

8th January 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year and welcome back to the start of the new term.

It is with great sadness that I have to announce that our Sponsor, Grace Payne sadly passed away during the Christmas break after a period of illness. Our Sponsors Eric and Grace Payne have been an integral part of the Q3 family from the beginning and she will be greatly missed by the whole community. Grace was a truly inspirational lady, giving generously of her time, and her contribution to the development of Q3 cannot be underestimated, indeed the very name Q3 was her idea. A book of condolence will shortly be available for staff, students, parents and carers to sign.

The students have made a very positive start to the new term in relation to their business dress, and I thank you for your support with this. Excellent attendance and punctuality are both essential factors which contribute to success and we hope you will support us in our shared mission to achieve this.

The new Central Bus service has started and early indications are that arrival and departure times are much improved. Please be aware however, that the pickup times for the service have altered slightly, more information can be found on our website www.q3academy.org.uk/travel-information within the Q3 Academy Bus Service tab. Can you ensure that you are aware of these new times so that no student is left waiting or misses the service to and from the Academy.

If we have adverse weather conditions during the weeks ahead we will continue to endeavour to open the Academy but **please check the Q3 Academy Website and the information provided by local radio stations and the Sandwell Council website www.sandwell.gov.uk/schoolclosures for updates.**

Please remember to visit our website www.q3academy.org.uk and Facebook page (Q3 Academy Great Barr) and follow us on Twitter (@q3academy) for regular updates on Academy life.

A list of key dates for the Spring Term 2016 is provided below:

- INSET DAY – 29th January (Academy closed to all students)
- Half Term Holidays – 15th February – 19th February
- Sixth Form Drop in – 2nd March (times to be confirmed)
- Pathways Evening – 9th March (times to be confirmed)
- Non Business Dress Day (Sports Relief) – 18th March
- Sponsors' Dinner – 22nd March
- INSET DAY – 23rd March
- Easter holidays – 24th March – 8th April

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Caroline Badyal
Principal/Chief Executive

