

July 2016

Dear Parent & Carer

As we approach the end of the academic year, it is hard to comprehend how quickly the last twelve months appear to have gone; much has happened over the year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff at the Academy in preparing students in Years 11 to 13 for their external examinations. This year, staff have supported students in a variety of ways, coursework catch-up, one-to-one mentoring, past paper practice, revision session and surgeries. We estimate that over 2000 hours of extra sessions have been put in this year by staff and students alike!

We continue with the process of refurbishing the site and summer holiday projects this year include:

1. The main boilers are all to be replaced and the leak in the Food/Textiles area will be repaired.
2. The lighting system across the Academy will be upgraded to an LED system, making the system much more cost effective.
3. The CCTV system will again be upgraded and the number of cameras across the site will be significantly increased, thereby ensuring the safety and security of the site and all our students.
4. The broken flags will continue to be lifted and re-laid or replaced as appropriate.

Unfortunately there is still no news on the Section 106 money which we desperately need to enable us to reinstate leisure areas so that students can spend their social time in appropriate surroundings.

The Academy continues its long tradition of organising trips and visits both in school and outside of school time. These are just a few of the activities that have run or are about to run this half term; Academy production of We Will Rock You, Geography trip to Grassington, Geography trip to Sorrento, History trip to Fountains Abbey, the Year 11 and Year 13 proms, MFL trips to France and Salamanca.

I have no doubt that you will have read details of many of these trips in the Academy newsletter. The newsletter can be found on the Academy website [www.garforthacademy.org.uk](http://www.garforthacademy.org.uk).

As always at this time of year, we have a number of staff leaving us and these are; Mr Kevin Cockram who is retiring after 20 years at Garforth Academy. We will all miss Kevin; over the years he has had a significant impact at the Academy and we all wish him well for a long and healthy retirement. Mrs H Stephenson is relocating to the North East, Ms N Leech is leaving to take up the role of Head of Science at the Co-op Academy in Leeds. Ms Mason and Ms Fozzard are also leaving us as their contracts end, I wish them well for the future and thank them for everything they have done this year. Mr W Shuttleworth is leaving to take up an Assistant Principal role at the Ruth Gorse Academy Trust. Ms H Fullerton is leaving to take up the role of Head of English at the Ruth Gorse Academy Trust. Mr R Potts is leaving to take up the role of SENCO at Tadcaster Grammar School. Mrs Helen Matterson is relocating. Mr I Dale is returning to the business world. Mrs K Lowton is retiring from the Academy after 27 years, but still supporting the Arts Live provision. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Kathy for her long service and support of the Academy and wish her a long and happy retirement. Mrs V Gibbons is leaving after 15 years to pursue a career in the business sector, again I would like to thank Mrs Gibbons for her long service and support of the Academy and wish her well for the future. Miss A Quast is leaving to take up a permanent post at Cockburn High School. Miss H Greenwood is leaving to take up a permanent post at Abbey Grange High School. Laura Joye and Chris Gilbert Teaching Assistants are also leaving us to take up new positions. I wish all colleagues every success for the future.

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Together we are stronger...

New staff joining the Academy in September are; Ms Matthews – Geography, Ms Holmes – Food & Textiles, Ms Paciello and Ms Clamp – MFL and Mr Gaunt – Science, Ms Harvey – PE, Ms Thorpe - Humanities, Mr Trotter – Music, Ms A White - English.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our students every success with their examination results and for those leaving us this time, best wishes for the future and as we break for the summer, do all enjoy the break.

Yours faithfully

*A.D. Woodhouse*

AD Woodhouse  
Principal