



20 January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

NEU Strike – 1 February 2023, Year 9 Options, Sixth Form Conditional Offer Letters, Parent Governor Vacancy, Year 10 Stay Safe Day – 24 January 2023, Lincolnshire Parent/Carer Forum – 23 to 28 January 2023, We Will Rock You Tickets, Careers & Work-Related Learning Bulletin, The Great Debate Success

Welcome to my end of week update letter. We have seen another busy week at the chalkface: mock examinations are now well and truly underway and I must commend Year 11 on their maturity in the face of a full examination series. In addition, much of the year group attended a really successful trip to watch An Inspector Calls yesterday and their behaviour was exemplary, leading to complimentary emails received from audience members. Whilst the weather has been chilly to say the least, it has been good to see departments like PE adapt with dance lessons in the main hall to avoid the sub-zero temperatures.

I am sure you have waited with interest to see my update regarding the upcoming strike. More below:

NEU Strike – 1 February 2023

At the time of writing, I expect the Academy to remain open and an almost normal service to continue. I do not expect to collapse any year groups or send any children home. The reason for this is that, of 18 eligible teachers who are members of the one union going on strike, not all are taking up the opportunity to withdraw their labour and will report for work as normal. I do not intend to get into the politics of the issues at hand but expect that, unless something radical changes, you will not be affected in terms of childcare or inconvenience. However, if on the day something changes, we will reserve the right to be creative at short notice in order to keep your children at school and in lessons.

Year 9 Options

Our Year 9 Options Week begins on Monday 23 January 2023 with a launch assembly from Mr Ward and Mr Kirk. The aim of the week is to provide your child with relevant course information and career pathways. It will also provide students with an in-depth knowledge of the subjects offered at GCSE and helps guide them with their choices.

Once again, we would like to take this opportunity to invite you to the Year 9 Options Evening on **Wednesday 25 January (6pm- 8pm)**, which will be held in person at the Academy. There will be a presentation in the Main Hall for students in **Lancaster, Stuart and Tudor Houses** or the Dining Room for students in **Windsor and York**, followed by a series of subject talks, designed to support and equip you to make informed decisions.

The options guide has all the relevant information for each subject, career pathways, option blocks and key information for the process, which has been brought home with students today.

Following the Assembly launch on Monday, youngsters will be coming home with a hard copy of the evening guide which will allow time to plan which subject talks to attend. Please remember to bring this along on the evening itself.

The dedicated Options microsite which requires a student FROG sign-in can be accessed here <https://vle.srpa.co.uk/01665d08846023017afe696479496c82> (this goes live on Monday morning). For any queries, we have a dedicated options email address – options@srpa.co.uk.

We look forward to supporting you and your child over the coming weeks and months to finalise their Key Stage 4 course choices.

Sixth Form Conditional Offer Letters

Mr Griffiths will be sending these out to current Year 11 students imminently. If you have any questions, please contact him via sixthform@srpa.co.uk.

Parent Governor Vacancy

A vacancy has arisen on our Board of Trustees for a parent governor. Please contact Mrs Goffe via agoffe@srpa.co.uk for further details and an application form.

Year 10 Stay Safe Day – 24 January 2023

We are looking forward to our Year 10 students participating in the Stay Safe Day on Tuesday 24 January, working with Lincolnshire County Council, Lincolnshire Police and We Are With You (formerly known as Addaction).

Students will undertake a range of workshops exploring topics such as alcohol and drug awareness, road safety and healthy relationships.

The intention of the day is to educate our students to enable them to make informed decisions about their wellbeing, health, and relationships and to build their self-efficacy. Students can also put their knowledge into practice as they develop the capacity to make sound decisions when facing risks and challenges in different situations, as well as knowing when and how to ask for help'.



Headmaster: Mr D. J. Hardy BA (Hons) PGCE
Moor Lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln. LN6 9AF
☎ 01522 882020
✉ enquiries@srpa.co.uk 🌐 www.srpa.co.uk
Company Registration No: 07690250

Lincolnshire Parent/Carer Forum – 23 to 28 January 2023

Please find attached a flyer for parents of children with additional needs and for professionals working with them. This is a free virtual event with many 10-minute slots. The aim of the event is to give attendees as much information, support and help as possible.

We Will Rock You Tickets

Tickets for the Academy production of We Will Rock You are now on sale on Parent Pay. Tickets are available for all three performances:

- Tuesday 7th February at 7pm
- Wednesday 8th February at 7pm
- Thursday 9th February at 12pm.

Programmes can also be purchased via Parent Pay.

Once tickets have been purchased, they can be collected from student reception.

Careers & Work-related Learning Bulletin

Please find attached with this letter the latest edition. I hope you find it informative and useful.

The Great Debate Success

On Wednesday evening, six students from SRPA competed in the Historical Association's public speaking competition, The Great Debate. The HA runs the competition every year and students from across the country compete in regional heats. This was the first time that students from SRPA have competed in the competition. Ms Smith and the team of history students spent the evening at The University of Lincoln competing alongside seven other schools from across the East Midlands to answer the question 'Why does history matter to me?'. Our students performed fantastically well, speaking with confidence and delivering well-researched speeches that called upon a range of historical evidence to explain why history mattered to them. Feedback from the judging panel commented on the particular depth of SRPA students' research, as well as the way their arguments were supported with scholarship. Our students stood out for their understanding of contemporary issues within history, such as the way interpretation changes historical understanding and the movement amongst historians to include narrative and oral histories. After facing fierce competition, Beatrice in Year 13 won the first heat with a powerful speech focusing on the challenges in writing Albanian history due to the records largely being written by invading and occupying forces. Beatrice then faced four finalists for the regional heat and Beatrice came second.



Headmaster: Mr D. J. Hardy BA (Hons) PGCE
Moor Lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln. LN6 9AF
☎ 01522 882020

✉ enquiries@srpa.co.uk 🌐 www.srpa.co.uk
Company Registration No: 07690250

The History department are incredibly proud of the hard work students put into their speeches, and we look forward to taking the title in 2024!

It is noteworthy that most of the other schools were grammar or private schools. We beat Lincoln Minster in the final which is pleasing and shows the breadth and depth of the quality of curriculum we now offer and the scholarship on display at the Academy. We were also the only new school in the competition, so this performance and outcome is both exciting and very pleasing.

This week has seen some fantastic young people really showing their learning prowess, a thirst for knowledge and a willingness to push on and fulfil their potential. It has been a great week for reasserting your faith in the future of our society with such wonderful, positive examples on display. I couldn't decide whether to quote Mahatma Gandhi this week, who said "Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever" or to go with Oscar Wilde who said "You can never be overdressed or overeducated" so I am including both!

Have a lovely weekend when it comes.

I will write again soon.

Yours faithfully



Mr D Hardy
Headmaster



Headmaster: Mr D. J. Hardy BA (Hons) PGCE
Moor Lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln. LN6 9AF
☎ 01522 882020
✉ enquiries@srpa.co.uk 🌐 www.srpa.co.uk
Company Registration No: 07690250

"This is a calm, happy and caring school."