

Week Commencing 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers of Our Arena,

At this time of year, children can pick up viruses and illnesses from each other. The Department for Education have issued guidelines on how to stop the spread, so I would advise all parents to check the website in order to prevent the spread of illnesses amongst children. [UKHSA issues health advice following the half-term break - GOV.UK](#)

### **Pupil Progress Student App**

You will have noticed that during the past few weeks you have received a link to the 'Pupil Progress App', which is a smartphone App that we are using in conjunction with the paper reports provided to you. The App can be downloaded by both parents and students and at specific points during the academic year, you will receive detailed information about attainment and progress for each subject. We highly recommend that all parents and students follow the attached guidelines to download the App on your smartphones. Data will gradually appear on the App for each year group over the upcoming weeks and then subsequently after each assessment window. Y11 and Y10 have already had their reports published and sent to the App in addition to being handed a physical paper copy of the report. For more information about the Pupil Progress App or our Assessments, please see our Academy website: [Assessments - Arena Academy](#).

### **Exam Paper Society - Years 10 and 11**

A strategy which has proven to be successful previously is the practice of completing past examination papers with peers. Every Wednesday and Friday we hold the Exam Paper Society in room 11 from 3:10 to 4:30pm. I would strongly advise students to use this facility as part of their knowledge retrieval practice. If you have any questions about Exam Paper Society, please contact Ms Khalil on [FKhalil@corearena.academy](mailto:FKhalil@corearena.academy)

### **Year 11 Revision and Mock examination timetable**

The updated Year 11 mock examination timetable can be found here [Year 11 Examinations - Arena Academy](#). Over the holidays I would advise students to find the balance between having fun with family, resting and revising thoroughly for the mock exams. The mock examinations start the week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> January, so there are only a few weeks left. All students should be revising on a daily basis using all the techniques detailed in our 'What every Student needs to know about revision' booklet which can be found here: [Year 11 Examinations - Arena Academy](#).

### **Rewards Fayre**

The rewards Fayre will be taking place in Arena Central on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December. There are lots of items to exchange for your CORE points.

### **Celebration Assemblies**

Celebration assemblies are taking place next week. This is always a tremendous way to finish the term as they highlight all the wonderful achievements of our students. Please congratulate all our well-deserved winners.

### **Christmas lunch**

Christmas lunch will be served at lunchtime on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, please see attached menu to see what is on offer.

### **Last day of term - Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

As mentioned previously, we will be finishing the term at the end of school on Thursday 19th December, at 3:10pm. There are many activities taking place on the day including:

- Non-uniform for students and staff
- A live DJ playing music at lunch time
- Double CORE points awarded
- Inflatables taking place in the sports hall

There are many fun activities taking place, but lessons will be taking place as normal. Please note the holiday starts at the end of next week, and not before, so we expect all students to attend school as normal.

I hope when you read the Ofsted report [Arena Academy - Open - Find an Inspection Report - Ofsted](#) that you felt proud to be a student, parent/carer at Our Arena. Our success has been recognised in the media which can be viewed at [The Arena Academy in Birmingham rated 'Good' in all areas by Ofsted](#)

Kind regards  
Mr Mann