

 **Newark Academy**
London Road
Balderton
Newark
Nottinghamshire
NG24 3AL

 +44 (0) 1636 615000
 www.newarkacademy.co.uk
 office@newarkacademy.co.uk
 @NewarkAcademyUK

Head Teacher
Inma Peña *BS, PGCE, NPQH*

Executive Head Teacher
Andy Seymour *BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH*



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17/11/23

Dear Parents/Carers,

Last night we held our NA6 Open Evening, inviting Y11 students in to the Academy to find out more about our post-16 offer. We are really happy with the positive feedback from the parents/carers and students that attended and are confident our sixth form will continue to grow in numbers and success.

In assemblies this week, we have focused on the importance of reading. As you would expect, we spoke about the link between reading and academic success, but we also took time to emphasise how the ability to read well develops the whole character of an individual. Reading transports us to new places. Reading helps us connect with other people and people who are very different to us. Reading helps our well-being and is a life-long skill. We included a [YouTube clip](#) of Barrack Obama and Marcus Rashford talking about the impact reading has had on their lives which was well received by children.

One of our priorities this half term is Key Stage assessments. Parents of students in Yr 7, Yr 8 and Yr 9 will receive a separate correspondence about an upcoming assessment window for Year 7-9 students. This will include a revision list of key topics and revision materials to support students. We are in the process of finalising our new Key Stage 3 reports and are keen to engage parents and gain their views on this work before these new style reports are issued in January. This will therefore be the focus of the next family forum on Monday 4th December at 5.30pm. We would like to invite all parents to join this meeting. Please use the link to indicate your intention to attend <https://forms.office.com/e/4TnRd8Bwig>

This week, as part of their Food and Nutrition lessons, some students in Year 7 and 11 have taken part in a brilliant Hospitality and Catering workshop led by our school caterers (Aspens). This workshop gave them an insight into menu development, food prep and taste tasting which the students and staff thoroughly enjoyed. We look forward to being able to offer the same workshop to other year groups soon.



Key Events for Half Term 2

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| • 23 rd November | Year 11 Achievement Evening |
| • 30 th November | X13 Achievement Evening |
| • 6 th & 7 th December | Christmas Concert |
| • Christmas holidays | 15 th December till 8 th January |
| • Students return to school | 9 th January |

I hope your children have enjoyed the second week back at school. We look forward to meeting our Year 11 parents/carers this coming Thursday for the Year 11 Achievement Evening. This event will give you the opportunity to discuss your child's progress and the next steps in preparation for their GCSE exams this year.

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Inma Peña

Headteacher
Newark Academy

London Road
New Balderton
Newark
Nottingham
NG24 3AL

Telephone: **01636 615008**

E-mail: ipena@newarkacademy.co.uk

Website: www.newarkacademy.co.uk

Twitter: @NewarkAcademyUK



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