

December 2016

Dear Parents & Carers

I am pleased to take this opportunity to write to you as we approach the end of an extremely busy but very productive term for Garforth Academy.

Year 7 have settled in well and successfully made the transition from primary school to life in a large busy secondary school. Year 11 have completed their mock examinations; this is a very important first step in preparing students for the real examinations in the summer. The information teachers gather around students mock examination performance informs the intervention and study programme for the rest of the academic year. Next summer sees the implementation of the reformed GCSEs in English and Maths, due to the new style and rigour of the examinations it would be beneficial if parents and students alike support the intervention programme which has already started and will increase in intensity in the New Year.

The Sixth Form Open Evening was extremely well attended, a significant number of external students also joined us on the 10th November. Feedback suggests that the reputation of Garforth Academy as a Post 16 Provider remains strong in the local community.

Following the success of the school production last summer, "We Will Rock You", we have begun planning for this academic year's production. We have decided to stage the schools version of "Grease" and casting has already taken place with rehearsals beginning in January.

I can also confirm our Progress 8 score of 0.28 from our summer 2016 results is significantly above the national average which is very pleasing. This is the first year of the new school performance measure and reflects the hard work of students, staff and parents.

Dates for your diary for next term;

9th-20th January 2017 – Year 12 & 13 mock examinations

20th-24th January – Year 11 maths exams

24th January – Year 8 Parents' Evening

26th-27th January – Year 8 London Trip Philosophy & Ethics

1st February – Year 8 Market Place Evening

3rd February – Year 11 Taster Day

7th February – Year 11 Parents' Evening

9th February – Years 11 & 13 Photographs

11th February – Years 12 & 13 Ski trip departs

22nd February – Years 12 & 13 Parents' Evening
2nd March – Year 9 Parents' Evening
6th-10th March – Year 11 English & Maths mock examinations
13th-24th – Year 10 examinations
27th-31st March – BTEC Art exam
29th March – Year 7 Parents' Evening

You may have seen the changes on the Academy website and documentation. The Board of Directors has taken a decision to rename the Trust to Delta Academies Trust. This is a simple change of name only, but reflects wholesale and on-going change throughout the organisation. The name Delta is synonymous with change and the Trust is determined to change educational outcomes and lives for the students we serve across the North of England. The relentless focus of the Trust is on what is in the best interests of the children and the communities our academies serve.

The Academy closes at 2.30pm Friday 16th December and re-opens on Tuesday 3rd January 2017. As we break for the holiday I would like to wish you all a good break and a very Happy Christmas.

With best wishes



AD Woodhouse
Principal