

Headteacher: Mr S Parker

Monday 24th February 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome Back - Spring Half Term 2 Update

Although the last half term was a shorter one, it was packed with activity, and we are proud of everything that was achieved in just six weeks. We returned in January to freezing temperatures and even a brief spell of snow, but as the weather quickly passed, students embraced the term with focus and determination. This was especially true for our Year 11 students, who approached their mock results day with maturity and have since stepped up their efforts, working hard in lessons and fully engaging with additional intervention sessions. Their dedication and commitment are truly commendable and set an example for the rest of the school.

The last half term truly showcased our commitment to student enrichment, providing a wide range of opportunities beyond the classroom. Students took part in visits to colleges, post-16 providers, theatres, and sporting events. Our debating team achieved fantastic success, being named West Lancashire champions and earning recognition in the Lancashire Magazine. We launched the next of our international visits to Disney, marking another step towards our goal of offering ten international trips over the next two years. Alongside this, our extra-curricular and sporting calendar continues to thrive. This commitment to enrichment and personal development remains a key focus, and we are excited to enhance it further with the recruitment of a new Assistant Headteacher in the coming week, dedicated to expanding these opportunities for all students.

Endeavour Learning Trust Fundraising Campaign

I hope that you have taken the opportunity to review the media coverage in the last week which reported on the cross-trust effort to stand in unity with the community at Churchtown Primary School. We are proud to announce that staff members from Tarleton Academy will be participating in the Blackpool Festival of Running on April 26th and 27th. Our team will join colleagues from across the Endeavour Learning Trust in the 10K, Half Marathon, and Marathon events. This collective effort aims to raise £250,000 for a new playground at Churchtown Primary School, in memory of Alice da Silva Aguiar and Bebe King, two cherished students who tragically lost their lives in July.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, we raised an astounding £70,000 on the first day of the campaign, and we can't wait to help make the dreams of Alice's parents a reality. The proposed playground will feature a performance stage, climbing frames, a library, and a memorial, serving as a lasting tribute to Alice and Bebe. We would love for parents and carers to join us at the Blackpool Festival of Running - whether taking part in one of the races or supporting our fundraising efforts. To join the #TeamTarleton running team and support the Endeavour Learning Trust fundraising efforts, please email enquiries@tarletonacademy.org and begin your fundraising today.



Attendance and Standards

As we begin a new half term, we want to take this opportunity to remind all families of the importance of good attendance, punctuality, and being ready to learn each day. Attending school consistently is vital. Not only does it allow students to engage fully in their learning, but it also helps them develop essential life skills such as resilience, and responsibility. Regular attendance ensures students have access to all the opportunities available to them, from academic support and enrichment activities to friendships and wider personal development. Every lesson missed is a learning opportunity lost, and we are committed to working together with families to ensure that all students make the most of their time in school.

Over the coming week, our focus will be on warmly welcoming students back while also maintaining our high expectations for uniform and equipment. In the last half term, we noticed an increase in students wearing multiple facial piercings. As a reminder, our school policy allows only a single stud in the ear lobe and any other jewellery must be removed. We appreciate the support of families in reinforcing this expectation at home. From this half term onwards, any students arriving at school with multiple facial piercings will have these items confiscated. Your cooperation in upholding our standards is greatly valued.

Lockdown Procedure

As a school, we have a duty to plan and rehearse our emergency procedures, including what to do in the event of a lockdown. In the coming weeks, we will be conducting a full lockdown drill to ensure that all students and staff are familiar with the process. For most students, this will be their second time practicing these procedures, but we recognise that for our Year 7s, this will be a new experience. To ensure they feel confident and well-prepared, we will take the time to explain the importance of these drills and what to expect.

On the day of the drill, we will communicate with families to confirm that our planned procedures are being carried out. Please remember that if a lockdown is ever initiated, it is crucial that parents do not come to the school or attempt to contact the school or their child by telephone. In the case of a drill, we will always make it clear in our communications that it is a practice exercise. Our students take these drills seriously, and we appreciate your support in helping us ensure they are fully prepared for any situation.

Key Dates for the Half Term

Year 9 Options Evening	Thursday 27 th February 2025
Community Drop In	Saturday 8 th March 2025
Year 7 Parents' Evening	Thursday 20 th March 2025
Break Up for Easter	Friday 4 th April at 12:30pm

Thank you for your continued support in all that we do at Tarleton Academy to raise standards and ensure that every student receives the highest level of education and support possible.

Yours faithfully.

Mr S. Parker Headteacher

