

9<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to the new academic year 2014-2015 and I hope you have all enjoyed the summer holidays.

This term we have welcomed a number of new staff who will add further strength and expertise to our excellent team. Year 7 students have settled in exceptionally well and I am delighted with their confidence, enthusiasm and energy. We also enrolled a new cohort of Post 16 students who are ambitious and keen to succeed in their A Level studies.

Once again I am delighted to announce an excellent set of examination results which maintain Q3 as one of the highest performing secondary schools in Sandwell and the neighbouring local authorities:

5 GCSE A\* - C grades including Mathematics and English: 74%  
A Level pass rate 99.4%

This year's A Level and GCSE results are a significant improvement on the high standards set in the summer of 2013, and this is a fantastic achievement taking into account the national changes to assessment and examination league tables. The students have performed above expectations and I am sure you will join me in congratulating them along with the staff on this tremendous achievement. A detailed subject breakdown will be provided in your copy of 'Q Review' (to be issued at the end of September).

I was delighted to be able to address all students in their Company assemblies during their first day back. We talked about pursuing excellence in all that they do and striving to make a difference to their own lives and also the lives of others who may be less fortunate. Our sponsor, Mr Payne also welcomed the Year 7 students in a separate assembly. Please continue to support us by encouraging your children to 'strive for excellence', to be the 'best they can be' and to seek opportunities to genuinely 'make a difference'.

Students look very smart in their business dress and I would like to thank you for supporting us in maintaining high standards. Q3 students stand out in the local community and we regularly receive compliments about their appearance and behaviour.

As you are already aware, we expect excellent attendance, and ultimately the students benefit from this not only from an educational stance but also for their future beyond the Academy. Therefore be aware that family holidays during term time will not be considered and any holiday taken will be counted as 'unauthorised' in the official register. Holidays taken during term time affect your child's achievement and attainment – please bear this in mind. Punctuality is also very important and we therefore expect all students to be in the Academy for 8.55 am at the latest, ensuring a prompt 9.00 am start to lessons. If you drop your child off to the Academy, it is important that the 8.55am start is maintained. May I also remind you about safe parking in the interests of all our children.

Q3 Academy | Wilderness Lane | Great Barr | Birmingham B43 7SD  
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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'



All students are provided with a free breakfast consisting of two slices of toast and juice each morning. Please encourage your child to join us for breakfast from 8.00 am. As the most important meal of the day, breakfast ensures a good start to learning. Students must be in the Academy before 8.45 am if they wish to benefit from this service.

The price of the daily meal deal has increased from £2.10 to £2.20 for the first time in four years, and the price of a selection of other items has decreased for example certain drinks. The food provided is varied and nutritious and I hope you will encourage your child to use the restaurant facility.

We regularly add to the information available on our website. Please take the opportunity to visit at [www.q3academy.org.uk](http://www.q3academy.org.uk). Do also continue to use the website to provide us with any feedback you may have – your views are very important to us. We also have regular updates on Twitter (you can follow us @q3academy) and on our Facebook page (QthreeacademyTrust).

**This Term's Key dates for your diary:**

- Macmillan Coffee Morning – 26<sup>th</sup> September (10.00am – 12.30pm)
- Open Week – 29<sup>th</sup> September – 2<sup>nd</sup> October (Drop in sessions from 9.15am – 11.00am)
- Open Evening – 2<sup>nd</sup> October (6.30pm – 8.30pm)
- INSET DAY – 3<sup>rd</sup> October (Academy closed to all students)
- Sixth Form Open Evening – 16<sup>th</sup> October (6.30pm – 8.30pm)
- Parents' Consultation Day (Years 7, 9 & 12) – 21<sup>st</sup> October
- Half Term Holidays – 27<sup>th</sup> October – 31<sup>st</sup> October
- Parents' Consultation Day (Years 8 & 10) – 4<sup>th</sup> November
- Public Speaking Competition – 6<sup>th</sup> November (times to be confirmed)
- Careers Fair – 13<sup>th</sup> November (times to be confirmed)
- Internal Examinations (Year 11) – 10<sup>th</sup> November – 14<sup>th</sup> November
- Non business dress day – 14<sup>th</sup> November
- Internal Examinations (Year 13) – 1<sup>st</sup> December – 5<sup>th</sup> December
- Community Christmas Lunch – 3<sup>rd</sup> December (11.30am – 2.30pm)
- Academy Production of Enchanted – 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> December (times to be confirmed)
- Last day of term – 12<sup>th</sup> December
- Christmas Holidays – 15<sup>th</sup> December – 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2015

**Autumn Term 2014**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014 – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2014 (1<sup>st</sup> September 2014 & 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2014 INSET DAYS – Academy closed to all students)

**Half Term:** Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2014

**Christmas Holidays:** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2014 – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2015



**Spring Term 2015**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015 – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015 (26<sup>th</sup> January 2015 & 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015  
INSET DAY – Academy closed to all students)

**Half Term:** Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2015

**Easter Holidays:** Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015 – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2015

**Summer Term 2015**

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015 – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2015

**May Day Bank Holiday:** Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2015

**Half Term:** Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2015 – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2015

Please be aware that on occasion dates for key events may need to alter slightly, you will be notified in good time should this happen during the academic year.

I look forward to seeing you during the academic year when we can share the progress and wider achievements of your children.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Badyal  
Chief Executive/Principal

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