

14th April 2023

Dear Families,

Welcome to the start of the summer term. I hope you have had an enjoyable break from school over the last two weeks. I know that April 2023, represents a time of several religious celebrations including Eid, Easter and Vaisakhi. Whatever your faith, I hope that you have enjoyed celebrating together as a family and a community.

Academy values

As you will no doubt be aware, students from Joseph Leckie Academy have been involved in a good deal of charity work over the last few months. A team of 6th form students organised an impressive collection of food and other essential items to support the charity 'Muslim Aid' who are organising the delivery of much needed aid to the people of Turkey and Syria who were affected by the huge earthquake in February this year. In addition to this, a team of students and staff organised a fund-raising 'Fashion and Culture' show at the Bescot Stadium to raise money for 'SKT Welfare', a charity who are working to provide clean water to areas of the world where this is not currently available. I have been incredibly impressed at the hard work and generosity of the whole academy community. Our values of Leadership, Empathy, Community, Kindness, Integrity and the Environment have certainly been in great evidence.

Start of summer term and uniform

We begin the summer term on Monday 17th April. This will be a normal school day and students should arrive at the usual time, well before 8.40am. The start of a new term will be a good opportunity to remind students about some of the academy rules that must be followed by everyone. These include our clear policy on academy uniform which can be found by following this link: <https://www.josephleckieacademy.co.uk/uniform> I would also like to draw your attention to our policy on mobile phones which states that they should not be used on the academy site and that they will be confiscated if students are found to be using their phones or if the phones are heard. This is a very clear policy and one which is designed to safeguard all members of the academy community.

Summer examinations

This term we have GCSE, A Level and BTEC final exams for students in Key Stages 4 and 5. I know that our students are working very hard to prepare for these exams and that they are very grateful to the staff at the academy who are providing high quality support, lessons and revision sessions after school and during the holidays. We realise that exams can also be a source of high pressure and stress for some students and would encourage all of our students to seek support from our pastoral team, including our academy counsellor, if it is required. With a great team approach and all the hard work and support that is going on, I am looking forward to celebrating the successes of our students later in the summer.

Things to look forward to this term

As well as examinations, the summer term will also see a wide programme of enrichment events, trips, competition, clubs and activities as well as our annual summer term favourites which include Activities Week, Pride of Leckie Awards Evening, Sports Day and Cultural Diversity Day. We do hope that every student will make the most of everything that is on offer.

Cost of school meals:

You may remember that to support families with the cost-of-living price increases our Trustees decided that the cost of school meals should be reduced to £1.50 for the spring term. With the start of the summer term, I just wanted to inform you that the prices will now return to the levels they were in December 2022, that is £2.40 for a meal deal. As always, we aim to ensure that all meals served at the academy represent good value for money.

New Year 7 students and increased intake for September 2023

The summer term will also be an opportunity for our new Year 7 students to come and join us for our Transition Days in July. This year, due to our continually improving reputation, we had a record number of first choice applications for places at Joseph Leckie Academy, and as such, we have 300 students joining us in September!

This increase in student numbers has also meant that we are recruiting for additional teachers to join us in the academy so if you do know of any teachers who wish to join us then please feel free to point them in the direction of the vacancies section of our academy website.

And on that note, I will wish you a peaceful end to the holidays and I do look forward to meeting you in person at one of our academy events during the summer term. For your information, we have the following Parent Consultation Evenings coming up:

- Year 7 - Thursday 27th April 5-7pm (subject to possible change as this is a proposed strike day)
- Year 10 - Thursday 25th May 5-7pm
- Year 9 - Thursday 15th June 5-7pm

Yours faithfully



James Ludlow
Principal