



ACADEMY
GREAT BARR

14th September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to the new academic year 2017-18.

Last week we welcomed our new staff to the Q3 Academy team along with our new Sixth Form and Year 7 students who have settled in exceptionally well. We are delighted that many students have chosen to continue with A-Levels at the Academy. This year's examination results again maintain Q3 Academy as one of the top performing secondary schools in Sandwell.

In particular we achieved more A*-B grades at A-Levels than ever before at a time when the proportion of top grades has seen a slight decrease across the country. Furthermore, we are thrilled that all our Year 13 students have entered into university or apprenticeships and we are especially proud of Marcus Boyle who leaves the Sixth Form to study 'International Relations with Politics' at Selwyn College, Cambridge. We wish all our students well as they embark on this exciting next stage of their lives. This year's results reflect the hard work and commitment of our staff and students and I am sure you will join me in congratulating them. A detailed subject breakdown will be available on the Q3 Academy website.

I was delighted to be able to address all students in their Company assemblies last week and they all looked very smart in their Business Dress. We talked about pursuing excellence and especially the courage to take risks, make mistakes and learn from them. Our PLDs also re-enforced our focus on ensuring they are always well prepared for learning. Good attendance, punctuality, smart Business Dress, arriving with the correct equipment and having a positive attitude are all important factors that were discussed. Our sponsor, Mr Payne also welcomed the Year 7 students and shared his vision for success.

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 at the Academy, it is important that the 8.55 am start is maintained. May I also remind you about safe and considerate parking in the interests of all our children, and the local community following the introduction of the Red Route on Wilderness Lane.

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 remains the same as last year at £2.30. The food provided is varied and nutritious and I hope you will encourage your child to use the restaurant facility.

If you wish to become more closely involved with Academy life, our Parents' and Academy Contact Team (PACT) hold meetings on the first Tuesday of each month, and would welcome new supporters. Their next event is a quiz night on Friday 20th October. Likewise you may wish to volunteer your time and we are currently seeking adults to support our reading schemes and raising aspiration programmes. Please call the Academy to find out more.

Chief Executive: Dr Caroline J S Badyal, EdD, MA BE.d, DipEd, NPQH | Head of School: Mr Mark Arnall BA Hons, MA, NPQH

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You can also support the Academy by joining 'easyfundraising'. This won't cost you a penny but can raise money for the Academy when you buy on-line, see attached for more information.

To keep you well informed, we regularly add to the information available on our website. Please take the opportunity to visit at 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 (Q3 Academy Great Barr).

This Term's Key dates for your diary:

- Open Mornings – 25th September 2017 – 2nd October 2017 9.15a.m – 11a.m
- Open Day – Saturday 30th September 2017 – 9a.m – 12p.m
- Macmillan Coffee Morning – 29th September 10a.m – 12.30p.m
- Parents' Consultation (Years 7, 9 & 12) – 17th October 2017 – 3.30p.m – 7.30p.m
- PACT Quiz – 20th October 2017
- Half Term Holidays – 23rd October 2017 – 27th October 2017
- Sixth Form Open Evening – 9th November 2017 – 6.15p.m – 8p.m
- Parents' Consultation (Years 8, 11 & 13) – 14th November 2017 – 3.30p.m – 7.30p.m
- Parents' Consultation (Years 10, 11 & 13) – 23rd November 2017 – 3.30p.m - 7.30p.m
- Christmas Performance – 4th & 5th December 2017 (times to be confirmed)
- Christmas Holidays – Monday 11th December 2017 – Monday 1st January 2018

Autumn Term 2017

Monday 4th September 2017 – Friday 8th December 2017

(Monday 4th September 2017 is an INSET DAY and closed to students)

Half Term: Monday 23rd October 2017 – Friday 27th October 2017

Christmas Holidays: Monday 11th December 2017 – Monday 1st January 2018

Spring Term 2018

Tuesday 2nd January 2018 – Thursday 29th March 2018

(2nd January 2018 and 29th March 2018 are INSET DAYS and closed to students)

Half Term: Monday 19th February – Friday 23rd February 2018

Easter Holidays: Friday 30th March – Friday 13th April 2018

Summer Term 2018

Monday 16th April 2018 – Friday 27th July 2018

(4th May 2018 and 2nd July 2018 are INSET DAYS and closed to students)

May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 7th May 2018

Half Term: Monday 28th May 2018 – Friday 1st June 2018

Please be aware that on occasion, dates may need to alter slightly, you will be notified in good time should this happen.

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

Yours sincerely



Mark Arnall
Head of School

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Did you know that whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be collecting free donations for Q3 Academy Langley & Great Barr?

There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, TheTrainLine and Sainsbury's - it doesn't cost you a penny extra!

It's as easy as **1, 2, 3...**

1. Head to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/q3academy/> and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and Q3 Academy Langley & Great Barr will be really grateful for your donations.

Collect up to
£10

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Collect up to
£30

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Collect up to
£15

 Fashion

Collect up to
£40

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£13

 Groceries

Shop online. Raise donations. For free.

Sign up to support us on easyfundraising:

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/Q3Academy

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