

Our Ref: SM / HM

12th March 2009

Dear Lifestyle Parents/Carers

My word, how time at Q3 Academy flies! I am writing to update you with some more interesting news about the achievements of Lifestyle students and the Academy as a whole.

Website

The development of the website is now growing at a really fast pace. We endeavour to keep all parents, carers and students updated with as much information as possible via the site; www.q3academy.org.uk. Please look at the site regularly for information on key dates and important letters. For those of you without internet access at home, please feel free to book time in our Internet Café through the Academy reception staff.

Business Dress

We are very pleased to announce our new Business Dress Partner; Clive Mark. After several months of researching new suppliers, we believe that Clive Mark can offer both parents and students high quality products. Q3 Business Dress will be available shortly through their local store in Walsall, and through an ordering system accessible via the Q3 shop for parents/carers on site here. Q3 jumpers and slip overs are now available to purchase in the shop on the Academy site. Could we ask all parents/carers to continue to support our policy on no make-up.

Charity Work

The Lifestyle Charity Group have been working hard over the last few months and have collected food for the elderly in the area, and toys for Sandwell Hospital Children's Ward. They have also raised a significant amount of money for the Ward also to be given as a donation through their work with Santa at Christmas. Many thanks to those parents/carers and students who supported these causes.

Executive Student

We are delighted to announce Edward Moon as the new Lifestyle Junior Executive. We welcome Edward to the Company and thank him for his hard work already. Lifestyle Council minutes will be available to all students in the Company via the tutor boards in form rooms.

Company Assemblies

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Khangura's form for recently delivering an assembly to the Company. We look forward to Mr Hard and Miss Callaghan's groups doing the same shortly.

Kick Starts

Kick Start sessions have been altered for Year 11 students only, to allow for additional revision sessions throughout the week. Year 11s are all expected to be at the Academy at the following times:

Monday 8.30am Maths

Thursday 8.30am Tutor Time

Friday 8.30am English

Details of further subject revision sessions will be available to students very shortly. Please can I take this opportunity to thank parents/carers for ensuring that students attend Kick Start sessions.

Many of our Year 11 students are also taking advantage of our Saturday School provision to boost their knowledge and learn top revision tips. Thank you to those students. This shows real commitment.

Attendance

We are delighted to announce an increase in the Lifestyle overall attendance. The Academy target continues to stand at 93%. At the point of writing this letter, we can report a Lifestyle attendance figure of: 92.2%

For every Lifestyle student attending 100% each week, they are entered in our prize attendance draw and have the opportunity to win a £10 voucher. Many congratulations so far to Alex Mark-Randell, Jessica Sehmar, Sanum Dhutty, Rebecca White, Ashley Dhanoa, Angus Lee-Jones and Rampanpreet Kaur-Sandhu.

Student of the Month

Lifestyle students of the month are: Megan Garry, Kathryn Holden and Kirsty Postin.

Building Progress

Since the last update, we are pleased to tell you that the Academy Council, the Parent Committee (PACT) and Year 9 have visited the new Academy site and have been updated on the amazing progress being made. It continues to be a really exciting project.

Prom Fayre/Fair

We hope to re-arrange the Year 11 Prom Fayre ? that was cancelled recently due to poor weather conditions. Students should see Mrs Hails for further details.

Peer Mentoring

Our new initiative regarding Peer Mentoring has taken off really well in Tutor Time on a Thursday.

Injured/excused/forgotten kit:

If a student has an injury or wishes to be excused from practical activity they must have a note from their parent/carer and show this to their PE Learning Consultant. If the injury is long term, the student must bring in a detailed medical note so their Learning Consultant is fully aware of their needs.

In both of these cases, unless authorised by their Strategic Director, a student must still bring their **FULL PE kit** and will take part as a coach, officiator or assistant in the lesson.

If a student forgets their PE kit they must wear the spare kit provided by the Academy and undertake a detention as follows:

- 1st time = a 10 minute break time department detention;
- 2nd time = a 30 minute after school department detention. Pupils will be given a letter to inform parents/carers;
- 3rd time = an after school department detention ranging from 45 minutes to 1 hour. Parents/carers will be sent a letter to inform them;
- 4th time = an after school Company detention. Parents/carers will be contacted to discuss the situation.

Failure to follow this Department and Academy policy will result in an Internal Exclusion. All lost PE time will need to be made up which could include supervised study sessions on Saturday mornings.

Can I ask that you ensure your child's name is written onto all items of their kit. Numerous items of PE kit have already been found but unfortunately can not be returned. All lost items are now in the Company administration offices.

Valuables:

In order to ensure that your child's valuables remain safe during their PE lessons we request that any valuables that are to be handed in to PE staff are done so in a **named and sealed envelope or small labelled bag**, which has been provided by yourself.

Staff **will not** collect valuables that are not secured in this way. In addition the PE and Sport Department and Academy will not accept liability for items that are not handed in to their PE learning consultant.

The department would strongly advise that on a day when your child has a PE lesson that any items of value are kept at home.

Key Dates for your diary

Wednesday 4th March – Post 16 Interviews

Thursday 5th March – Post 16 Interviews

Friday 6th March – Post 16 Interviews

Wednesday 18th March – Year 8 Pathways Evening

Monday 30th March – PACT Meeting 6.30pm Conference Room. New parents welcome

30th & 31st March – Academy Performing Arts Production

Monday 6th April – Friday 17th April - Easter holidays

Friday 24th April - Academy closed. Moderation Day

Monday 4th May – May Day. Academy Closed.

Next Consultation Day

Dates and times to be decided. Please check the website for updates.

Drop –ins

Please feel free to drop-in and chat about any concerns or worries with myself:

Wednesday 11th March 10.15am-11.15am

Thursday 19th March 4pm-4.30pm

Thursday 26th March 9.15am-10.15am

Alternatively, please contact the Company Office to make other arrangements to see Mr Begley, Personalised Learning Director or Mrs Mills, Personalised Learning Champion. Mrs Heather May, Company Administrator would also be delighted to assist with matters.

Once again, many thanks for your support at all times.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Mellors
Lifestyle Strategic Director