

Our ref: MMC/NWI

24 October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

As the half term draws to a close, we are left to reflect on what has been an exceptional start to this academic year. The provisional results that will soon be published by the government see us as one of the top performing academies in Doncaster on attainment measures. We are rightfully proud of the young people who have achieved these results. We now have a world class enrichment programme that is spearheaded by our Wednesday afternoon electives, and this complements the academic outcomes our students achieve.

Teaching and Learning

Students have been relentless in their efforts to be fully invested over the first half term. The senior leadership team have been proud to walk visitors around the academy on our 'Golden Ticket' tours since the open evening earlier in the term.

The school will be open next week for year 11 students who have signed up to the sessions relevant to their GCSE courses; we thank the students and staff for giving up part of their valuable half term – we know it makes the difference in the long run.

Tassomai

We saw another week of excellent investment in Tassomai, our GCSE revision app for English, Science, Geography, History and Computer Science, last week. In total, students in year 11 clocked up over 155 hours of quizzing, which keeps them ahead of Year 10, who completed 138 hours of quizzing last week. In addition to reward points, students will also be rewarded with weekly queue jump passes and an opportunity to qualify for STWA Driving School in December.

Sixth Form Textbook Launch Afternoon

Next half term, all sixth form students will receive a complete pack of revision guides for their A Level exams. Year 13 Tea, Targets and Textbooks event will be hosted on Thursday 7 November. The Year 12 event will be hosted in December (date TBC).

Enrichment

Block two of the Electives will begin on Wednesday 20 November. We have sent parents and carers a copy of the Elective brochure via ClassCharts and we're excited to launch some new elective additions including Fitness and a Level 1 Sports Leadership qualification. Students have received, via school email, a link to the forms to select their top four choices. Selections must be made by 4 November, so please discuss the fantastic and varied Elective offer with your child.

After school enrichment clubs will start during half term two, the new activities will be shared in tutor time during the first Monday back. We have over 25 after school enrichment clubs running, it would be great to see as many students there as possible.



Events

Better Learners Better Workers Launch

The Better Learners Better Workers programme launched on Tuesday 22 October at Cutler's Hall, Sheffield. As part of this, students involved in this programme were taken to Cutler's Hall and participated in a tour of the impressive hall, teamwork activities, and meeting and working with employers from the construction and engineering industries. The students met with the Master Cutler, Mr Philip Rodrigo and were officially welcomed as Ambassadors. At the end of an incredible day, all ten students stood on the stage to present in front of roughly 200 peers and parents, a massive achievement for them!

Year 10 Revision Guide Evening

On Thursday 7 November, we will be hosting our year 10 Revision Guide Evening for students, parents, and carers, during which, we will share details about how students are being supported in their GCSE and BTEC studies, especially as many subjects have upcoming assessments that contribute to students' final grades. The evening will last approximately one hour and starts with a presentation at either 4:15 pm or 5:15 pm, followed by a session with form tutors. Please use this link to confirm your attendance: <https://forms.office.com/e/iKFmE35up>

Sixth Form Open Evening

On Thursday 14 November, we will welcome prospective Sixth Form students and their families to our Open Evening from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm. The evening will commence with a presentation from our Sixth Form team at 5:15 pm, followed by the opportunity to tour the academy, meet subject teachers, and learn more about the courses on offer. Join us to find out more about our exceptional experiences. Please confirm your attendance at the event via this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/cY7Be67hq0>.

Standards

Uniform

On Tuesday we gave out our 100,000th positive point of this academic year so far. Students have been working extremely hard this half term to get these reward points and we look forward to seeing students at the Golden Ticket events next term.

House Updates

This half term, students have excelled with their house competition entries which has set off the house standings to a fantastic start. Students have been focusing on Amelia Earhart this half term and have submitted a mind-blowingly creative range of posters, leaflets and model planes to earn their house points. Our Extended House Projects will be continuing next half term with students researching Katherine Johnson.

On Monday 16 December, we will have our termly house reward of a Christmas cinema screening, where all students in the winning house, who have contributed a minimum of five house points, will be invited to attend the cinema screening.

Yours sincerely

Mr M McDonald
Principal

