



Joseph Leckie Academy

13th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we near the end of another busy term, I wanted to update you on some of the very positive events that have occurred over the past few weeks as well as remind you of some key dates and up and coming events.

Firstly, as you are aware from Mr Ludlow's previous letter on 30th November, we have changed the end of term date and we will now finish on **Thursday 21st December 2023**. Lessons will be as normal on the Thursday for periods one to four but we will conclude with the last lesson which will be delivered by form tutors and will end with some awards. However, we will have **a slightly staggered finish with some students leaving at 2.40**. This will enable an orderly and safe end to the term.

The spring term starts on **Monday 8th January 2024 for all students at the usual time**. Please can I take this opportunity to remind you that we expect students to be in full Academy uniform and the correct PE Kit in the New Year and also that they have a lanyard. If they require a new lanyard, please ensure you pay for this on Parent mail and that they have ordered this before the end of term. Ms Smith, Head of PE has also been reminding students that during the winter season it is important that they bring their trainers as well as their football boots as groups are currently on Football or Rugby. Please see the link below for the relevant Academy Uniform and PE Kit.

[Joseph Leckie Academy - Uniform](#)

Thank you to all those parents/carers who are engaging with Class Charts which is used to keep a track of your child's behaviour, timetable and homework and important announcements from the Academy. This is also our method of informing parents if your child does have a detention. Parents/Carers can request their login details by emailing their child's Head of Year.

We have continued to build on the successes that were identified in our Good Ofsted report and this includes continuing with our outstanding exam results achieved by our students once again this summer. With the publication of the official performance tables, we can now confirm that Joseph Leckie Academy is, once again, one of the top performing schools in the borough with students performing well above local and well in comparison to national averages.



Learn together, lead together.



Joseph Leckie Academy

Walstead Road West, Walsall, WS5 4PG

Tel: 01922 721071

Email: postbox@josephleckieacademy.co.uk

Chief Executive Office: Mr James Ludlow

Associate Principal: Ms Rachel Cook



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Over the past couple of weeks, we have said goodbye to two long serving members of staff, Mr Vickers who was an IT technician with us for nearly 20 years who has helped so many students with technology as well as more setting up a student group who have produced the "Leckie News" and "The Leckian". Ms Stroud who was our Library manager who served the Academy for almost 10 years and has contributed to the development of our Library over the years as well as on-line materials and Learning Platform which is used by staff and students. Also Mrs Matharu is leaving us shortly for a new career role, she joined us several years ago as a bilingual TA and more recently has supported the Administration team.

At the end of this term we are also saying goodbye to some other members of staff including Mrs Matthews within the Health and Social Care department has worked at the Academy for almost ten years and has supported so many students in the subject over her time here. She is leaving us to teach in a school which is closer to her home so she can spend more time beyond school with her family and she will be greatly missed by students and staff alike. We also say farewell to Mrs A Siddiqa who has also been here for a number of years as a Science teacher, she is taking a well-earned career break to spend more time with her young family and will return to teaching in the future when her children are older. We are also sorry to see Mr Sargent leave us, he was a former student who returned to teach Music in the Academy. Finally, we say farewell to Mr Truby who has been at the Academy for a number of years as a Science teacher and has supported so many students particularly in Physics, he is going on for a well-earned promotion in another school. Whilst we are sad that staff are leaving us, we do wish them all the best in their future career development and personal lives and thank these staff for their time and service to so many students and their support for colleagues over the years.

We are excited by new roles in the Academy, and new staff who have joined us or will be joining us in the near future. We have a new Academy Estates Manager, Mr Hebbert has joined us to expand the capacity of the Site Team to lead and further develop and improve the site and ensure we continue to develop and improve our facilities. We have recently appointed a new Library Resources Manager, an experienced Librarian, Mrs Taylor who will start shortly to further develop the Library and interventions for students. We appointed Mr Harbinson to a new post as Digital Resources Co-ordinator who will work towards further developing our learning platform for students (SharePoint) as well as more opportunities to share communications with parents such as via the ever evolving website and social media. We are also delighted to have appointed an Academy Nurse, Mrs Drinkwater who should start working with us in the last week of term, this will really develop the support we have for students with medical needs as well as supporting our safeguarding team with other mental health support for our students.



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There has been so much success and positivity to celebrate once again this term. We have seen the impressive attitude to learning of a record number of students being recognised through class charts and the success of our students in lessons and other learning events such as the Year 9 Young Writers Poetry anthology competition. In addition, there are so many events and trips that have taken place this term here are just a few of the highlights: we have hosted a Primary Football tournament for some of our feeder schools, we had our annual Children in Need day raising over £1440.00, several students went to the Food Show, Young Enterprise Team events and sports fixtures and events for students beyond the Academy, to name but a few.

In addition to this, we remain committed to educating our students on the importance of keeping safe and making sensible and informed decisions. To this end, students from all year groups will experience a range of assemblies and presentations with external speakers and productions on topics such as knife crime, road safety and hate crime awareness in the coming week as well as additional resources shared in the PDP lessons.

In the new year, we have a lot of further events and activities planned including Year 8 Options Information evening in January, Study Skills evening for Y11 students and parents also in January, Drama and English Theatre Trips as well as the Leckie Fashion show to look forwards to in February. We will also have the culmination of The Lion Heart Challenge where a number of last year's Year 10 students have worked on a historical show case of major Walsall legends with some outstanding Art display boards produced by our students. The "Great works of Art" will be displayed in Palfrey Park in the new year.

There are also many rewards trips being planned so it is really important for your child to continue to work hard and gain more class charts points so that they are eligible for these events. Please remember to reinforce our Homework Menus available in all subject areas where students can develop their skills and knowledge as well as earn extra rewards on class charts.

I look forward to continuing to work in partnership and sharing further successes with you as parents and carers as we move into the new year. Thank you very much for your support this year, it is much appreciated.

I wish you all a peaceful and relaxing Christmas break and we look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you during 2024.

Yours faithfully

Rachel Cook
Associate Principal



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