



27 October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we have come to the end of our first half term of this academic year, I wanted to reach out to thank you all for your continued support. It has been a very busy half term, but it has been one that has been full of success. I would like to take this opportunity to share some of these successes with you.

Ofsted

We would like to offer some brief positive feedback on our recent Section 8 Ofsted inspection. The published version will be available in approximately six weeks, once it has been through the Ofsted quality assurance process. At that point we will write to you in more detail as well as sharing the very encouraging report.

As a school we are not permitted to share the grading until we have approval, but we can say we are incredibly proud of our school community and would like to thank you for all of your support, including completing the relevant survey and visiting site to speak with an inspector.

Some brief feedback from the team meeting that we are able to share with you:

- There is a broad and balanced curriculum for all students across key stage 4 and 5.
- Students enjoy coming to school and enjoy learning.
- Staff are committed to students learning and supporting them to get the best outcomes they can.
- Students feel safe and feel supported and staff look after their welfare.
- Safeguarding procedures are effective. When there are concerns, swift action is taken, the records are detailed. Outstanding disclosure management was evidenced.
- The academy set high expectations for behaviour and students are respectful and polite.
- Good conduct in lessons observed.

These positive comments reflect our school community, and I am very proud of each and every one of our NBA family! I am positive you will support us in congratulating the wonderful professionals who work here, as well as our amazing young people.



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Senior Student Leadership



Congratulations to our newly appointed Senior Student Leadership:

Head Girl – Tungteiya & Zakera

Head Boy – Kian

Deputy Head Boy – Mihran

Enrichment trips/activities/lessons

Our whole cohort of year 11 students were given the opportunity to spend a day at one of the 5 universities in Birmingham. With each offering different courses, our students were linked to a specific one dependant on their possible career choice. It was an amazing experience for them all, from which many came back inspired and wanted to visit other universities in different areas of the country.

Our Post 16 drama students visited Leicester Curve to watch a live performance of Metamorphosis. A selection of Year 9 boys were able to take part in a dance workshop with world renowned male dance company '2 Faced Dance Company'. We currently have 50 of our students, from a variety of year groups are receiving 1-1 tuition in music through their peripatetic lessons. This week, 45 of our students who study Sports Studies successfully spent half a day at Woodlands Adventure to take part in the outdoor education unit for their course.

We have been celebrating the success of our two published writers from our NBA Writers Club; Gunjan (Year 8), wrote a poem called "The Killer", published in Monster poetry collection 2023. This piece was creative and imaginative and used rhyme effectively. The element of surprise at the end of the poem thrilled readers. Fabio Barnett (year 9) will be published in a November collection for his story "Mystery on Eerie lane". Fabio creates a great mystery through his choice of words and subtle implications.

Our GCSE construction students joined me in the Topping Out ceremony on the roof of the new building to sign the steel structural supports. The year 10 Hospitality and Catering students have made amazing progress this half term with an impressive repertoire of high skill dishes including: puff, shortcrust and choux pastries, fresh pasta and focaccia bread. This week they made meringues, which they included in a beautiful Eton Mess. I had the pleasure of taste testing Mya-Rose Plummer and Kimora Salmon's Eton Mess and I can confirm it was beautiful.

Fabulous recruitment during the summer term saw our Cadet Contingent grow by 34 new cadets in September, taking our total contingent up to 64. This expansion resulted in us promoting 3 cadets to Corporals and 3 to Lance Corporals status. We are looking forward to our first official whole contingent parade on Friday 10th Nov for remembrance.

Performing Arts and PE success

Another successful 'NBA's Got Talent' which saw the Year 9 dance group take the crown. We successfully casted our school production of 'We Will Rock You', with Laylah-Mai Fitzgerald being our ever first year 7 student to be cast in a main role of one of academy productions. Year 11 student, Kian Haden represented NBA in a production of 'Wizard of Oz' at Sutton Town Hall and our Alumni student, Jamie-Lee Grant performed on at 'The Other Palace' in the West End. As always, our Performing Arts students put on a fantastic show at our 'Year 6 Open Evening'.

Having shown incredible talent, year 7 footballer Jephthah Aminwaa was elevated into the year 8 squad and displayed an outstanding performance on his debut. Year 11 writer Caleb High, who aspires to be a Sports Journalist, has been busy producing brilliant match reports for all our fixtures. Not only have our year 7 football team successfully made it into the semi-finals of the District Cup, but they recently had a massive 7-0 win over Hodge Hill with Benjamin Vernalls scoring a hat-trick. The following year 10 students have been elevated into the year 11 football team: Auis Mamdo, Anthony 'AJ' Hayden and Daniel Bartley.

Year 7 student Alfie Williams had recent success in his National Trampolining competition. Year 8 footballer Jessica Misolek has been selected to compete in the Polish National Football Team for her age group. Morgan Armstrong recently won a bronze medal when representing Team England in an international Karate competition in Belgium.

Safeguarding and Welfare reminder

We are having an increasing number of students using social platforms to be unpleasant to or about other students or sending inappropriate images to each other. We take such behaviour very seriously and urge parents/carers to make sure that they are regularly checking their children's devices to protect them from such behaviour. Our website provides detailed information on on-line safety in the Safeguarding section; we advise spending time reading this and the NSPCC site together with CEOP to enhance or compliment your own knowledge on keeping young people safe online.

Mobile Phones

Once again please can I thank the vast majority of parents/carers that ensure that their child does not use their mobile phone in the academy. However there have been a number of incidents in the last half term that we have had to deal with. Therefore, for clarity, all students **MUST NOT** use mobile phones in the academy. If there is an emergency reason for a student to contact home or for home to contact the student, then this can be done via reception or a member of staff. If the phone is seen or heard, it will be confiscated, and a detention issued. Repeat incidents will lead to an escalation in sanctions.

It has been a fantastic half term and one that our NBA family can be very proud of. I certainly am! I look forward to seeing the students on their return on Tuesday 7th November.

Kind regards



Mrs J Paddock
Headteacher