

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Thursday we welcome pupils back to the academy after their holidays so I wanted to write to you now in preparation for the new term. Enclosed with this letter you will find a copy of the newsletter. Please do have a look as it shares the great events that took place during the summer term. A particular highlight was the Creative Connections project. A group of our pupils have been working with the National Portrait Gallery in London and the Nottingham Contemporary to produce a display based upon Clifton. It really showcased Clifton and the people that live and work here. A group of our pupils spent time in the community with a professional photographer to take portraits. Their work will be displayed in the National Portrait Gallery in London in October. We are the first school outside of London to take part in such a project.

#### STAFFING

At the end of the summer term we said farewell to a number of staff. Those that left were Mr Palmer (Head of Year and PE), Miss Quainoo, Mr McDermott, Miss Illingworth (all English), Mr Miles, Mr Sandhu, Mrs Atwal (all maths), Mrs McGillan (art) and Mrs Russo (MFL). We wished Mrs Rivers (SENCO) and Mrs Jevons (Teaching Assistant) well as they began their maternity leave and Mr Ward has moved to Arnold Hill Academy as a Deputy Headteacher.

We will be welcoming a number of new staff. These are Mr Brewer (PE), Miss Vale, Miss Cashmore (both English and drama), Miss Wilshaw (art), Mr Siddiq, Miss Tran (both maths), Mrs Cotton (Attendance), Mr Johnson and Mr Bochenski (both Teaching Assistants). Mrs Desai has been seconded to the academy from Rushcliffe School as Associate Deputy Headteacher. She is an experienced SENCO and part of her remit will be to covering Mrs Rivers' maternity leave.

The Head of Year team for next year will be:

Head of Year 7 (Class of 2022): Mrs Shuttlewood

Head of Year 8 (Class of 2021): Miss Reynolds

Head of Year 9 (Class of 2020): Mrs Birch

Head of Year 10 (Class of 2019): Mr Higgs

Head of Year 11 (Class of 2018): Mrs Blaney

Mr Johnstone has been promoted from his position within the Science Faculty to be an Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for Teaching and Learning. The Senior Leadership Team supporting myself as Headteacher will be:

Mrs Hallam – Deputy Headteacher: Achievement

Mrs Watson - Deputy Headteacher: Ethos

Mrs Desai – Associate Deputy Headteacher

Mr White – Assistant Headteacher: Pupil Management

Mr Johnstone – Assistant Headteacher: Teaching and Learning

#### GCSE RESULTS

Last week the Class of 2017 returned to the academy to collect their GCSE results. This was the first year of the new English and maths GCSEs. These have been recognised as being tougher and are graded numerically with a 9 being the highest grade and a 1 the lowest. A grade four is considered a standard pass and a grade 5 is a strong pass.

There were some particular success stories. They included David Onyinah who achieved four A\*s, a nine, an A, a B a six and a seven, Ebenezer Idehbema with an A\*, two grade eights, a seven, two As a B and a C, Megan Webster with a nine, an A\*, four As, a seven, a six and a B and Olusheun Shanu with a nine, three As, a seven, a B, a five, a C and a Level 2 Merit.

In total 47% of pupils achieved a four or above in English and 41% achieved a four or above in maths.

Well done to all our pupils. We wish them well for the future.

## EXPECTATIONS

As pupils return to the academy it is important that they remember the expectations that we have. There are eight lesson expectations that we expect all pupils to follow. They are:

- ▶ I will follow the seating plan.
- ▶ I will not leave the lesson without permission.
- ▶ I will not talk when a teacher is talking.
- ▶ I will present my work carefully.
- ▶ I will not upset other pupils.
- ▶ I will follow the teacher's instructions.
- ▶ I will bring a bag, a pen, pencil and ruler every day.
- ▶ I will wear my uniform properly: tie done up, shirt tucked in

You can support this by ensuring that your child has the correct equipment including a bag. The uniform expectations are on the website but please remember that jeans, jeggings and leggings are not permitted and skirts must be pleated. Blazers and ties can be bought from EMSD (East Midlands Sports Direct) in Ruddington or via their website <http://www.emsd-online.co.uk/>

If pupils fail to follow the lesson expectations then they will receive consequence points. These can lead to detentions, internal isolation, fixed term and ultimately permanent exclusion. We do not want the learning experience ruined for the majority of pupils that work hard every day.

## TIMINGS OF THE ACADEMY DAY

Please remember that there is a slight change to the timings of the academy day following a consultation with parents last term. The timings will be:

8:35 – start of academy day  
8:40 – tutor time  
9:05 – Period 1  
10:05 – Period 2  
11:05 – Break  
11:25 – Period 3  
12:25 – Lunch  
13:00 – Period 4  
14:00 – Period 5  
15:00 – End of academy day

## ATTENDANCE

Mrs Cotton is the new Attendance Manager for the academy. Mrs Cotton and her team are keen to ensure that pupils attend the academy every day. They will support you if needed but please be aware that if your child is absent from the academy then they may visit you at home to discuss reasons for absence. All term time holidays will be considered an unauthorised absence and a penalty notice may be issued. There is an updated attendance policy on the website.

Evidence shows that a pupil's attendance is directly linked to their achievement in the academy. Please ensure that they attend every day unless they are genuinely ill.

## START OF TERM

The new term starts on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2017. Year 7, The Class of 2022, will be expected to be at the academy by 8:35am. On arrival they will be escorted to the lecture theatre for assembly. All other year groups should arrive at the academy for 9:35am where they are to go to their form rooms.

The first two days of term will revolve around the 'great learners' initiative that we will be launching. We believe that there are five core skills to be a great learner. They are great perseverance, great politeness, great preparation, great progress and great pride. The days will focus upon the skills needed for pupils to be successful in these areas. Rewards will follow for pupils demonstrating success in these areas throughout the year.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back.

Yours sincerely,

B. Chaloner  
Headteacher