



12th December 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

As we end the term I would like to thank our students and staff for their fantastic commitment, teamwork and energy. I wish to thank the parents, carers and members of the community for the outstanding support provided to the Academy. We are proud to serve and support our community.

This term we say farewell and wish good luck to Mr Burlace, Mr Marsh and Miss Matthews who are leaving to develop their careers. Also to Mr Hargreaves, who retires after 11 years as our Finance Director.

I have been especially pleased with our new Year 7s who have settled into Academy life very well. Our Year 11 and 13 students are now focussing 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 interventions 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 'Winter Concert' and the Community Christmas Lunch. Both of these wonderful events show that we are genuinely rooted in our community and that we are all the stronger for it. 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 14th December, with all proceeds going to Black Country Women's Aid. If students do not want to wear a jumper they can decorate their Business Dress with something Christmassy. Please encourage your child to contribute to this worthwhile cause.

The Academy will close for the Christmas holidays at 2.05pm on Friday 14th December and re-open for students on Tuesday 8th January 2019. Students will need to clear their lockers, ensuring that no perishable items are left during 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, as staff may not be available to see you at short notice. You can contact your child's Personal Tutor through their Company 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](#). In particular, please check we have the correct email addresses and mobile numbers as we will be using email and text messages to share important information about your child's behaviour in the future. There will be more details about this in the New Year.

On Thursday 20th December we will be holding a 'Lost Property Day' for parents and carers from 10am until 1pm.

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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A reminder that our Twitter (@q3academy) and Facebook (Q3 Academy Great Barr) accounts are updated regularly with all events, news stories and information from the Academy, including action to take during adverse weather conditions. Don't forget 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 14th December 2018
- Christmas Holidays – Monday 17th December 2018 – Monday 7th January 2019
- INSET DAY – Monday 7th January 2019 (Academy closed to all students)
- Parents' Consultation Evening – Year 10 - 24th Jan – 3.30pm - 7.15pm
- Year 8 Cre8 Showcase – 1st February 2019 – 10.20am – 11.05am
- Year 7 Hori7on Showcase – 1st February 2019 – 2.10pm – 2.55pm
- Year 8 Paris trip – 15th – 18th February 2019
- Year 9 Careers : Speed Networking – 6th March 2019
- Year 8 Parents' Consultation Evening – 13th March 2019 – 3.30pm - 7.15pm
- Academy Performance - Hairspray – 20th – 22nd March 2019
- Parents' Consultation Evening – Years 11 and 13 – 28th March 2019 – 3.30pm - 7.15pm
- Sponsors Dinner – 3rd April 2019
- INSET DAY – Friday 12th April 2019 (Academy closed to all students)
- Easter Holidays – Monday 15th April – Friday 26th April 2019

Spring Term 2019

Monday 7th January – Friday 12th April 2019

(Monday 7th January 2019 and Friday 12th April 2019 are INSET DAYS and closed to students)

Half Term: Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February 2019

Easter Holidays: Monday 15th April – Friday 26th April 2019

Summer Term 2019

Monday 29th April – Friday 26th July 2019

(Monday 1st July 2019 is an INSET DAY and closed to students)

May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 6th May 2019

Half Term: Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May 2019

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



Mark Arnall
Head of School

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