

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

 +44 (0) 1636 615000  
 [www.newarkacademy.co.uk](http://www.newarkacademy.co.uk)  
 [office@newarkacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@newarkacademy.co.uk)  
 @NewarkAcademyUK

**Head Teacher**  
Inma Peña *BS, PGCE, NPQH*



**NEWARK**  
ACADEMY

14/3/25

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope my email finds you and your families well.

On Thursday this week, we hosted a very positive Family Forum meeting where Mr Athey, Mrs Campbell and Miss Elsey shared the following with our parents/carers:

- Imminent plans for enrichment trips in the summer term.
- Sixth Form projected numbers and new courses for next academic year. I hope that you have had chance to read the Newark Advertiser online article about our new Criminology course.
- A summary of our recent Ofsted inspection and what it entailed.

Our Family Forum enables the school to share ideas and updates and get feedback on these. Crucially, it is a place for parents to ask questions and make suggestions for improvements. We are very keen to increase the membership of this group so, if you are interested in joining the Family Forum, please contact us – [headteacher@newarkacademy.co.uk](mailto:headteacher@newarkacademy.co.uk). Typically, these meetings take place in an evening, once a half term and last for approximately one hour.

Another way in which parents can become actively involved in school life is by becoming a parent governor. Yesterday, you will have received a letter from Mrs Wright, our Chair of Governors, inviting you to apply for this role. Governors play a key strategic role in the development of schools and, given our recent Ofsted report, this is a very exciting time for new people to join our Governing Board. If you would like to be considered for the position of parent governor, please contact – [headteacher@newarkacademy.co.uk](mailto:headteacher@newarkacademy.co.uk).

Once again, thank you for your continued support with attendance and punctuality. I am very pleased to report that, for another consecutive week, our attendance remained strong and in fact 2% above the national average. This means that our students are receiving the education they are entitled to. I am a great believer that education has the power to transform lives and I know that every single student at Newark Academy has the potential to be GREAT and make our local community even GREATER.

Through assemblies this week, students have been exploring the importance of reading, focusing on the benefits of reading, the different skills it requires and the science behind it. Key Stage Three students in Years 7-9 have recently had the launch of the Sparx Reader platform which is a fantastic tool for careful active reading. It allows students to have consistent practice of intentional reading for comprehension, as well as build their vocabulary. We aim for all students to engage for at least 30 minutes with this reading platform per week and have been so pleased to see the progress so many students have made already.



Next week, our Year 10 students will step into the world of work for a week of work experience. We know they are excited about spending time in a professional working environment which will provide them with a great opportunity to develop transferable skills, establish professional contacts and learn more about the type of career they might like in the future. We wish them good luck and we know that like past cohorts they will enact the school GREAT values becoming excellent ambassadors for their school.

Finally, I would like to thank our parents/carers for their support and patience during the migration from Squid to ParentPay this week. Together with the support of our wonderful admin and finance teams, we have kept disruption to a minimum ensuring that over 90% of accounts were activated by mid-week. If you have any questions or you are experiencing any technical problems, please feel free to contact us via [office@newarkacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@newarkacademy.co.uk).

#### **Key Events Half Term 4**

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

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

Have a restful weekend.



**Inma Peña**  
Headteacher  
Newark Academy

London Road  
New Balderton  
Newark  
Nottingham  
NG24 3AL

Telephone: 01636 615008  
E-mail: [ipena@newarkacademy.co.uk](mailto:ipena@newarkacademy.co.uk)

Website: [www.newarkacademy.co.uk](http://www.newarkacademy.co.uk) Twitter: @NewarkAcademyUK