

Our ref: MAL/SKY  
10th December 2019



Dear Parents/Carers

As we draw the Autumn term to a close and look forward to the Christmas holiday I would like to thank our students and staff for their fantastic commitment, teamwork and energy. In addition, the parents, carers, and members of the community for the outstanding support provided to the Academy.

The end of term often sees a change of staff and this year we say farewell and good luck to Miss Walsh, Mr Walker, and Mr Lavin who are leaving us to develop their careers. Also to Mrs Dunn who retires after over 14 years as one of our Learning Facilitators and Learning Support team.

Just like a children's annual, this has been a 'bumper' term filled with exciting activities that have kept students and staff very busy indeed. Whether it's sporting events and after-hours clubs, educational visits and trips, Combined Cadet Force activities, or helping to support our local community, there really has been something for everyone to get involved in.

Our Year 11 and 13 students are now focusing on approaching examinations and if they work steadily they can approach the Spring term with confidence, and they need not worry too much. We will have a new series of intervention sessions when we return and it's important that if they are requested to attend a particular subject's session then they do so.

Two events really seem to mark the beginning of Christmas at the Academy; the Performing Arts Showcase 'Cinderella' and the Community Christmas Lunch. A good cause that we supported this autumn with our Harvest Festival collection was the Great Barr Foodbank. Continuing the community theme, staff and students will be supporting Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December with all proceeds going to Black Country Women's Aid. Please encourage your child to contribute to this worthwhile cause.

Our wonderful PACT have launched an exciting lottery where every ticket bought supports the Academy, but also gives you the chance of winning £25,000! For further information and to support this excellent cause, please visit: [www.cutt.ly/q3gblottery](http://www.cutt.ly/q3gblottery)

The Academy will close for the Christmas holidays at 2.05pm on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December and re-open to students on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Students will need to clear their lockers, ensuring that no perishable items are left over the Christmas break.

Please be reminded that if you would like to see a member of staff at the Academy then please book an appointment prior to attending the Academy; staff may not be available to see you at short notice. You can contact your child's Head of Year through their Year Office.

To keep your child's contact details up to date we will be re-issuing the student data collection pack in January. A copy is available on our [website](http://www.q3academy.org.uk). In particular, please check that we have the correct

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e-mail addresses and mobile numbers as continue to use e-mails and text messages to share important information relating to your child.

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December we will be holding a 'Lost Property Day' for parents and carers from 10am until 1pm.

A reminder that our Twitter (@q3academy) and Facebook (Q3 Academy Great Barr) accounts are updated regularly news stories and information from the Academy, including action to take during adverse weather conditions. Don't forget that all of our publications are available online, this includes previous copies of our FoQus newsletter. A list of key dates for your diary is provided below:

- ✓ Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019
- ✓ Christmas Holidays – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020
- ✓ InSET Day – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 (Academy closed to all students)
- ✓ Parents' Consultation Evening for Year 11 – 14<sup>th</sup> January – 4pm to 7pm
- ✓ Parents' Consultation Evening for Years 12 and 13 – 14<sup>th</sup> January – 4pm to 7pm
- ✓ Year 7 Hori7on Showcase – 7<sup>th</sup> February – 2.10pm to 2.55pm
- ✓ Year 9 Careers Speed Networking – 4<sup>th</sup> March
- ✓ Year 9 Parents' Consultation and Pathways Evening – 11<sup>th</sup> March – 4pm - 7pm
- ✓ Parents' Consultation Evening for Year 11 – 2<sup>nd</sup> April – 4pm - 7pm
- ✓ Easter Holidays – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April

**Spring Term 2020** - Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

**(Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January is an InSET Day. The Academy is closed to students.)**

Half Term: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2020

Easter Holidays: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2020

**Summer Term 2020** - Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020 – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2020

**(Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July is an InSET Day. The Academy is closed to students.)**

May Day Bank Holiday: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Half Term: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020

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

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Yours sincerely



Mr M Arnall  
**Head of School**

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