

Our ref: MMC/NWI

14 June 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Except for students who will take their final exams next week, this Friday marks the end of secondary education for our year 11 students. They have demonstrated all our school values throughout their time here, especially during the exam period, and although it brings their time with us to an end, we know the students have set themselves up for many successful new beginnings. Elsewhere in the academy, staff have been busy preparing year 6 pupils for joining the school in September.

Examinations

Year 11 - Final full week of GCSEs

This week has seen the final week of GCSE examinations for most of our year 11 students, with the exception of those who take their final Music and Food examinations next week. Throughout the examination period, students consistently demonstrated the highest levels of investment to ensure they were fully prepared to achieve their potential in each examination. I would like to thank all involved in the process, including teachers, support staff, parents, and carers for their incredible support during this period. We look forward to welcoming students back into the academy for our Black and White event from 9:00 am on Thursday 27 June, which is also the same day as the year 11 Prom.

GCSE Results Day will take place on Thursday 22 August with more information to follow about the specific arrangements for this day. If your child is unable to collect their results, they must email the Examinations Officer at b.butler@stwacademy.com to nominate an alternative adult who can collect them on their behalf. Please note this must be submitted and signed by the student before results day and the alternative adult must bring photo identification with them.

Year 13

Year 13 students have completed their penultimate week of exams before leaving us. The students continue to show their passion for success and have been a credit to themselves and the school during the exam period. As we draw towards a close of the exam season, I would like to remind students that their leavers event will take place on the afternoon of Wednesday 24 June and students should RSVP to this via their emails.

A Level Results Day will take place on Thursday 15 August with more information to follow about the specific arrangements for this day. If your child is unable to collect their results, they must email the Examinations Officer at b.butler@stwacademy.com to nominate an alternative adult who can collect them on their behalf. Please note this must be submitted and signed by the student before results day and the alternative adult must bring photo identification with them.

Teaching and Learning

Our end of year survey is now open for completion: [PARENT & CARER SURVEY](#). It takes **five minutes** to complete and asks for your thoughts on teaching and learning, behaviour and standards, personal development, communication and SEND. Complete it now for a chance to win a £40 ASDA voucher and to inform our next steps for academy development.



Transition

Primary School Visits

Miss Preston, our transition leader, has commenced her annual visits to primary schools over the last two weeks, we have visited year 6 pupils at Balby Central Primary School, Mallard Primary School, Conisbrough Ivanhoe Primary Academy and Carr Lodge Academy. The students were impeccably behaved and engaged in their learning and we are looking forward to welcoming them to the academy as year 7 students in September. Primary visits will continue up to our three year 6 Induction Days on the 10, 11 and 12 July; more information will be sent out to year 6 parents in the upcoming weeks.

Bridging Project

This week, we held the final session of The Bridging project! Over the last couple of months, we have been getting to know students who need extra support in the transition from Primary to Secondary. A significant amount of work has gone into supporting these students socially, meeting new students from different Primary Schools so they can feel as confident as possible before starting in September!

Enrichment

Letters regarding our fantastic new enrichment model for September 2024 have gone out to parents and carers this week. We are passionate about offering students opportunities beyond the academic classroom, which will cultivate their characters and aid their confidence. We are pleased to announce that on a Wednesday afternoon, years 7 to 9 will take part in a range of activities such as Kick Boxing, Woodland Conservation, Primary School Reading Buddies, Golf, Dance, Catering and Podcasting. More details about the electives will follow next week. Our year 10 and 11 cohorts will also receive academic enrichment as part of their academy day, with additional career, finance and communication sessions to prepare them for adult life.

We will be holding our final "Audience With" on Tuesday 25 June, where our year 9 students will get to experience a live performance from the best up and coming Indie Rock Band in the country: The Mercians. The band will then deliver a talk around mental health and share their stories with our students. The session will finish with a Q and A section followed by photo opportunities. Our "Audience With" series has seen us invite some truly inspirational individuals into our academy who have been able to inspire our young people, we are already planning next year's events and we can't wait for our students to experience more talks from inspirational men and women.

Careers

Fifteen of our year 9 boys were selected for a programme with Sheffield University which involved them taking part in a 3-day visit to the university this week. They participated in workshops designed to look at goal setting, building self-awareness and resilience to build a strong foundation for their GCSE preparations. This will be followed by 2-days next week taking part in on campus events and tours. The programme extends into year 10 and 11 and we look forward to seeing these students develop skills and ambitions over the next two years.

Attendance

Please do ensure that if your child is not able to attend school, that we are made aware of the reason each day of their absence. The best way to do this is by using ClassCharts to alert us.

House Updates

As we head into the final half term of the year, there are still an array of opportunities where students can earn those all-important house points which will contribute towards the end of year house trip! In July, we will be taking the winning house on a trip to Xscape, where they can participate in LaserQuest and 4D Mini-Golf. Students who have contributed to their overall house total through participation in house competitions will be invited to attend the trip. Before then, students can still take part in: weekly wins, box



tasks, online quizzes and their character education sessions on John the Bear. There has been an increase in the number of activities available for students to take full advantage of the house points in the lead up to sports day - please make sure they are still engaging with all house activities and sending their contributions through to our house Instagram.

Additionally, on Friday 21 June, we are hosting our annual Sports Day competition, where students will be able to raise money for their chosen house charities and earn more house points. On the day, students and staff will be competing to earn thousands of house points, which will impact the overall house standings. Currently, we have Cusworth in first place, being closely followed by Brodsworth, Chatsworth and Wentworth. Everything is still to play for over the final six weeks of term! Can all students be reminded to bring money into the academy if they would like to contribute towards our fundraisers throughout the day!

Rewards

Golden Ticket Events

Students now have only three weeks to collect all their achievement points to meet the golden ticket criteria. Keep working hard and be in school to ensure you get your ticket! We will contact parents via Class Charts with details of the available events. A link will be provided, within which you can select your child's first, second, and third preference for the Golden Ticket events. The entry criteria were shared with students in our standards assembly at the start of this half-term. Students require a net points total of 540, and 92% attendance to access a ticket.

Yours faithfully

Mr M McDonald
Principal

