



1 December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

## **Personal Development Day – 5 December 2023, SEND Drop-In Session for KS3 – 6 December 2023, Let Them Eat Cake Project, SRPA: Our Origins**

Welcome to my end of week update letter.

This week has seen some of our students become Level 1 accredited LTA leaders for their work in tennis which is a first for us, but shows the broadening of our PE offer. Thanks must go to Mr Whitley for organising and leading this. We have also seen the return of the Box Clever theatre company who performed 'A Christmas Carol' for Years 10 and 11 today to support them with their English Literature GCSE course.

More updates below:

### **Personal Development Day – 5 December 2023**

On Tuesday 5 December, we have our second instalment of our Personal Development Day plan for the year.

This day has a real focus on next steps, with Year 9 opting into taster sessions for the subjects they may want to choose in Year 10, whilst our Year 11 students are finalising their next steps with work on applications, CVs and with a large proportion taking part in taster sessions for RP6th following their applications earlier this term. Our Year 12 are out of the county, visiting Loughborough University, investigating what a university pathway can offer them. Year 13 will also be focussing on their final arrangements for post-18, with time to finalise their personal statements and focus on their plans for next year, including mock interviews led by the senior leadership team and our HR department.

Our Year 9 cohort will have a full afternoon of sex and relationships education, with a focus on contraception. There are also sessions for several year groups focussing on our Learning 2 Learn (L2L) programme and a focus on British values, covering what first past the post means in addition to how to become a member of parliament.

All year groups will also have a musical performance from a band called ABSNT Mind (flyer attached), who will be sharing messages regarding health and wellbeing and healthy relationships.

### **SEND Drop-In Session for KS3 Parents – 6 December 2023 2pm - 3pm**

Mr Adlington will be hosting this with his team next week after the success of the first event he held last year. This is a chance to drop in to talk to the team about any SEND advice or concerns you may have. Refreshments will be provided.

Please be good enough to email the team using SEND@srpa.co.uk so that we can ensure we can book an appropriate space. Thank you.

### Let Them Eat Cake Project

As part of our engagement value, we are hoping to create gift parcels in support of Let Them Eat Cake; a charity that works with the homeless community in Lincoln. This is a non-profit charity run by volunteers that provides help such as clothing, sleeping bags and showers. They also signpost people to any help and support they may be entitled to.

This year, on 21 December 2023, Let Them Eat Cake will be running their annual Christmas get together. Here, they provide the homeless with a Christmas dinner and a present. Students will be working in R2L to create cards to go in the parcels. To put the parcels together, we are looking for donations to help support this. Please see the list below for items that the charity has requested:-

- △ Christmas crackers
- △ Mince pies
- △ Selection boxes
- △ Socks
- △ Deodorant
- △ Gloves
- △ Hand warmers
- △ Baby wipes
- △ Cereal bars
- △ Polo mints
- △ Sweets
- △ Small torches
- △ Pringles
- △ Pot noodles

Please can items be taken to students' House bases where they will be collected and the parcels made up. The deadline for donations is **Wednesday 6 December 2023**.

We thank you in advance for your kind generosity. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Hought at the Academy.

### SRPA: Our Origins

This year, as part of our continued focus on developing students' Cultural Capital, we are looking to you – our parents and carers – to help us once again, just as you did last year in our very special Jubilee year. This year's focus is SRPA: Our Origins, which will consider who we are as a staff and student body, where we come from, and what makes us who we are. This work sits alongside our existing curriculum and will, at various points in the year, ask students to reflect upon themselves, their heritage and identity. This is where you come in.



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



In the next fortnight, every student will be asked to undertake some preliminary research into their own past as part of our Identity Project. Each student will be asked to design and create a family tree, which will form part of our full school display, which will be placed in the Great Hall in the New Year for pupils to investigate and enjoy. A series of questions and prompts will be sent to students via their school email address. All we would like you to do is discuss these prompts with them so that they might fully develop their tree and be as comprehensive in their research as possible. As always, we thank you, our wonderful parents and carers for all the support you offer us and our students on a daily basis. More details on this exciting project will follow in due course.

The weather is noticeably colder as we endure this cold snap and I know I am finding the daily need to de-ice the car a bit of a chore. Although Christmas is now approaching and December is upon us, it is a time when we dig in a bit to prepare examination groups for their mocks which are just around the corner, finalise plans for the end of term and ensure a smooth two and a half weeks before we break up. It would be a missed opportunity if I missed the chance to quote Charles Dickens given one of his books is being performed as I write this in the main hall – “No one is useless in this world who lightens the burden of it for anyone else.”

Everyone has a gift to give. Let’s give it well in December.

I will write again soon.

Yours faithfully



**Mr D Hardy**  
**Headmaster**



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