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NEWARK
ACADEMY

15th September 2023

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

I hope this email finds you and your families well.

We have had another very positive week at Newark Academy with over 90,000 positive behaviour points awarded to our students for displaying excellent standards of work, attitudes to learning and behaviour.

This week, I have also had the pleasure of meeting many of you at Tuesday and Thursday's 'Meet the Headteacher' Presentation Evenings and have also received lots of positive communication from you too. Thank you. It has been very encouraging to see how committed you are to the education of our young people and myself and my staff look forward to working together with you throughout the academic year. It is clear that we share the same high expectations and understand that hard work, self-discipline and positivity will lead to success.

We have lots taking place across the Academy over the next few weeks which I thought you would find it useful to hear about now:

Year 7

We are lucky to be a very popular and oversubscribed school but this does mean that at movement times our corridors can be busy. Therefore, from Monday (18th) to minimise the 'traffic' during lesson changeovers Year 7 students will use the central staircase to move between lessons.

PROUD Books

I have visited many lessons this week and have been very happy with the quality of work I have seen in students' books. A whole-school focus this academic year is the quality of student work/books and ensuring all students demonstrate pride in this aspect of their work; our teachers refer to this as having 'PROUD books'. To support this messaging, please encourage your child to show you their best 'PROUD' pieces of work.

I have attached some examples of outstanding work completed by Year 8 students in an English lesson this week. I intend to share more examples of GREAT work next week.

Full Crew – Student Voice

Through Full Crew/year assemblies this week, Miss Clancy and Miss Stage have launched our new Student Leadership programme which aims to build opportunities for students to develop their leadership skills and participate in the decision making in school.

Over the next two weeks, students will elect their Crew representatives who will then become members of the school Student Parliament. These students will then meet with me half termly to share their views and feedback.

In Full Crew next week, students will be introduced to Satchel One, an online system/app that we will use to set independent learning/homework moving forward. Following the Full Crew, students will have a session in an IT room during Crew Time to then practice logging in and accessing their homework. Then, during the week commencing 25th September, parents/carers will be sent their own login details which will allow them to access and monitor their child's homework; at this point we will begin using Satchel One. More information will follow next week.

Uniform

I have been very impressed again this week with how smart our students look in their school uniform.

As the temperature has now dropped, there is no longer a need for any uniform adjustments. From Monday 18th, shorts and socks will no longer be appropriate. We expect to see full length trousers and tights.

Enrichment

This week we have also shared with our parents/carers and students the 2023 Autumn term enrichment programme. We have an array of opportunities available and these can be accessed through the Newark Academy website. Please use the QR code on the website to access the registration forms.

SpookFest Show

SpookFest is a student run showcase of the Drama Department. It will run from 6:30 till 8:00 on Thursday 26th October. Tickets are £3.50. The show will include pieces from a wide variety of musicals alongside music performances from soloists, duets and Hazard (a student lead band). Studio29, a local musical theatre school, are our community spotlight, and they will perform 3 pieces to showcase talent around the community. Our Head student, Tommy-Lee Storr, and year 12 student, Sienna Brown, are very passionate about this project and would love for you to come along!

Key Dates for the term ahead

- 28th September Year 7 Crew Leader Evening
- 5th October Year 6 Open Evening
- 12th October Year 11 Welcome Evening
- 19th October Year 9 Achievement Evening
- 26th October Spook Fest
- 26th October School of Sexuality Education (Year 11, Year 12 / Year 13)

I hope your children have enjoyed their second week at school as much as I have.

Have an enjoyable weekend

Kind regards,

Miss Inma Peña
Headteacher