



ROCKWOOD
ACADEMY

Naseby Road, Alum Rock, Birmingham B8 3HG

t: 0121 566 6500 e: enquiry@rockwood-academy.co.uk www.rockwood-academy.co.uk

Headteacher: Ms Sofia Darr NPQH MEd Bed

20th December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

The end of term has almost arrived but the academy is still a very busy place for students and staff. We have had an exciting autumn term at Rockwood with a host of successes to celebrate. You will gain an insight into the excellent quality of education and opportunities provided at Rockwood from the newsletter, website and tweets. We are also fortunate to have such dedicated and hardworking staff, who work relentlessly hard to support our students. It is clear that our students enjoy school and are keen to excel and it is wonderful to see our dedicated year 11 students attending after school and Saturday Revision sessions.

I would like to thank parents/carers for your continuing support. In particular, your support is appreciated in ensuring:

- Students have at least 95% attendance and are punctual to school
- Students wear the correct school uniform with pride
- Year 11 students attend revision sessions which will enable them to gain their “Passport to the Prom”
- Students continue to model our values of respect and excellence

We have had some exciting events this term which include many theatre trips, a visit to parliament, geography residential to Snowdonia and charity events. Our students have been totally immersed in the Echo Eternal project. They have worked diligently with the independent Screen Dance Director and Creative Producer Sima Gonsai on developing an artistic video response to Holocaust survivor Mady Gerrard’s testimony. Our video can be seen on the academy and echo website www.echoeternal.uk

In order to further raise the goals and aspirations for our students, they attended a national conference on Raising Aspirations for the Universities. Our students were given detailed guidance by the admission teams from some of the top universities across the country.

Important dates

Friday 21st December 2018 - We close for the Christmas break. **All pupils will finish at 1.00pm on Friday**

Monday 7th January 2019 - Students will return to school at **8.40am as normal**

Monday 7th January 2019 - Year 11 Mock Examinations – **students will be dismissed by 4.00pm**

Monday 14th January 2019 - Year 11 Revision sessions – **will resume**

* **Please note Year 11 students studying BTEC Business will be sitting an external examination on Monday 14th January 2019**

Upcoming Events in Spring Term

- Botanical Gardens
- Café Rouge
- Symphony Hall
- Holocaust Memorial Day
- Rainbow Day
- Mosaic Mentoring
- LGBT History Month
- Beyond the Baseline
- Lingua Centre
- Careers Fair

Leave in Term Time

Rockwood Academy has adapted the Education Welfare Service guidelines of **ZERO TOLERANCE** for **ALL** term time holidays.

Your child only attends the academy for 190 days out of 365. Please book your holidays during the remaining 175 days. If you do take your child on holiday without authorisation, they may lose their place at Rockwood Academy and you may be issued a penalty notice.

Safety advice

As we approach the holiday period can I remind parents to reinforce the high expectations of importance of being vigilant over personal safety both in terms of their physical security as well as their virtual safety.

It has been a great end to the term and I wish you and your family a restful Christmas break and Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely



Sofia Darr
Headteacher