15th December 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Autumn Term has sped by and our students continue to build on their success and achievement!

Our Choir has been performing to an incredibly high standard on stage at the Poole Lighthouse as part of the Poole Schools’ Music Association Carol Concert. The choir are also out and about singing to raise money for charity and of course not forgetting at our ‘Stars at Christmas’ production which is sure to be even better than the amazing performance seen last year! (No pressure, Performing Arts Department!)

Back in November, Mr Rose, our very popular Head of History, embarked upon a fully funded Centenary Battlefields Trip with two students, Jamie and Ashley, taking advantage of the opportunity to experience history at a far deeper level than is usually possible in the classroom. It is fair to say that both boys learnt a great deal and Jamie had the privilege of being asked to lay the wreath during a ceremony at the Menin Gate. I am looking forward to the further work both of these boys will now go onto to do as they present what they have learnt to others.

Meanwhile, back at the academy, the House Challenges have been getting ever more competitive with two competitions now complete – the Spelling Bee and the Handball. With Curie House the reigning champions for two years in succession, there is a growing competitiveness amongst students to claim the cup for their own House and I wait with interest to see who the overall winners will be!

Our Year 11 students have also been extremely busy! Every student has now had a mock interview with a member of the Parkstone Rotary Club, a Careers Fayre and an individual meeting with a careers adviser from Ansbury in order to give them the very best information to guide their decisions for post 16 education. They will no doubt be pleased to finish their mock exams at the end of this term and enjoy a rest over the holidays. When they return in January, there are only 75 days until their first GCSE exam!

Assemblies have also continued to be focussed on themes which I believe to be such an important part of school life. This has included the Reverend Peter Homden delivering his assembly on Remembrance and other presenters focusing on issues such as International Men’s Day and anti-bullying week. It was great to see the pledges and display put together by students in our reception area in relation to anti-bullying week which highlighted this extremely important issue.

Finally, all it remains for me to wish you is a very Merry Christmas. The academy will close on Friday 15th December at 2pm and will re-open at 8.40am on Wednesday January 3rd. I very much look forward to welcoming back all of our students in 2018.

Yours sincerely



Jon Webb

