

21st October 2015



Dear Parents/Carers

As half-term approaches the first official release of national league tables confirms our position at the top of the Sandwell league table for GCSE 5 A*-C including Maths and English. The final tables will be released in January 2016. I am sure you will join me in congratulating our staff and students on their achievements. Success is not just about examination performance. At Q3 we understand the importance of providing a holistic and well-rounded education for our students, while encouraging them to pursue excellence.

I am proud of the way Q3 students conduct themselves around the Academy and the positive relationships they have developed with their peers and our staff. However, there are occasions when a small minority of students do not meet our expectations in lessons, when moving around the building or in relation to their business dress and ID badges. This can be disruptive to learning and ultimately limit progress. Therefore, consistent with our commitment to pursue excellence a new system has been introduced to record 'failure to meet expectations' and this includes a graduated detention system (maximum 2 hours). The Academy's Positive Behaviour policy will be updated (available on our website) to reflect the changes which are effective from Monday 2nd November 2015. All students have been reminded about the Academy's expectations during this week's assemblies including the importance of having the correct equipment for learning (books, planner and pencil case containing a black pen, purple pen, pencil, ruler, eraser, maths equipment and sharpener). Thank you in anticipation of your support in ensuring that your child arrives at the Academy ready to learn.

Last week we were delighted to see a number of you at our Parents' Forum. We were able to share new developments in assessment and examinations while also answering a number of your questions. The presentation and other useful information relating to the evening is available on our website.

From January 2016 we will no longer issue paper copies of letters and other correspondence to students, instead they will be placed on our Parent Portal www.q3academy.org.uk. Therefore, if you have not already signed up to the Parent Portal please ensure you make this a priority before then. In addition all interim reports due in November will also be placed on the Parent Portal. If you do not have access to the technology please contact our IT department on 0121 358 6186 for further assistance.

Key dates for the remainder of this term are also listed below:

- Half Term Holidays: 26th October – 30th October
- Parents' Consultation Day (Years 8 & 10): 3rd November (Academy day will finish at 2.05pm)
- Remembrance Service: 11th November (10.30am – 11.15am)
- Sixth Form Open Evening: 18th November (6.30pm – 8.30pm)
- Black Country Chamber of Commerce Careers Fair: 3rd December (6.30pm – 8.30pm)
- Mock Examinations (Years 11, 12 & 13): 23rd November – 4th December
- Academy Production of Enchanted 2: 9th and 10th December (times to be confirmed)
- Non business dress day (Christmas Jumper): 11th December
- End of term: 11th December (Academy closes at 2.00pm)
- Christmas Holidays: 14th December – 4th January 2016

Enjoy the half-term break.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Badyal
Principal/Chief Executive

Q3 Academy | Wilderness Lane | Great Barr | Birmingham B43 7SD
t 0121 358 6186 | f 0121 358 5967 | e info@q3academy.org.uk | w www.q3academy.org.uk

CHIEF EXECUTIVE (PRINCIPAL) Dr Caroline J S Badyal, EdD, MA BE.d, DipEd, NPQH Q3 - QUAERERE | 'SEEK THAT WHICH IS GOOD, THAT WHICH IS RIGHT, THAT WHICH IS TRUE'



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