



Longfield Academy Longfield Road Darlington DL3 OHT

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Chief Executive: Mr D Judson, Bed, NPQH Headteacher: Mrs A Sweeten, BA (Hons) MA, NPQH Deputy Headteacher: Mr S Rawle, BA (Hons), MA

18th March 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

Re: End of Term Letter including a Year 11 Update (0087-23ASW)

Thank you for your continued support. I meet frequently with parents / carers, and I greatly appreciate the respect and attitude of working together to resolve issues you may experience. Every day the school feels calm and purposeful with a real focus on education. A reminder that you are welcome to visit the academy at any time for a learning walk with a member of the senior leadership team.

Uniform

It takes an enormous amount of time and effort to ensure that every child is dressed appropriately for school. It is an incredibly important foundation to providing an environment where all pupils feel equal. Thank you for complying with the winter unform including the introduction of trousers which has been a success.

In anticipation of better weather, we will move into the summer uniform of polo shirts when we return from the Easter break on **Monday 15**th **April 2024**. We are aware that ties have been difficult to obtain, please order in advance of September while we are in the summer uniform.

Please be aware that hoodies are not allowed in school. We have tolerated them over the winter months however, all children should have an outside coat as hoodies will not protect children effectively from wet weather. Please ensure your child leaves hoodies at home.

A reminder that school uniform is purchased from Elizabeth Embroidery via T: 01642 674973 or by visiting their website <u>Longfield – Elizabeths Schoolwear</u>

Summer uniform consists of a Longfield polo shirt, Longfield jumper and black trousers. To review the full uniform policy please visit: <u>School Uniform Policy</u>

Staff Changes

Thankfully, we are moving into a more stable staffing situation in science. Ms Mattless – Director of Science and Mrs Barnett – Second in Science joined us in January 2024, and we have recently recruited a new Head of Science who will start in September 2024.

I appreciate that we have had temporary staff to support some long-term absences in Design and Technology. Mrs Leighton has done a fantastic job as Acting Head of Department to ensure that Year 11 are prepared for their examinations. Staff absence is never a desirable situation and whenever possible we try to cover lessons internally with our own staff.













Class Charts

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage parents / carers and pupils to check Class Charts daily. This can be extremely helpful in providing a regular update on your child's conduct in school, showing positives as well as areas where your child may need further support. It is also how we notify you of detentions.

Class Charts is very easy to use, and login details can be provided by reception or by Year Leaders should you require them.

Year 11

Please continue to encourage your Year 11 child to attend all intervention sessions at the start and end of the day. School is open from 8:30am and pupils should be in form ready to start their intervention session by 8:45am every morning.

Afterschool sessions are open to all pupils and with only **seven weeks** to go until the first exam, we expect all children to attend these sessions.

All Easter intervention timetables have been provided and attendance is expected. Please contact reception should you need a copy of your child's personal Easter intervention timetable.

A reminder from the previous letter regarding the prom. To reiterate, invitations to the prom will not be issued until after the last exam as the criteria for the invitation will be 100% attendance at every exam and compliance with all exam expectations.

Year 11 Hoodies

Year 11 hoodies can now be ordered via the link below. However, if your child wants to use some of their rewards points as a part payment, please do not order online. Instead, ask your child to speak directly to Mr Rawle or reception.

Order Your Y11 Hoodie Here

Reception Opening Hours for Easter

- Friday 29th March 2024 Closed for Bank Holiday
- Monday 1st April 2024 Closed for Bank Holiday
- Tuesday 2nd to Thursday 11th April 2024 Open 8:30am 3:00pm (Y11 pupils attending intervention should enter via reception)
- Friday 12th April 2024 Reception is Closed (Y11 pupils attending DT intervention to enter via pupil gate)

Final Note

With warmer weather and lighter days on the horizon, we wish you all a happy Easter.

We look forward to welcoming pupils back to school at 8:30am on Monday 15th April 2024.

Yours sincerely.

A Smeeter

Mrs A. Sweeten Headteacher