



3 November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

RP6th Open Evening – Wednesday 1 November 2023, Contact Details Update, Curriculum Bulletin for Term 2, Extra-Curricular Activities Timetables - Term 2, Scholastic Book Fair: 7 - 14 November 2023, Academy Charity Fun Run, RP6th Car Park

Welcome to my weekly update letter.

The clocks have changed and we are into the longest half term of the academic year. Over the half term break, the fire doors around the main hall and down both canteen corridors have been replaced and, this week, the fire doors down the PE corridors have also been replaced. It has been a busy week, but interesting to see the difference a little bit of change makes to the aesthetics of the central areas of the Academy.

RP6th Open Evening

On Wednesday 1 November, we welcomed Year 11 students, both currently studying at the Academy and from other schools, to our RP6th Open Evening. Attendance was fantastic and it was a great night and positive advert for the Academy. Thank you to everyone who attended.

Contact Details Update

As mentioned last week, all parents of Year 11 students should have been contacted already, with Year 10 next to follow. Please look out for this communication.

Curriculum Bulletin for Term 2

Please find attached our Curriculum Bulletin for Term 2 which details what your child will be learning.

Extra-Curricular Activities Timetables - Term 2

Our updated timetables of activities for Term 2 are now live on the website. Please encourage your child to take advantage of the wide variety of activities our departmental teams have on offer here: <https://srpa.co.uk/extra-curricular-clubs-activities>.

Scholastic Book Fair: 7 - 14 November 2023

We are excited to announce the return of the Scholastic book fair on Tuesday 7 November 2023 through to Tuesday 14 November 2023, located in the Library. Students are invited to attend and view the books on offer prior to the beginning of the academic day, or during break times. Please note, no cash will be accepted; online payments only.

Students will be required to create a 'wish list' which they will take home for parents to decide upon and make payment online. When payment has been received, students can collect their book(s).

Parents can pay online at <http://www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay>. Parents can also browse and check prices online at <http://www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases>.

Academy Charity Fun Run

Last week, we announced that St Barnabas Hospice is our selected Academy charity for the academic year.

So far this year, we have raised £860.48 from our Year 7 disco on its own.

Our next event to raise donations will be on Friday 17 November 2023 where we will be hosting a whole school fun run. Students will be given details on how to collect sponsorship money over the next week.

RP6th Car Park

Unfortunately, we have received reports from some parents regarding other parents/carers misusing the car park when collecting their children from the Academy and abusing our patrons. We would remind parents/carers to be considerate of others when using this facility.

In the past few weeks, parents have contacted me at the Academy to ask me to sanction children who have misbehaved outside of the Academy over weekends, out of term time and even at evening sleepovers.

For the avoidance of doubt, my legal reach does not afford me the right to police all actions taken by my students 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Outside of the Academy, parents are responsible for the behaviour of their children.

As is made clear in the DfE statutory 'Behaviour in schools' guidance (September 2022), paragraph 95 - "The decision to sanction a pupil will be lawful if it is made on the school premises or elsewhere at a time when the pupil is under the control or charge of a member of staff of the school."

Clearly, where incidents occur in the public domain beyond my reach, the appropriate agency should be contacted. The Academy will always commit to cooperating with any external agency requiring something from us, but we will not interfere with any outside investigation under any circumstances.

This week, much misinformation has been shared via social media about certain situations which have not afforded us the right of reply and over which I have no jurisdiction. This misinformation has also been wildly inaccurate and extremely contentious leading to much unwarranted criticism of the Academy.

Any school led by me will always take behaviour standards extremely seriously where our legal powers allow us to tread. That is why behaviour on site at SRPA is excellent.



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



To prove the point, Mr Lloyd-Richards, our Director of Pastoral Care, has been chomping at the bit for some time now to organise a drop-in session for parents/carers to meet him to discuss behaviour and behaviour management with the chance to walk around the campus and see lessons and the high standards we expect. Now seems like the right time. He will be available on 13 November 2023 between 1:15pm and 3:15pm. Please email enquiries@srpa.co.uk to ensure we can accommodate the numbers interested and we look forward to seeing some of you then.

Signing off, I offer you an excellent quote from ancient Greek politician, Pericles, who said, "Those who can truly be accounted brave are those who best know the meaning of what is sweet in life and what is terrible, and then go out, undeterred, to meet what is to come."

I will write again soon.

Yours faithfully



Mr D Hardy
Headmaster



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