



Morton Academy
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Newsletter

11th July 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

We are now reaching the end of what has been a very busy term and academic year. Much has been achieved by students and staff and we are all looking forward to the summer break. In terms of end of year arrangements the academy will close to students at **12.30pm on Friday 20th July 2018**. The academy will reopen to students on **Wednesday 5th September 2018 at 8.35am**.

Once again I would like to thank all parents for their support over the last term. The Year 11 Leavers' Assembly was a moving occasion and it was amazing to see the whole academy come out of lessons to applaud Year 11 as they left the academy for the last time. The Year 11 Prom was a massive success and it is always lovely to see how many parents and former students come to the event to celebrate with their children. I think we brought traffic around The Auctioneer to a standstill. GCSE results day is on **Thursday 23rd August**. The academy will open at **9.00am** for students to come in and receive their examination results.

We have also had the 50 Mile Walk Celebration Assembly with staff, students and parents. Well done again to all the Year 10s who took part, we are very proud of you. Year 10s are now on Work Experience visits gaining some vital knowledge about life in the 'real' world. As I write students and staff are busy with preparations for Project Week, I'm sure the event will continue to be a great success. I am also very proud of the students who travelled to Belgium to visit a number of historical sites linked to wars from the past, I'd like to thank Miss Sewell and the rest of her team for giving students this opportunity.

We have recently welcomed our new Year 7s to join us for their Induction Day and we have been visited by Year 5 students from all of our feeder Primary schools. It was also wonderful to see students from Caldewlea Primary School take part in the Sports Festival run by Mr Tyler and our Sports Ambassadors.

There are some changes to staffing coming up over the summer and I wanted to let you know about some valued and respected staff who are leaving the academy over the summer to give you and your children a chance to say thank you. One of our longest serving staff, Angie Buck, who has supported your children in Inclusion/SEN and when they are unwell, is retiring in July. She has been committed to keeping your children safe and well and will be missed by all. Another long serving teacher, Carole Jones, leaves the Science department in July. Carole has been a highly respected and successful teacher for many years and I have been lucky to observe many of her lessons and see her commitment to the children of the area. Our former Assistant Headteacher Rob Jones joins Carole in retiring, Rob is another excellent teacher who has contributed much to the Maths department and has been a key leader in transforming the academy for your children. We wish Mr and Mrs Jones well in their retirement and thank them for all their hard work over the years. Head of Year 11, Holly Smith, is also leaving for a promotion at Workington Academy, Holly is well loved by students and has been an exemplary Head of Year and teacher of Design Technology. We also say goodbye to our wonderful PE teacher Claire Nugent who is transferring to Central Academy over the summer, she has been excellent addition to our team and we wish her well in the future.



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We have been lucky to secure some excellent new staff in preparation for the next academic year. We have new appointments in the Maths department, the Expressive Arts departments and in Design Technology. We are bringing Music back into our curriculum and are expanding the curriculum to include a greater variety of technology subjects. We have recently expanded our Inclusion department; we have appointed Rebecca Miller to the post of Inclusion Co-ordinator and have been lucky to appoint an additional two new Teaching Assistants to the team. Karl Wilson also takes on a temporary role as PSHCE Co-ordinator. You will also be aware that the school day is changing and that the academy will move to a six period day in September. This will mean that we will have six 50 minute lessons a day. The start and finish times for students remain the same. More details regarding this will be published on the academy website.

This academic year has been intense and challenging. We have continued to strive to be the best academy that we can be. We have been acknowledged by Ofsted that we are now a Good school for all areas of Inspection. Our student numbers are rising and we are expanding our curriculum to offer more excellent opportunities for students. We are raising our expectations further in terms of behaviour, attitudes to learning and uniform. Please remember that the new uniform is compulsory only for new Year 7s but all students are welcome to wear the new uniform if they choose to. Please refer to the Morton Academy website for guidance as to the expectations of uniform for next academic year. I'd like to thank parents for your feedback regarding my decision to allow students to wear their PE kits during this spell of unprecedented hot weather. Please keep checking the

academy Facebook page for further details regarding when normal uniform expectations will be re-introduced.

Finally, I'd like to thank students, parents and staff for their hard work, commitment and energy this year. I hope everyone has a restful summer and plenty of opportunities to spend quality time with family and friends. We hope to see everyone back to the academy safe and sound on Wednesday 5th September.

Yours sincerely

Richard McGuire
Principal



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