

25th October 2023

Dear Families,

I am writing to inform you that the Academy closes at **2.50pm on Friday 27th October 2023** for the half term break. The Academy will re-open at the normal time **on Monday 6th November 2023**. The last half term has seen another array of events, activities, initiatives and developments that continue to move our Academy forward in a positive direction as you will see in the newsletter that is uploaded weekly on the website. The latest of these is the Year 11 practice interviews which have taken place at Bescot Stadium this week, to support students as they prepare for the world of work. These interviews were done by employers, with over 30 different employers giving up their time to support our students in this process. The employers said our students were a real credit to the Academy and their families. Please do refer to the website link attached [Joseph Leckie Academy - Weekly Newsletter](#) for a weekly update of activities, events and reminders to parents.

It has been quite a long half term and I wish to thank all staff for their on-going support of students and the additional events, clubs, activities and opportunities they provide. It has been good to see so many of you at our recent Year 11 Parents' Evening and other parent events this half term. We had an excellent turnout for our recent Open Evening which is a good sign of our increasing popularity as a secondary school in the borough. We have a long waiting list for all year groups. **We have our Year 7 'Settling-in' evening on Thursday this week.** It will be great to see as many Year 7 parents as possible and it will be a good opportunity for you to find out more about what is on offer to your child in the Academy. There will be a series of informative talks from a number of key people and a chance to ask questions and how we can work together to ensure they thrive here at Joseph Leckie. The event starts at 4m, please see our website for more details and booking information if you have not already pre-booked.

We have continued to build on the successes that were identified in our 'Good' Ofsted report and last year's results and this includes the excellent exam results achieved by our students this summer. With the publication of the official performance tables, we can now confirm that Joseph Leckie Academy once again has a positive residual for 2023 making it one of the highest performing academies in Walsall. This once again demonstrates the hard work of our students and the dedication of all our staff to supporting our students. Last year's Year 11s were hit particularly hard with a number of Covid lockdowns and previous cohorts had adapted examinations whereas this last cohort sat exams that were as hard as pre-Covid so they have performed exceptionally well despite all the hardships faced. We are already working hard with all students who are preparing for examinations in order to continue to raise standards of progress and attainment across all areas.

Thank you to all those parents who support us in maintaining high standards of attendance, punctuality, uniform and equipment requirements. I would ask that every parent continues to work closely with us to maintain those high standards as this will continue to be an important focus for us when we return after half term. Please find a link regarding the uniform expectations for all students Joseph Leckie Academy - [Joseph Leckie Academy - Uniform](#) . In addition to the above, all students are expected to follow our Student Code of Conduct, every day.



Please would you ensure that during half term you use ParentMail to purchase any items that are required including paying for any lanyards/passes that your child may have lost. Also, please ensure that your child's account is topped up where needed so there are sufficient funds for purchasing school meals where this is applicable.

Parking outside of the Academy gates has improved considerably since the start of the year. Thank you to those parents who have supported us with our drive to improve the safety of the crossing areas around the Academy. However, may I remind all parents that we continue to be vigilant and will reinforce our safety messages with parents who are stopping illegally and inappropriately in order to collect and drop off their child. Please do not stop on the zig-zags, the zebra crossings, where the cones are placed, on corners of roads or alongside where other cars are parked as this puts your child and other students, parents, pedestrians and road users at risk of serious injury. Can I also politely request that if collecting a student from school that you park considerately and respect our neighbours.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and restful half term break.

Yours faithfully,



Ms Rachel Cook
Associate Principal



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