



Monday 16th December 2019

Dear Parents,

## Approaching the end of a busy term...

It does not seem five minutes ago that students and staff were starting the new academic year and here we are only a few days away from the Christmas holidays!

It has been an extremely busy and successful term at Tarleton Academy and I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of what has been taking place recently. The Year 11 students started their first set of practice examinations last week and these will run until Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December. We have been impressed with their positive approach and excellent behaviour so far and appreciate the importance parents have placed on their preparation. On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December school closes for students at 12.30pm, after our end of year assembly, and buses have been arranged for this time. I am sure that Year 11 students in particular will be looking forward to a well-earned break!

In early December we hosted two productions of 'Goodnight Mister Tom' to rave reviews. The hard work, dedication and talent displayed by the students was simply breath-taking. This, coupled with the expertise of the staff, made for a powerful and emotive musical production that any professional company would have been proud of. For those who came to see the show we thank you for your support. It was fantastic for the students to be able to perform to such large audiences on both nights. In a similar vein, on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December, we held our annual Carol Service at Tarleton Holy Trinity Church and took part in 'Christmas Jumper Day', in aid of 'Save the Children'. The weather may have been cold and wet outside the church but the service was vibrant and brimming with a welcoming warmth. The Year 7 students behaved extremely well during the event and the singers and musicians performed brilliantly. Again, thank you to all those who supported us with their attendance. The Tarleton Academy Choir and musicians will be performing at Booths on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, so if you are in the area please pop in and support us again!

As we look forward to the New Year we need to inform you of staffing changes taking place from January 2020. As is the case each academic year, we have staff that are successful in taking on new roles within school or are successful in securing promotion externally. Miss Lowe will be leaving us in January to take up a new role outside of Tarleton Academy. We would like to wish her the very best and thank her for her commitment not only to the Maths Faculty but also in her role as Farah House Progress Lead. We are pleased to announce that Mrs Staniforth will be taking up the lead of Farah House. She has already been working alongside Miss Lowe to ensure that students are supported effectively and that there is a seamless transition. We will also be welcoming Miss Harvey who will be the new personal tutor for the current D-JST and will join the Maths Faculty. Due to the nature of the role changes, some students will have changes to their timetable on their return in January. We will issue students with a new copy of their timetable when we welcome them back to school on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2020. To support the distribution of the timetables, students should go to their tutor rooms when the bell rings at 8.45am.

With the New Year in mind, please take into consideration our previous 'Important Updates and Reminders' letter from November (<https://tarletonacademy.org/school-letters>), especially linked to uniform standards and the fact that all skirts should be at least knee length and that footwear must be 'plain, black, smart, sturdy shoes', fit for purpose. As always, we are proud of the fact that the vast majority of our students continually wear the correct uniform with pride. We understand that there may be families who require financial support to rectify uniform issues. Please do not hesitate to contact the pastoral team if this is the case.

Key dates for the new term can be found on the school website calendar <https://tarletonacademy.org/our-calendar> and below for next term. Finally, we hope you have a fantastic Christmas break and we wish you a Happy New Year from all of us at Tarleton Academy.

**Key Dates for the New Year:**

- Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January - INSET Day (school closed to students)
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January - School Re-opens to students at 8.45am (Week 1)
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January - Year 9 Parents' Evening
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January – Year 10 Parents' Evening
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Year 9 Options Evening
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February – School Closes for the February Half-term at 3.15pm
- Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February – School Reopens at 8.45am (Week 1)
- Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February – Whole-school Review Day
- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March – Year 11 Parents' Evening
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March – Year 8 Parents' Evening
- Week beginning Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March – Year 11 Practice Examinations 2
- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – School Closes at 12.30pm for the 'Easter Holidays'
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April – School Re-opens to students at 8.45am (Week 1)

Yours sincerely,

*Mr M Cunniffe*

Head of School

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