

End of term, December 2022

9th December 2022

Dear Parent/ Carer,



As we draw to the close of the Autumn term, now is a good opportunity to reflect on the achievements of our students over the course of the term. In this letter, I will also share some important information regarding the last week of term, and the start of the new term.

As always, the term has been incredibly busy. We have marked the passing of the Queen, seen two prime ministers and the start of the World Cup! In school it has also been very busy. This has included the Open Evenings, both for the main school and Quest 6, and our hugely successful Academy at Work tours. I am very grateful indeed to students for their help at these events.

It has been a pleasure to be able to welcome parents/carers back into school more regularly this year. This term we have held the Year 7 Settling in Evening, Curriculum Evenings for both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4, and also parents evenings which are a mix of in-person and on-line this year. We have been pleased with the engagement at these events and are very grateful indeed to those of you who attended; we hope you found them useful. Most importantly, we were very proud indeed to welcome so many of you to the Awards Evenings in late November. These were fantastic events and it was great to see so many of you gather to celebrate the achievements of the students- both your own and others.

Particular highlights for students will have been the successes of our sports teams, Academy Days, trips such as to the Old Vic Theatre, CCF camp and University and Careers trips. But also events in school such as workshops, show rehearsals and talks. I have been incredibly impressed by the work-rate and dedication of our students. They have worked hard in lessons, progressed their learning and had experiences which will live long in the memory. Many of the projects we have seen have been truly exceptional, and the level of thought in lessons has been excellent.

Year 7 have made a fantastic start to their time at Quest. They now know their way around the site and are settled in their classes. Years 8 and 9 have continued their learning very impressively while Year 10 and 12 have made a great start to their examination courses. Years 11 and 13 have now completed mocks and received their results during our "mock results day events" so they now know exactly where their efforts need to be focused. This work will be crucial in ensuring their success next summer.

Head of School: Mr T. Beecham, BSc (Hons), PGCE, MA

Executive Principal: Mr A. Crofts BA (Hons), PGCE, NPQH, NPQEL

The Quest Academy, Farnborough Avenue, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 8HD

020 8657 8935 office@thequestacademy.org.uk www.thequestacademy.org.uk



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I look forward to seeing all year groups come back in January raring to go and continuing to develop those LEARN attributes which will have such a positive impact on them throughout their future lives.

Information

Please be aware of the following key information concerning the last week of term and the start of the new term:

- The last day of term will be Friday 16th December. On this day Period 6 will be replaced by a registration period and students will be dismissed from school between 1.50pm and 2pm.
- The academy reopens on Tuesday 3rd January for a normal school day- students should arrive by 8.15am as usual.
- For the new term, we will conduct our normal uniform checks (students must have a tie, lanyard, blazer etc. and are permitted 1 pair of simple ear studs only). Full details of our uniform can be found [here](#).

Croydon Council's Director of Public Health and Director of Education have shared some information regarding scarlet fever and Group A strep- please find this below.

Scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, but it is highly infectious. Look out for symptoms in your child, which include a sore throat, headache, and fever, along with a fine, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel.

On darker skin the rash can be more difficult to detect visually but will have a sandpapery feel.

Where to get help and information

Contact NHS 111 or your GP if you suspect your child has scarlet fever, because early treatment of scarlet fever with antibiotics is important to reduce the risk of complications such as pneumonia or a bloodstream infection.

If your child has scarlet fever, keep them at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment to avoid spreading the infection to others.

You can also find information on the Government's [website](#), and their guidance for managing infectious diseases is [here](#).

Finally, I would like to wish you all a great break, and an excellent new year.

Your Sincerely



Mr T. Beecham
Head of School