

Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

It's been a few school weeks since I last wrote to you, and before the end of term arrives – with the business of Christmas events, extreme weather, the countdown to the holidays – I wanted to get a message to you. Whilst this is an incredibly busy time, the main focus we will always have at TCA is on the things that really matter – working hard, and being nice.

### **Behaviour, routines and punctuality**

We have done lots of work this half term on speeding up transitions between lessons so that teachers teach and students learn for the full lesson. This has been highly successful, and students are conducting themselves impeccably. I am tremendously proud of how they are moving on the corridors and behaving in lessons.

### **Pantomime trip – year 7 and 8**

A couple of weeks ago, year 7 students all visited Wakefield Theatre Royal to watch the annual pantomime – this year being *Cinderella*. This is a fantastic opportunity to visit a theatre and students really enjoyed the experience. Their behaviour and attitudes were exceptional. We can't wait to take year 8 on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> December. We did, however, encounter a problem when we returned to TCA. Unfortunately the coaches were delayed, and when they returned to Thornhill, could not park on Valley Drive because of parents double parking down the entire road. This cannot happen again. For future trips, students will only be able to be collected from the Academy site and the return to the Academy will be at approximately 4.30pm. If you have not returned the reply slip for your child's permission to attend, please do so by Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> December.



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A SHARE Academy  
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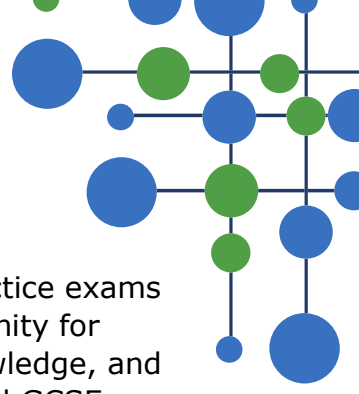
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## **Year 11 mock exams**

Year 11 mock exams started last week, with a two week series of practice exams this side of the Christmas break. These exams are a fantastic opportunity for students to show their teachers what they know, identify gaps in knowledge, and feel a sense of confidence as we move into 2025 – the year of the final GCSE exams. Good luck, year 11! Every year, our data shows that those students who attend well, work hard, and be nice succeed really well.

## **Year 9 Options**

The year 9 Options process will begin in January and further details will follow from Mrs Rudd when we return after the Christmas break. On Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January, there will be an information evening for all Y9 students with their parents/carers. Please add this date to your diaries as it will provide crucial information about the process and the options available to your child.

## **Awards Evening – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

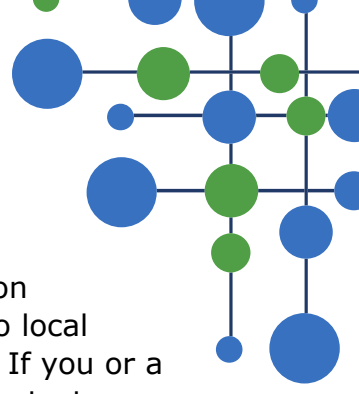
An exciting evening has been planned for Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December to celebrate students who go above and beyond in the Academy within subject areas. Teachers, Student Managers (and I) have been nominating students for an award over the last few weeks. Those who have received an award for their exceptional efforts will receive a ticket and a permission slip this week to be returned by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December. It is important to celebrate the amazing hard work that our students have demonstrated this term, and we hope to see you there.

## **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - TCA Production: *Fairytale Intertwined***

We are excited to announce that tickets for our upcoming production, *Fairytale Intertwined*, are now available for purchase. Staff and students have been working incredibly hard during rehearsals all term, and we can't wait to share their creativity and dedication with you. Tickets are priced at £3 each and can be purchased this week at a stall near Reception. All money raised will go directly towards funding future productions, helping us continue to offer these wonderful opportunities for our students.

## **Reverse Advent Calendar**

As part of our commitment to supporting those in need during the festive period, we are participating in a Reverse Advent Calendar initiative again this year. Students are encouraged to contribute to this meaningful cause by bringing in donations for local homeless shelters and families in need. We are creating boxes of donations within each form group and would greatly appreciate any dry food items, toiletries, or used toys and books that you and your child can contribute.



## Local residents' Christmas lunch

For Christians, Christmas is a time for community and fellowship and on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 11.30am we will be opening our doors to local residents who would like to join us for a Community Christmas Lunch. If you or a member of the local community would like to join this event, please contact [lucinda.rudd@sharemat.co.uk](mailto:lucinda.rudd@sharemat.co.uk).

## Uniform

We have seen huge improvements in uniform this year, but there remain a few minor details that we need to tighten up with. We have shared the information below and it will not change. Uniform expectations are not negotiable, and we will contact parents where standards are not met. Please do not allow your child to have any piercings, false nails or eyelashes over the holidays.

Uniform item	Notes
Academy tie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Available on ParentPay, at TCA or from Rawcliffes, Dewsbury for £5</li></ul>
Academy blazer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Available from Rawcliffes, Dewsbury</li><li>Must be worn on corridors at all times</li></ul>
Black trousers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Full length trousers must be worn</li><li>Not leggings, jogging bottoms, tracksuit bottoms, jeans or jersey material</li><li>Not skin-tight fit</li></ul>
Black skirt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Must be knee length</li><li>Not stretchy/jersey material</li><li>Must be worn with black tights</li></ul>
Black socks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Must be worn if wearing trousers</li></ul>
Black shoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Not trainers or pumps</li><li>Converse, Vans or anything made by a sportswear brand are not allowed</li></ul>
Salwar kameez	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>If the neck is visible, a shirt and tie must be worn</li><li>Must be black or dark blue with no patterns</li></ul>
School bag	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Essential item – not negotiable</li><li>Must be big enough to carry PE kit, books and equipment</li></ul>
Jewellery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>One ring</li><li>One small bracelet</li><li>One necklace (worn under the shirt)</li></ul>
Make up and piercings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>One small stud or sleeper in each ear</li><li>One small nose stud (not in the septum)</li><li>No tongue piercings</li><li>Discreet make up</li><li>No false nails or false eyelashes</li></ul>

We want to help wherever possible with uniform items for those who need it, so if you're struggling or need any support, do get in touch and ask.

## End of term arrangements

We will break for the Christmas holidays next Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm. The Spring term starts on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> January.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MCB' followed by a stylized flourish.

**Mr Burton**  
Headteacher

