

26th May 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

This half term has seen a continued focus on exams for Year 11 and Year 13 students. We know that they may be feeling the additional pressure of exams and we continue to provide support where it is needed. As always, we would encourage you to contact us if your child is struggling, or there is anything we can do to help them whatever year they are in.

Earlier this month, over the Coronation weekend, we were delighted to host over 94 visitors from 13 schools around the world at our own 'Back to Nature' Round Square Conference here at the Academy. During their visit they went to Castle Howard and stayed at a Bushcraft Camp, where they built shelters, made traps, learned survival skills and made new and lifelong friends. For those who attended the experience it is likely to be one that they won't forget!

We continue to rebuild our offer of wider opportunities moving further away from the pandemic and below is a flavour of some events that have taken place this half term;

- Year 7 Shakespeare Workshop
- Project Flavour Days for Year 7 and Year 9
- PSHE sessions for students in Years 7-10.
- Wellbeing Evening
- A variety of sporting fixtures

Student focus next term

Please be aware that we will be having a big push on uniform expectations after the half term break. We have reminded students this week that jewellery should not be worn (other than a wristwatch) during the academy day. We have explained that clear studs, and plasters used to cover up piercings, are also not allowed. If a student arrives to lessons wearing jewellery, they will be asked to remove it and issued with a detention by their teacher. If a student refuses to remove the item/s of jewellery, they will be asked to make their way to the matrix room where a member of staff will contact home for support. Students will only return to lessons when the issue has been resolved. Thank you in advance for your anticipated support with this matter.

Management Information System

Thank you to those of you who have signed up to the new MyChildAtSchool - MCAS App, we have had a fantastic response already with around 30% logging on in the first few days. As you know one of the main reasons for the change is to improve communications between the Academy and home and we firmly believe that you will see clear improvement through using the MCAS App. If you don't have the MCAS App yet, we encourage you to download it as soon as possible as it will be used as our main point of communication moving forward and you will need it to book future parents' evening appointments. As always, we are open to feedback from parents and carers and if you do experience any problems, we have a dedicated email at bromcom@tscacademy.org.uk for you to get in touch with us.

Academy+

Following on from previous information about our exciting fundraising initiative [Academy+](#), we have now set a date for our first fundraising event. We will be hosting a dinner event on **Thursday 29th June**,

the menu and further information is attached. We really hope that you can come along to support us and taste some of the delicious food that will be carefully prepared by Les our chef, along with some of our own in-house catering team and Year 10 food students. Tickets are available to purchase now through your [WisePay](#) account and are priced at £20 per head, you can pay in full or an initial deposit with the remainder due a week before the event. If you are unable to attend the dinner but would still like to support us, we do need some raffle prizes so if you have something you would like to donate please drop this into our reception, or if you feel able to you can make a donation through [WisePay](#) to the Academy+ fund. For more information about Academy+ please see the [Support Us](#) section on our website.

Bike Security

Nottinghamshire Police will be attending the Academy on Tuesday 6th June to fit security tags to the bikes of any students who would like to have one. The tags retail at around £15 and the police have offered to fit these for free. The tag is fitted inside the frame of the bike and can be read by police scanners, which means if the bike is stolen and recovered it can be returned to the owner. We have shared this information with students and should they wish to have a tag fitted they just need to bring their bike in on the 6th June and take it to the picnic bench area at the end of the day, either 1.35pm or 2.35pm depending on their finish time.

School Day

We continue to plan for the change to the school day from September. As a reminder, there will be a single start and finish time for all students (8.30am-3pm) which will allow for many improvements, including being able to run a more comprehensive after school activity programme, reintroduce tutor groups and will solve many of the problems raised by parents and carers during the consultation process and through other channels. We will continue to provide a free breakfast for all students before school and this will be available from 8.15am. If you feel these arrangements will cause you any particular issues, please get in touch and we will see what we can do to support you.

Message from our Chaplain

The sun was shining, the roads were clear, I had time to eat breakfast before leaving the house for work in the morning, I had a free drink on my Costa App and I had the perfect gym session on the way, I suddenly woke up and what seemed to be my perfect start to the day was all a dream.

Daily life does not usually work that way, there is always an issue or inconvenience of some kind to deal with, kids in a strop, run out of milk or even a car breakdown thrown in for good measure, it doesn't take too much for us to shift our focus on those things that have not gone quite as we thought they would, and in turn impact our outlook on the rest of the day.

I have found a remedy for this situation, and it is summed up in one word. Gratitude. I find it really difficult to remain negative if I live thankfully. Research suggests that practicing gratitude may help decrease stress, lessen anxiety, and even improve sleep patterns. Here are three things that helped me (alongside my faith of course) to develop my attitude of gratitude.

1. Celebrate the wins (even the small ones).
2. Take some time to focus on what we have and not what we lack.
3. "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

1 Thessalonians 5:18

Give it a go next time you feel the negative stuff influencing your thinking, start to write down, or even tell someone else the things that you are thankful for.

As usual, if you have any concerns or questions please get in touch. We look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 5th June.

Yours faithfully



Lisa McVeigh
Principal