

The Harefield Academy

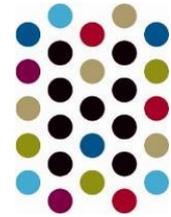
Achievement through Active Learning

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Headteacher: Tash Moriarty BA PGCE



15th February 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you are all looking forward to the half term break after a positive and productive start to 2019. It gives us great pleasure to feedback on our annual Double Rewards week that took place week beginning 14th January, which was a phenomenal start to the spring term for our students. Students welcomed the opportunity to show positive attitudes to learning and double their Class Charts merits in the process! As a result of the feedback we have received from students and from our STAR group (Students As Researchers), we are now going to build this into the school calendar to take place each full term, rather than once a year.

There has been a very smooth transition and engagement with Class Charts by the vast majority of students for homework setting and monitoring their own behaviour and rewards. Following analysis only 11 students from Year 7 to Year 11 have not accessed Class Charts. This shows how students are accessing their homework and monitoring their own behaviour. We would like to extend a thank you to the vast majority of parents/carers who are regularly using the information that they receive on Class Charts to share in their child/children's successes in school and have useful conversations about any sanctions or detentions that have been given.

In addition to rewarding THA Values and positive attitudes to learning, we have also seen an increase in the number of rewards being allocated for excellent and/or improved attendance via Class Charts, assemblies and letters home. Attendance continues to be a key improvement priority at The Academy and an area of home school partnership that is vital to student success. The expected standard of attendance for each student in The Academy is 97% and pastoral staff monitor attendance on a daily, weekly and termly basis, in order to intervene with attendance that falls below this expected threshold. We have a duty of care, shared with the Local Authority, to challenge poor attendance and explore patterns of attendance that cause concern. In addition to following up on unauthorised holiday leave and persistent absenteeism, it is also part of our duty of care to intervene with 'broken weeks' attendance patterns where students are falling below 97% attendance due to regular days missed from school through sickness. Please continue to discuss with your child, the pattern between academic outcomes and high rates of school attendance; please also support us in our efforts to boost positive attitudes to learning and social interaction as markers of successful and resilient learners.

Please be reminded that parents/carers are expected to purchase printing credits for their children via Parentpay. Top ups will need to be purchased in multiples of £5. It's not anticipated that any student will need to top up very often at all unless they are using their printing credits for non-essential documents or a high proportion of colour printing. Students will be reminded to take into consideration the environment when printing large amounts. Should you have any issues relating to Parentpay for this service please contact Mrs Theobald



via email at gtheobald@theharefieldacademy.org who will be happy to assist you. I would like to thank you for your support with this system and request you top up your child's account via Parentpay as and when your child advises you that they are out of credit.

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you and farewell to Cecelia Bolger, Student Manager Year 10. We would also like to welcome back Trudy White, Student Manager, Nicky Sweeney, Student Manager and Sonia Ral, Head of Year, who return to the Academy. Please note the **Pastoral staffing roles and responsibilities from Monday 25th February.**

| Year | Head of Year | Student Manager |
|---------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Year 7 | Mr Bourne | Ms Booker, with Mrs Sweeney |
| Year 8 | Mr Bourne | Ms Booker, with Mrs Sweeney |
| Year 9 | Mrs Ral | Ms White |
| Year 10 | Mr Martin | Mrs Raper |
| Year 11 | Mrs Leonard | Mrs Raper |

We have recently installed an eternity water feature which bears a plaque to mark our remembrance of George, Harry and Josh as part of our school community. This tranquil installation has been placed in our reception, so that it has a place of prominence for students and visitors who enter The Academy.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and for your support of our Pastoral priorities. Should you have any questions relating to attendance please contact your Head of Year in the first instance.

We look forward to welcoming students back to school promptly on Monday 25th February for a prosperous spring half term.

Yours sincerely,

F O'Sullivan
Deputy Headteacher