

Monday 11th July 2022

End of Term letter – Summer 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to start by saying a huge thank you to the whole school community for your continued support in what has been an exceptionally busy summer term and academic year. External exams have taken place for our older students for the first time since 2019, along with a long list of trips, events and experiences involving our whole school community.

In June we said goodbye to our year 11 students, who eagerly await their exam results in the summer. We look forward to celebrating with them at their prom and on result's day!

We have also welcomed in to the academy our new year 7 students for September 2022. We are very fortunate to be able to say that we are full and oversubscribed for the third consecutive year, and have a waiting list of students wanting to attend WOA. This is a big achievement for the school and thanks must go to everyone that has worked so hard to ensure our school is the number one choice for our community.

Ingestre Hall 2022

On Monday 20th - Friday 24th June - 7 members of staff accompanied 71 students on the Annual Residential trip to Ingestre Hall Arts residential in Stafford. Students choose one subject Art, Drama, Music or Dance as their specialist focus for the week. The theme this year was in conjunction with WOA, celebrating equality and diversity. These performances and exhibits were shared at the end of the week and WoW! The work produced was thoughtful mature and magical. As well as the creative aspects of Ingestre there is also the new friendships created, the outdoor picnics the excitement of sharing a dorm and being away from home for the first time, the table tennis and pool tournaments, not forgetting our final night certificate presentation celebrating achievements during the week such as "fussiest eater", "thoughtful and kind" and "best dressed at our fabulous final night party ! We are all booked ready for next June 2023! Thanks to all the students and staff that made it such a fantastic and memorable experience!

Year 7 and 8 Leadership Challenge Days

During May and June all of our Year 7 and 8 students had the opportunity to take part in a Leadership Challenge Day, led by Pioneer leadership. Throughout the day the students took on a number of challenges we focussed on improving their team work, communication and confidence. Pioneer Leadership commented on how well our students took to the challenge! Wells done Years 7 and 8!

We Will Project

We are about to launch the OAT #wewillexplore project to Year 8 that they will complete in Year 9 where they complete a series of outdoor projects, as well as some Social Action projects to complete the project.



Univerisfy

At Easter one of our Y11s (Bradley) went off to Oxford University for a University study weekend, and in August two of our Year 10s going into Year 11, (Sophia and Gurmeet) have been selected to go and spend a week studying at Oxford University. Good luck!

Commonwealth Games Baton Bearer

Congratulations to Emily in Year 11 who has been selected to carry the baton for the commonwealth games through Wednesbury as part of the official relay to start this year's games to be held in Birmingham and Sandwell. Emily will be carrying the baton on Monday 25th July, taking over at 09:26 am from 32 Upper High Street WS10 7HJ, and ending with the baton at 3-4 Walsall Street WS10 9BZ. Good Luck Emily! We are really proud of you!

End of Term Arrangements

School will finish for all students on **Wednesday 20th July at 3.10pm**. But, before then, we have lots more exciting activities for students to see them into the summer holidays.

Monday 18th July – Sports Day. Students are busy preparing and practicing for the pinnacle of the sporting year at WOA. All students will be involved in sports day. On the day we would like students to wear their full WOA PE Kit. Please do not send students in alternative sportswear.

Tuesday 19th July/Wednesday 20th July – Enrichment Days. All students have been sent home with a letter to invite them to attend one of our planned enrichment trips at the end of the school year. These trips form part of our enrichment pledge to every student.

Year 7 are going to Brean Sands and Kenilworth Castle, Year 8 to Weston and Conkers, and Year 9 are going to Baggeridge Country Park and Liverpool to visit the Museum of Liverpool and the International Slavery Museum. Year 10 will be on Works Experience.

If you have any questions regarding the enrichment trips please email paul.harris@woacademy.co.uk

Uniform Sales day

A reminder that we expect to see all students in our WOA uniform on their return to school. Uniform is available from our supplier, Gogna, in Oldbury. They will be setting up a pop-up shop at the school on Thursday 28th July for you to try on and purchase any items you require. Our uniform is:

- Black blazer with school logo (compulsory).
- Black standard trousers or black skirt (must be knee length or longer, no leggings).
- Plain white shirt long or short sleeved.
- Academy tie.
- All black shoes with black laces (no trainers).
- Dark plain socks.
- WOA PE Kit
- A bag for equipment.

Return to School Arrangements

Students will have a staggered return to school in September as follows:

- **New Year 7 and Year 11 students** return on Wednesday 7th September. They should be in school by 8.45am. Year 7 students will assemble in the sports hall. Year 11 students will make their way to their tutor rooms.
- **WOA6, Year 8 and Year 9 students** return on Thursday 8th September. They should report to their tutor rooms by 8.45am.
- **Year 10 students** return on Friday 9th September. They should report to their tutor rooms by 8.45am.

Safeguarding

As the holiday approaches don't forget students can access the Sharp System out of school hours via the school website. We are also available for urgent concerns via our Facebook page.

Stay safe during the holidays.

1. Only talk to people you know on line
2. Only organise to meet people in safe places
3. Walk each other home – don't stay out too late!
4. If you see anything that concerns you – don't forget to run, hide, tell!

If you have a concern out of school hours, please contact:

Police – 999 (emergency) 101 (non-emergency)

NSPCC – 0800 800 5000 (Text 88858)

Sandwell Children's Services team – 0121 569 3100

For support, please contact:

ChildLine – 0800 1111

Samaritans – 116 123

Yours Faithfully,



Leigh Moore
Principal



Myk Wagstaff
Vice Principal