

Dear all

I hope you have had a good week. It's been a while since I accompanied my update with a video message so please see here for the contents of this letter in video form <https://youtu.be/ahYPhVkN6Q8>

Carols by Candlelight Monday 18th December 2023

Whilst it's been a frosty end to the week, inside the Academy we have seen the Christmas tree go up and staff and children starting to rehearse for our Carols by Candlelight evening on Monday 18th December. Mrs Gant and I have been super impressed by the commitment and talent of those taking part and this is a reminder to keep this date free and join us for carols, songs, music, readings and refreshments from 6:00-7:30pm.

Trial Exams

Our trial exam series is now at an end and we have been really pleased with how sensibly and seriously the Year 11s and Year 13s have approached these. Trial exams form an important part of our training of young people ahead of formal examinations next summer. Our staff are now busily marking these ahead of giving feedback shortly.

Behaviour

Since our extraordinary assemblies and the measures we have put in place following my last letter to you, we have seen a marked improvement in the number of students who are meeting our core values at all times throughout the school day. We will continue to expect all our young people to meet these expectations but I do want to particularly thank you for your support with this - it absolutely makes a difference.

CDTRT

Our Caught Doing The Right Thing initiative officially launched this week and seems to be a big hit! Students have voted for the prizes which they wish to see this half term and we have gone with an iPad, x-box, wireless headphones and love to shop vouchers. I ordered 100,000 CDTRT tickets as I know how many we will be giving out as we reward our students for doing the right thing even when no-one is looking. Students know that these will be given for meeting our basic expectations throughout the school day and, as such, are available for every young person to achieve. Please have a chat with your child about how many they have already got and which prize they are going for.

Parent Governors

You'll have heard me say before that it's incredibly important to me that we hear the voices of everyone at the Academy, and you play an equally vital part in that as our parents. We are looking to add to our existing governors by inviting any parents who wish to join our Local Governing Board. The commitment is three formal meetings a year, with other ad hoc visits and support throughout the year. The role of parent governor is a vital one at the school and I would encourage you to have a think about whether this is something you could contribute to. It's important to say that the parent governor role does not provide a forum for discussing individual issues related to your child and you are elected to be representative of the parent voice as a whole. If you would like any further information, or wish to be considered for this

role, please do email me on Jennifer.giovanelli@ketteringscienceacademy.org for next steps.

Christmas Lunch / Christmas Jumper Day Wednesday 6th Dec 2023

Finally, we are looking forward to Christmas jumper and Christmas lunch next Wednesday. Details about this have been sent via Edulink.

As ever, it's been great to speak with lots of you individually this week. Please do get in touch if you have a concern or query. Equally, please get in touch if you wish to share some positive feedback - it really does give us all a boost, especially at this time of term.

Have a lovely weekend - I am already looking forward to being back at KSA on Monday after what I am sure will be a weekend of Christmas trees and decorations!

Mrs Giovanelli