

Message from the Head Teacher:

A warm welcome to everyone.

Words cannot express how amazing it is to be back to some normality for the new term. It is so lovely to see all our students again. We would also like to extend a very warm welcome to all our new students joining us for the very first time this academic year.

The school is now operating to a near normal timetable and students are moving around the building in a similar manner to the way we operated pre-pandemic, but with a few changes to take into account our additional hygiene safety measures which remain in place. Nonetheless, it is great to hear the buzz and chatter in the corridors at lesson changeover times and see students from each of the five houses taking their lunch breaks together.

One of the biggest changes is our whole school reading programme. We are determined to give our students the best start possible and research shows that this starts with the ability to read, write and appreciate the written word. Our daily reading programme is now underway and every student is participating in this activity at the start of each day. We are also pleased to be able to offer a full and exciting programme of extra-curricular activities and clubs for our students once again.

'House' Ties:

Thank you to those parents who got in touch with us regarding school ties. Unfortunately, the house braids system has not worked as well as we would have liked, so we have taken the decision to source and purchase brand new ties that will be allocated to every child. Please bear with us whilst this is organised as it will be a large logistical operation.

Parent Forum:

We are very happy to be able to re-launch our Parent Forum this year.

The remit for the Forum is to work with us on raising money for equipment, charity fundraising (such as the dedication of the Performing Arts space to the memory of Andy Price) and to work with us on any issues raised by parents.

It will be represented by two parents per year group and we invite interested parties to send over an expression of interest to janebailey@noelbakeracademy.co.uk. Please note that spaces are limited, so if we receive more than two parents from each year wanting to be on the forum we will put this to a parental vote. Only successful representatives will be invited to attend the meetings and they will feed back relevant information to other parents via whatever medium is agreed. One meeting will be held per half term, normally on a Thursday evening from 4pm until 5.15pm.

Lateral Flow Testing:

A reminder to all parents/carers to continue to carry out and log Lateral Flow Testing twice weekly as requested. This initiative is really important and is continuing to keep everyone safe. You can obtain free kits via the government website.

Bike Helmets:

Students must not travel to or from the school site on a bike or scooter without wearing a bike helmet. This is a **mandatory school rule** and we do not feel it is unreasonable of us to request that children travel to school safely. If after receiving one friendly warning, your child persists in flouting this important rule, their bike or scooter will be locked up and you will be contacted to collect it at a suitable time for the school. They will also be banned from attending school on a bike or scooter until the end of term. **We do not want to lose a child in an accident because they did not follow the rules; such a scenario would be unthinkable.** Electric e-scooters are illegal on public roads or pavements, and are therefore banned from site and students must not come to school on them under any circumstances whatsoever.

Extra-Curricular Clubs:

All clubs (apart from Sports clubs) will start week commencing 20th September and will be launched with students next week in assemblies. Students will be able to sign up to Boxing and Food clubs, but please note there are limited places in these clubs due to health and safety reasons.

Sports clubs will start next week (13th September).

Students will have the chance to sign up after their assembly next week and we will then choose who will attend in term one.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>Homework Club</u> Ms Russell	<u>Homework Club</u> Miss Liddle	<u>Homework club</u> Miss Lord	<u>Homework club</u> Ms Faulkner	<u>Geography club</u> Ms O'Callaghan
<u>Boxing club</u> Ms Young Mr Davis (sign up only- limited numbers)	<u>Chess Club</u> Mr Crean	<u>Diversity and Inclusion</u> Ms Campbell	<u>SEN book club</u> Ms Litherland	<u>Book club</u> Ms Lake
<u>Gardening club</u> Mrs Allsopp	<u>Drama Club</u> Mrs Sibson	<u>Cooking club</u> Mrs Ratcliffe Ms Smith	<u>Sewing/Knitting club</u> Ms Sudar	<u>School Newsletter club</u> Ms Carr
<u>Duke of Edinburgh</u> Yr 9 only	<u>Math club</u> Miss Brown	<u>Choir Club</u> Ms Guest	<u>Handwriting club (SEN)</u> Ms Sutcliffe	<u>Basketball</u> Mr Burrows/Mr Gibson
<u>Netball</u> Miss Hussey Mrs Jones (PE)	<u>Upbeat Dance</u> Outside provider	<u>Debating club</u> Mrs Hutchinson		<u>Fitness</u> Mr Burrows/Mr Gibson
	<u>Football Fixtures</u> Mr Forster Mr Vizma	<u>Recreational Football</u> KS3- Mr Rickets KS4- Mr Eavis		
	<u>Gymnastics</u> Miss Ainsworth	<u>Football Fixtures</u> Mr Forster Mr Vizma		
	<u>Wellbeing club (SEN)</u> Ms Pole			