next 12 days $(28^{\text{th}} \text{ Nov} - 13^{\text{th}} \text{ Dec})$ they will go into a Christmas prize draw.

Please encourage your child to take part in the challenge. School attendance has such a huge impact on a student's social and mental welfare, as well as academic achievements. We want to ensure we are working with you to ensure that each child is attending as much as possible.

End of term arrangements

Please note that we will have an earlier finish on Friday 13th December.

- KS3 students will leave 13:10
- KS4 and KS5 students will leave at 13:20
- Lunch arrangements:
 - KS3 students will have their lunch before they depart
 - KS4 and KS5 students can pick a 'grab and go' lunch if they wish on their way out.
- Transport has been rearranged to fit in with the end of school timings.

Key Events for Half Term 2

4th December 4th December 5th December 10th December – 12th December 13th December

Y12 University of Lincoln Rewards Trip Christmas Concert Christmas Concert Y9, 10 & 11 Aachen Germany Trip End of Autumn Term

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Inma Peňa Headteacher Newark Academy