



**CITY
ACADEMY**

Langley Walk, Birmingham, B15 2EF

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Heads of School: Rekha Shell-Macleod & Rebecca Bakewell

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REF: RBA/RSM/EndofTermParentLetter

December 2021

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, where we have tried to return to normal school life, there is much to celebrate:

- We now have a democratically elected Student Leadership Team, representing our students' views and focussed on continuing to drive improvements and supporting the strive for Excellence at City Academy.
- Following significant investment, all pupils in year 7-10 have a class reader, to raise the profile of reading at the school and foster/support a lifelong love of reading.
- We have seen the return of educational visits and experiences, including a year 7 trip to Think Tank, a visit to a local restaurant for the Student Leadership Teams first whole school meeting, visits into school by The Animal Man for year 7 Year 10 and 11 students took part in a Forensics workshop and Year 10 triple scientists took part in a Driverless Car Challenge. We look forward to many more in the Spring term.
- We have been able to reward 100 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.
- We have seen the return of COREus and both Langley Walk and Newhall Street have been happy to host the choir this term. We have seen our students grow in confidence and demonstrate excellent teamwork as a part of COREus, across the four CORE schools and with the expert guidance of the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. The culmination of this terms work has been the release of a single of the song 'Lift Every Voice and Sing' which is downloadable on streaming platforms. Our students chose to raise money for the charity Shelter, supporting people experiencing homelessness and bad housing across country. Please download the single and donate what you can by following the link <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/lifteveryvoice>
- We have enjoyed welcoming parents to our two coffee mornings and look forward to more opportunities in 2022.

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



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End of term arrangements:

The Autumn term will finish on **Friday 17th December 2021**. On Friday, there will be an early staggered dismissal. Dismissal will begin at 12.00pm, with all students off site by **12.30pm**. 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.

January testing:

You will no doubt be aware that the Education Secretary announced that secondary schools in England will be required to perform COVID Lateral Flow Tests on return in January. We can now confirm the arrangements at City Academy.

All testing will take place on **Wednesday 5th January 2022**.

Testing will take place at Langley Walk for Years 7, 8 and 9. The times will be as follows:

Year 7: 9.00am – 10.30am

Year 8: 11.00am – 12.30pm

Year 9: 1.00pm – 2.30pm

Testing will take place at Newhall Street for Years 10 and 11. The times will be as follows:

Year 10: 9.00am – 11.00am

Year 11: 11:30am – 1.30pm

All students will return to the academy on **Thursday 6th January 2022, at 8.30am**. Lessons will resume as normal.

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, for testing on Wednesday 5th January and for lessons on Thursday 6th January 2022.

Yours sincerely

Rebecca Bakewell

Head of School

Rekha Shell-Macleod

Head of School