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NEWARK
ACADEMY

7/3/25

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope my email finds you and your families well.

It has been wonderful to meet Year 7 parents/carers for a second consecutive week at the Year 7 Achievement Evening. It is reassuring to receive positive feedback from our families about how well they feel our staff cater for the educational and pastoral needs of their children. We know that working in close partnership is the key factor that will lead to further success for all children.

I would like to start my communication this week by thanking all our parents for their support in ensuring their children attend school. This week our whole school attendance has increased by 1%. This is great news because we know that being in school is essential to children's achievement, wellbeing, and wider development. Evidence shows that the students with the highest attendance throughout their time in school gain the best grades.

This week has seen the Academy working towards World Book Day on Thursday 6th March. The first task was launched last week, tasking each crew with the challenge to 'Dress the Door' in the theme of a well-known book. This activity prompted fantastic conversations about potential books to focus the design around, and both staff and students rose to the challenge. The final designs were creative, engaging and most importantly showcased the book (or books) which each crew had selected.

Finally, we cannot forget the book-themed costumes chosen, designed and worn by staff across the Academy. Many departments built their costumes around a theme or specific book. It has been a brilliant week celebrating the importance and enjoyment of reading, something which is a priority in our Academy every day.

Please see below the pictures of the five winning doors and our staff in fancy dress:





In addition, it has been National Careers Week and, to celebrate this, we have welcomed local employers into Newark Academy to speak to our students about some of the amazing companies that we have on our doorstep.

We have many students approaching key career decision-making points. Our Year 9s will be choosing their GCSE options and Year 10 are about to embark on work experience in a week's time. Our exam cohorts have really benefitted from hearing from local employers who investing in, and committed to, providing opportunities our students may apply for in the future.

A huge thanks to the organisations listed below that delivered our assemblies this week. These were:

- Year 7 - Women in STEM workshop with Skanska UK. Full Crew from George Bourke Alumni who studied Business at the University of Durham.

- Year 8 – Maverick Medics workshops and full crew from Sophie Rouse Alumni who studied Business at the University of Bath and completed a work placement year with Universal.
- Year 9 - Full crew with Helen Ellison, Senior Health Improvement Office with NSDC. We also had a small group on a volunteering project with VIY.
- Year 10 - Talk the Talk Oracy Workshop and full crew with Oliver Bere, decorated Paramedic, Magistrate and District Councillor. We also had a small group on volunteering project with VIY.
- Year 11 - Natalia Postlethwaite from You Can Do Sport.
- NA6 - Sophie Rouse, Alumni who studied Business at the University of Bath and completed a placement year with Universal.

Our annual book fair this year raised £417.00. Thank you to everyone involved.

Finally, I must end my letter with a plea to our parents regarding traffic and parking outside school. Unfortunately, we are a school that does not offer parking facilities to the parents/carers. This means that we expect parents to be careful and respectful drivers when collecting students at the end of the day by **not parking in the bus bay or on the double yellow lines**. Keeping these zones free of vehicles at the end of the day makes a significant difference and enables us to supervise our students safely as they exit the school site.

Key Events Half Term 4 and 5

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.

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|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Thursday 27 th March | Y12 and Y13 Achievement Evening |
| • Thursday 3 rd April | Y11 Achievement Evening |
| • Friday 4 th April | End of Spring term |
| • Monday 22 nd April | Start of Half Term 5 |
| • Thursday 1 st May | Y9 Options Evening |
| • Thursday 22 nd May | Music Recital |
| • Friday 23 rd May | End of Summer half term 1 |

I hope your children have had a productive and enjoyable week at school. Have a restful weekend.

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