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Co-op Academy
Stoke-on-Trent

December 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

On behalf of everyone at Co-op Academy Stoke-on-Trent, we would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Students return to the academy on **Tuesday 7th January** at the normal time of 8.50am.

Winter Illness

It has been reported in the local press that many schools had to close due to outbreaks of norovirus and other associated winter illnesses. I am glad that we avoided this mainly due to the preventative measures we have put in place. We hope that everyone is able to return in January refreshed for the new term.

Robin Hood Panto

Many thanks to everyone who came along to the production of Robin Hood, the annual academy panto on December 11th. The production was the final one for our Year 11s, some of whom have been mainstays of our drama productions for many years. Thank you in particular to Mrs Leighton for leading the production once again.

Goodbye Mr Ackroyd!

At the end of this term, we say goodbye to Mr Ackroyd. Mr Ackroyd is a long serving member of the maths team and he is moving on to work in the special education sector, which is a long held goal. We wish him all the best of luck in his new endeavours.

New staffing and timetables

You may notice that some of your son or daughter's teachers have changed in the last week, this is mainly due to some staff going on maternity leave or returning from maternity leave. Mrs Cunningham (business studies) and Mrs Hodgkins (history) have recently started their maternity leave, to be joined shortly by Mrs Davies (English). We are however pleased to welcome back from maternity leave Mrs Beech (science) and Mrs Large (technology).

Split breaks

We have recently moved to a system of split breaks in the academy. Instead of all students having the same breaktime at 11.20am, Years 10 and 11 will now have break at 11.00am and Years 7,8 and 9 will have break at 11.20am. We have taken this decision as the academy is growing year on year and we believe this will help to prevent overcrowding.

Parent Pay and the Academy App

A reminder that we are a cashless academy and that all meals and trips need to be paid for via ParentPay. If you have not already signed up you can do so [here](#). In addition we will now only send letters out via our Academy App. If you haven't downloaded the app you can do so [here](#). Please note that all parents' evenings appointments will be made

via the app now, if you are a Year 8 or Year 10 parent or carer please download the app to make appointments for the next half term's parents' evenings.

Term dates for 2020/21

The final term dates for 2020/21 are now available on our website [here](#). These term dates include the final approved days for Inset days. The provisional dates for 2021/22 are also available on the website, however these are subject to change until next year.

Upcoming dates for your diary

PSHE day - January 16th

Year 10 Parents Evening - January 16th

Year 8 Parents Evening - February 13th

Half term break Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February

A reminder that if you wish to speak to anyone at the academy, please contact either your son or daughter's form tutor or the year manager for that year, details of which are [here](#).

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr N Lowry
Principal