

Thursday 21st December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

As we come to the end of term, and before all pupils go off to celebrate Christmas and New Year with families, we want to take this opportunity to thank every pupil, every family and every member of staff member for their commitment to Excellence at City Academy.

At the end of another busy school term, there is much to celebrate:

- All students experienced the first Opportunity Day of the year, with visits across the country. We have two more Opportunity Days scheduled for this academic year.
- We have been able to reward 120 students for their attendance, punctuality and attitude to their learning with a trip to the cinema.
- Year 11 students sat their first official mock examinations, giving them experience of what to expect in the summer. The mock exams were approached with great maturity from our year 11 students and the demonstrated resilience and a drive to succeed throughout the exam session. As a result, students are clear on their strengths and areas for development in each of their subject areas, which sets them up well for success in the summer. Following on from mock examinations, year 11 parents attended the first parents evening of the year. We thank all parents who showed their commitment to their child's academic success at City Academy by joining us on a cold November evening. Our next set of mocks are quickly approaching, they will take place week commencing 29th January. A schedule will be shared very soon.
- In the last couple of weeks, we have seen over 30 of our students perform at New Street Station as a part of COREus, shared our first Christmas concert, that was so well attended, we had to add more chairs for the audience and had our whole school Christmas jumper and Christmas dinner day.

There are many more positives that I could mention that have contributed to the success of this term. Pupils should be proud of what they have achieved and build upon the successes of this term.

End of term arrangements:

The Autumn term will finish on **Friday 22nd December 2023**. On Friday, there will be an early staggered dismissal. Dismissal will begin at 12.00pm, with all students off site by **12.15pm**. All students entitled to a free school meal will have the opportunity to collect a hot or cold meal at break time. If you collect your child from school, can we please ask that you ensure a prompt collection on Friday. Please speak to your child about returning home promptly once dismissed on Friday.

Return to school:

All students will return to the academy on **Tuesday 9th January 2024**. We will have a staggered start. Please see the timings below:

- Year 7 – 8:30am
- Year 8 – 10:15am
- Year 9 – 10.15am
- Year 10 – 9:45am
- Year 11 – 9.15am

We ask that when students return in January, that they are ready for learning, meaning that their uniform, including footwear, and their equipment meets our standards. If you need more information about this, it is detailed on our website and in your child's planner. I would also like to remind you that we open our canteen every Monday to Thursday for breakfast club, at 7.45am. Students need to enter through the main school



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entrance. We have breakfast available for all students, at no cost. Students have the opportunity to socialise with their friends, play board games, complete homework or revise for their next assessments.

All that remains to be said, is that we wish you a relaxing and enjoyable break over the festive period and a Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming you all back to school, on Tuesday 9th January 2024.

Yours sincerely

Rebecca Bakewell
Headteacher