

October 21st 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **RE: HALF TERM HOLIDAY**

I am writing to remind you that the Academy will close at the normal time on Friday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> for the start of the half term holiday and will re-open at the usual time on Monday, November 1<sup>st</sup> 2021.

## **COVID GUIDANCE AND RESTRICTIONS**

This has been a very difficult and challenging time for all students, staff and families and we are grateful for your on-going support in ensuring that your child is safe and follows the rules. We have been impressed by how well students have adapted to these and settled back into their studies.

This pandemic is still very much with us and rates are currently on the increase, so we all have a responsibility to try and reduce the spread. I would remind all of you that during the current restrictions, it is essential that students and families follow the Walsall guidance. As an Academy, certain restrictions are still in place to ensure you and your child are safe as well as to playing an important part in reducing the spread of the virus. Thank you for all of you who have provided and encouraged your child to wear masks in communal areas. Masks are again required to be worn in communal areas within the Academy (unless your child is exempt). Please ensure that your child continues to carry a mask with them at all times and wears it when required, particularly corridors, between lessons and where social distancing cannot be maintained, on their return after half term.

We strongly recommend that students continue to test twice weekly during Half Term and request that all students test using a Lateral Flow Test on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October, before returning to the Academy.

#### PARENT TRUSTEE VACANCY

You will have received a letter regarding our Parent Trustee vacancy on our Governing Board. If you would like to find out more about how you can contribute to the governance at Joseph Leckie Academy, please email my PA, Mrs S. Richard, on <u>s.richards@josephleckieacademy.co.uk</u> with your contact details and a call back can be arranged. The letter containing the full details is available on the website.

This is a very exciting time to be joining us as a Trustee at Joseph Leckie Academy as we continue our journey towards becoming a world class academy and we hope to see many applications.

# Joseph Leckie Academy

Walstead Road West, Walsall, West Midlands W85 4PG **Principal:** Mr James Ludlow **Tel:** 01922 721071 **Fax:** 01922 641497 **email:** postbox@josephleckieacademy.co.uk **web:** www.josephleckieacademy.co.uk



## **OFSTED VISIT**

Thank you to parents who filled in the Ofsted questionnaire for our recent inspection - we look forward to sharing the outcome of the inspection with you as soon as the final report is published...Ofsted were very impressed with our students and we should all be very proud of them.

#### **UNIFORM**

In anticipation that the weather will become colder and wetter, would you please ensure that your child has a plain, dark coloured, waterproof coat to wear. May I remind you that hoodies, track suits and sports tops do not protect your child against the rain and winter weather conditions and are not permitted. In addition, leather, denim and fashion jackets are not allowed. Anyone who wears these items to school will have them confiscated.

Thank you to the very many parents who ensure that their children are always in full Academy uniform every day and are very smartly dressed.

#### PARKING

I would also like to remind you that when dropping off or picking up your child(ren) at either the beginning or end of the day, to be aware of the parking restrictions near to the different entrances to the Academy and to be mindful of local residents' driveways and pathways.

We have been contacted by some local residents about parents who park their cars in restricted areas blocking people's drives and in doing so upset local neighbors. I would ask all drivers to take extra care and park appropriately.

#### HALF TERM

Ahead of the new half term, I would like to remind you of some key dates that may relate to your child(ren).

1 <sup>st</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	Y7 & 8 Baseline Testing during ICT lessons
17 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	Y11 Parents Consultation and Into the Sixth Evening (virtual)
6 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	Y11 Mock Exam Week
13 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	Y12/13 Mock Exam Week

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In the meantime, if you are looking for something to do in the local area this half term, the below leaflet may provide you with some inspiration.





Finally, the Academy will re-open after half term as normal on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November. As stated above, we will continue to ask students to follow our Covid protocols, including: appropriate social distancing, wearing masks in all communal areas in the Academy, staying in year group bubbles at the agreed times, staying on the left when they move around the Academy and testing twice weekly as some of the main rules.

Thank you for your continued support and I hope you enjoy your Half Term break.

Yours faithfully

James Ludlow Principal



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