

Westbourne Academy

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Principal - Mr Garry Trott

Our ref: GTr/EPE

4 December 2017



Dear Parents & Students

Elf Jr the Musical – Wednesday 13, Thursday 14 & Friday 15 December

As you are hopefully already aware, our Drama department are working hard with students who are performing in our academy production of Elf Jr the Musical. Tickets are now on sale through ParentPay for each of the three shows starting at 7.15pm for 7.30pm. Tickets cost £10 for a family of four or £4 per adult or £2 for children/concessions. Anybody who uses PayPoint will need to contact Miss Green on 01473-466157 to request the generation of a barcode.

Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 15 December

As an academy community, we will be supporting Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 15 December. In exchange for a £1 donation, which will be collected at the entrance gates in the morning, students are invited to come to school wearing a festive themed top or jumper. Students are still expected to wear their academy trousers and shoes but if they are wearing a festive jumper or top they do not need to wear their uniform shirt/tie, jumper or jacket. Students do not have to join in and anybody who chooses not to wear a festive jumper, should please wear their regulation uniform as normal. Our ambition this year is to raise a minimum of £500 in support of Save the Children which would be a fantastic achievement.



Christmas Lunch – Friday 15 December

As a prelude to the Christmas holidays, students will be offered a traditional roast turkey Christmas lunch in the Food Hall on Friday 15 December. Students will need £2.20 in their cashless catering accounts in order to purchase the meal. Students who receive a Free School Meal will of course be able to purchase the meal in the usual way. The vegetarian alternative is a Parsnip Risotto. The speedy bar will only be open at morning break and not at lunchtime. No other food will be served at lunch time.

End of Term Assembly – Tuesday 19 December

On Tuesday 19 December, we will be holding a whole school assembly in the sports hall at 12.00noon. At 11.50am the bell will ring and students will go back to their tutor bases before proceeding to assembly with their form tutors. Students will be dismissed at the earlier time of 1.00pm approximately. Food will only be available at morning break; there will be no lunch time food service on the last day of term. Students will have lessons 1, 2 and tutor time as usual. Lesson 3 will be shortened to 40 minutes to finish at 11.50am.

First Day Back – Thursday 4 January 2018

Wednesday 3 January is a PD day (staff training day). If you are booking a holiday for the summer or autumn of 2018, please first check our term dates which are listed on the academy's website.

Students return for the spring term on Thursday 4 January at 8.25am (week 1 of timetables). The timings for the first day back will change slightly. At 8.25am, students should report to their tutor bases where they will be given a new Standards Card and a new copy of their timetable. At 8.50am the bell will ring for lesson 1. At 9.50am the bell will ring for lesson 2. Morning break will be at 10.50am as usual. Lessons 3, 4, lunch and lesson 5 will continue as normal at the usual times.



Footwear & Outdoor Jackets

We appreciate that there are occasions when school shoes need replacing or repairing and can become unwearable as a result. Please be advised that students will be permitted to wear alternative footwear for a maximum of two school days when accompanied by a note from parents. On the third day, the academy will be providing students with a temporary pair of shoes to wear whilst they are in school. These shoes will need to be returned at the end of the school day.

As the winter weather becomes increasingly colder and wetter, students will doubtless want to wear an outdoor coat to school. Please note that denim and/or leather jackets are not permissible at all. We will be enforcing this from January and would appreciate your support in this regard.

House Charities

The generosity shown by parents, friends, family, students and staff when it comes to supporting the academy's fundraising efforts is always hugely appreciated. The final sum raised at the cake sale in September in support of MacMillan Cancer Support was £303.18.

As part of their ongoing support for BLISS, Ennis are once again collecting goods such as small teddy bears, magazines, toys and sweets to deliver to the Ipswich neonatal unit as gesture of goodwill for those parents in hospital over the festive period with their premature babies.

Nightingale are showing their care and goodwill towards others less fortunate than themselves by collecting small gifts and groceries for making up into Christmas parcels for the elderly in our community, the homeless and families living at the Lighthouse. Last year, the recipients of the Christmas parcels were very appreciative and overwhelmed by this gesture. Mrs Blanch is seeking donations of women's and children's clothing, toys and household items to give to the Lighthouse charity to help them set-up women and children in their own homes.

Ramsey are supporting the St Elizabeth Hospice and a troupe of hardy staff lead by Mr Payne will be plunging into the icy waters off Felixstowe beach on Christmas Day morning. Sponsorship is welcome and details of how to do this will be provided to students in tutor time.

Churchill will be hosting another popular karaoke evening for students in the spring term to raise funds for their chosen charity, Guide Dogs for the Blind. Further details will be announced after the Christmas holidays.


Calendar Dates

Below are some key dates for your diary for next term:

Wednesday 10 January	Year 11 Progression Interviews (8.25am – 2.50pm)
Thursday 11 January	Year 10 Parent Consultation Evening (Main Hall 4.00 – 7.00pm)
Monday 15 January	Year 9 Progress Review Exams (PREs) this week
Thursday 1 February	Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening (Main Hall 4.00 – 7.00pm)
Monday 12 February	Half Term Week until Friday 16 th February inclusive
Wednesday 21 February	Year 11 Parent/Revision Info Evening (6.00 – 7.00pm)
Monday 26 February	Year 11 Progress Review Exams Week (PREs) Round 2
Monday 26 February	Y8 Girls/Y9 Girls Catch-up HPV Vaccinations (9.00am – 1.00pm)

On behalf of the Trust, the staff and the governing body, may I take this opportunity to thank you for your support this term. We wish you and your family a peaceful Christmas and a joyful 2018.

Yours sincerely



G Trott – Principal