



21st November 2011

Dear Parents/Carers

It is hard to believe we have been open only two months. Given how busy we have been many staff feel we have been open a year.

We have made an excellent start and I would like to thank you all for your continued help and support which has been crucial in the first few months.

We will be compiling a regular newsletter to Parents keeping you informed of all the events and activities we are planning at Hope Academy.

Key Dates for your Diary

We have published on our website all the key dates for your diary including Parents Consultation Evenings, and other key events and term/holiday dates for the next academic year. For convenience I have attached to this letter a copy these dates. However, I hope you will make good use of our website to keep you up to date with news and events throughout the year: www.hopeacademy.org.uk

Please note, Year 11 mock exams will be taking place week commencing 5th December 2011. Pupils will be receiving their mock exam timetables this week.

Early Bird Breakfast Club

Parents are asked to ensure pupils do not arrive at school before 8.00am. However we do offer an Early Bird Breakfast Club which will run from 8.00am until 8.25am. This is available to pupils whether they wish to purchase food or not, pupils not attending the club will remain on the playground until the bell goes at 8.40am. In the event of bad weather, pupils will be allowed to enter the Academy building earlier.

Invitation to Visit Hope Academy

Our Open Evening was a great success with over 900 people visiting the Academy to meet and talk with staff and pupils. My thanks to everyone involved.

I am conscious that many parents haven't yet had an opportunity to see around the new building. I would like to invite parents on 7th December 2011 between 4.00pm and 6.30pm to come and informally look around the Academy. There will be no presentations simply an opportunity to see the brand new school.

Saturday Performing Arts School

The Performing Arts school has got off to an excellent start and offers dance, drama and music in addition to instrumental tuition for young people from the local community aged 5-18. For further information please contact the Academy.

Sponsored by:



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Chaplaincy

Our new Chaplain Miriam Dunn has made an excellent start, and is currently organising our Shoe Box Christmas Appeal, where pupils have donated shoe boxes filled with gifts which will be distributed to deprived children around the world.

Formal Opening

Our formal opening took place on 3rd November 2011. Archbishop Patrick Kelly, (of Liverpool Archdiocese), Bishop Richard Blackburn, (of Warrington Diocese), and Professor Gerald Pillay, (Vice Chancellor of Liverpool Hope University), jointly opened the Academy. The opening ceremony was a fantastic affair and was thoroughly enjoyed by the many hundreds of guests attending. The event included a liturgy and outstanding performances from over 100 pupils, which included dance, music and drama. My thanks to everyone concerned in organising this memorable event.

New Appointments

We have recently appointed the following staff to the Academy, who will join us January 2012:

Vice Principals

Mr Patrick Collins, Vice Principal (Community)

Mrs Linda Emmett, Vice Principal (Learning)

Both are outstanding appointments and come to us with wide ranging experience at Senior Leadership level in a range of Catholic and Church of England Schools.

Leader of Teaching and Learning (English)

Mrs Jeniffer Ashurst,

Mrs Ashurst is an outstanding Advanced Skills Teacher with wide experience training staff on the Outstanding and Improving Teacher National Programmes.

Leader of Learning Support (SENCO)

Mrs Amanda Hilton

Mrs Hilton comes to us with wide ranging experience in Special Educational Needs in Secondary Schools.

Yours faithfully

John K Gannon
Principal
Hope Academy