

 **Newark Academy**
London Road
Balderton
Newark
Nottinghamshire
NG24 3AL

 +44 (0) 1636 615000
 www.newarkacademy.co.uk
 office@newarkacademy.co.uk
 @NewarkAcademyUK

Head Teacher
Inma Peña *BS, PGCE, NPQH*



NEWARK
ACADEMY

10th January 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Happy New Year! I hope you and your families had an enjoyable Christmas break, spending quality time together.

Superb Start to 2025.

On Tuesday, we welcomed our students back to school and are incredibly proud of how positively they have started the new term. The overwhelming majority of our students have returned well-prepared and ready to learn, with the correct equipment and standard of uniform. We would like to thank our parents/carers for continuing to support us with these standards and expectations for uniform and equipment – it is much appreciated.

For our Year 11 and 13 students, 2025 is a year of real significance as they will soon sit their final exams. Our Year 13 students have begun the term with a round of mock, and in some cases real, exams and the extra sessions provided by teachers and revision they have completed themselves is paying off. For those intending to go on to higher education, the UCAS process is well underway, and students are receiving offers for university places. This year, two Newark Academy students were invited for Oxbridge interviews which is a fantastic achievement.

Assemblies

We started this week with on-boarding assemblies to welcome all the students back to the Academy and provide a timely reminder of our expectations in and out of lessons. Students listened very attentively to the key messages and have made a very strong start across all their subjects.

In addition, our Chair of Governors, Christine Wright, has visited the school this week and delivered assemblies on the importance of democracy as a vehicle to drive positive change. Christine is a former diplomat and a current magistrate and brings a wealth of experience and skills to her role; this will strengthen our school community even further.

Christine also spoke to the students about the significance of diversity and its many advantages within our society.



Assessment Feedback

In December Key Stage 3 students completed high stake assessments and, this week, Year 7, 8 and 9 teachers have prioritised providing them with feedback on these assessments. We have seen superb feedback activities in action in lessons, including the use of model answers to demonstrate to students what to adapt and include in future work. This approach provides students with the opportunity to compare their own work to a strong example, and therefore assess their strengths and weaknesses, and strengthens their understanding of what knowledge they have grasped and which aspects they are less secure on. We feel very confident that this feedback will support your children's future learning.

Enrichment

Our extra-curricular timetable has now been updated and can be found, via the following link, on the Academy website <https://www.newarkacademy.co.uk/page.php?p=enrichment>

You can sign your child up for one of our amazing extra-curricular activities by using your child's MCAS (My Child At School) app.

Achievement Evening

Finally, last night, we enjoyed meeting our Year 11 parents/carers at our Year 11 Achievement Evening. Teachers and parents had the opportunity to discuss the progress of students, identifying what is going well and agree on the necessary next steps and actions that will support their preparations for their second round of mock exams in March. The vast majority of Year 11 students are working very hard, demonstrating a strong work ethic and ambition to do well; we are very proud of such positive attitudes.

Key Events for Half Term 3 and Half Term 4

Thursday 30 th January	Y8 Achievement Evening
Wednesday 12 th February	School Production – Buggy Malone
Thursday 13 th February	School Production – Buggy Malone
Friday 14 th February	End of Spring half term 1
Monday 24 th February	Start of Spring half term 2
Thursday 27 th February	Y7 Achievement Evening (1)
Thursday 6 th March	Y7 Achievement Evening (2)
Thursday 27 th March	Y12 and Y13 Achievement Evening
Thursday 3 rd April	Y11 Achievement Evening
Friday 4 th April	End of Spring term

I hope your children have enjoyed their first week at school.

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Kind regards,



Inma Peña
Headteacher