



PARENTS' INFORMATION

Dear Parents and Carers

As I begin my second term and continue, along with the community of West Lakes Academy, to pursue new heights of academic excellence, I feel compelled to share with you how wonderful an experience I've had so far and to share some next steps.

I have been impressed with the talent and drive of our students. We are working to ensure that any barriers to maximising the impact of their drive are removed. One new focus is on 'mind-set' and forming new habits, character and temperament so that self-imposed, closed attitudes are changed to open, 'can-do' behaviours.

It has been said that the chains of habit are too light to be felt until they are too heavy to break and we want your children to learn the right habits today so that in their future they are natural to them. We want them to view negative habits as reprehensible and to decide they're not going to behave that way. We, the adults, know that we often can't control the things that happen to us but we can control the elegance of our behaviour and how we respond.

Our lessons are going to focus on resilience and being irrepressible in the face of challenge and failure. The reward of hard work and, sometimes, failure will be felt in what we learn about how we learn and this will be among the rewards we want students to pursue. Therein will lie the highest academic excellence I spoke of in my opening paragraph.

I love what I do and where I work because I get to work with very, very smart people every single day! Your children's education is in the best of hands because the professionalism of our staff means they present the best version of themselves every day and ensure, therefore, that no barrier stands in the way to success.

Please see the announcements overleaf, here's to a happy and successful summer term.

Kind regards
Jonathan Johnson
Principal – West Lakes Academy

PARENTS' FORUM

Our next parents' forum will take place on Tuesday 3rd May at 5pm. The agenda for this meeting is listed below. If you plan to attend please email stevensonc@westlakesacademy.org.uk

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Life after levels
3. GCSE + A'Level changes
4. Parent view
5. A.O.B

EXAMS

The summer exam timetable is available on the Academy website. Students must arrive at exams fully prepared with the correct equipment, including black pens, calculator and anything else necessary for a specific exam. <http://www.westlakesacademy.org.uk/about-us/general-information/examinations/> Our students have been working exceptionally hard preparing for their exams and we wish them the success they deserve.

UNIFORM

Please make sure your son/daughter is wearing the appropriate uniform. Full details can be found on the website and in the students' planners. If you have any questions regarding uniform please do not hesitate to contact your child's tutor or head of year.

Our uniform policy clearly states black school shoes and not trainers. Students must not wear trainers, trainer type shoes, shoes made of canvas or with logos on. If a student loses or forgets their tie they will need to purchase a new one. The Academy will be hosting a uniform event on Saturday 25th June. Further information will be available closer to the time.

Tutors carry out uniform and equipment checks daily. Equipment can be purchased from the head of years' office if required.

ROCK CHALLENGE

Our students performed their Rock Challenge performance at the Sands Centre in Carlisle on Friday 22nd April. It was exceptional and raised the roof...they will now compete in Grimsby in the Northern Premier Final on July 2nd. Good Luck! Let's go West Lakes! Let's go!

PARKING

If you are dropping your child off or collecting your child from the Academy please be mindful of other students, families and of our neighbours. We would ask that parents cooperate and park appropriately. Please do not block in other cars or entrances to garages/homes. The site is not suitable for large numbers of cars beyond the car park and we are aware that parking is becoming a health and safety

concern. Please arrange a suitable and safe pick up point so that we can ensure our students leave our site safely at the end of the Academy day.