

Our Ref: McM/dw

9 September 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian/Carer

I am delighted to welcome you to our Academy's new school year and share with you news of the outstanding start our students have made:

- GCSE Results were better than ever achieved by either of our two former schools with **85% of all our students achieving at least 5 of the highest grades A*-C.**
- **99% of our students** achieved at least one top grade GCSE and many achieved more than 10.
- **There were many individual successes** of remarkable achievement, with one student gaining 12 A*s!
- **More than 40%** of all our students achieved at least 5 top grades A*-C including both English and Maths.

Our successes and record of substantial progress continue to attract a great deal of attention in the media and you may have heard our students discovering their results "live" on Radio Merseyside. Attention often focuses on just a few individuals but all of our students have contributed, with **over 96% of all students achieving 5 or more GCSEs.** We are determined to raise standards further so our parents and governors can continue to be rightly proud of the quality of education we provide for every young person in our community.

On a different note, I am delighted to report that our current students have made an excellent start to the new year. The standard of their uniform and general presentation has been outstanding and we have had many comments from members of the public saying that our students look immaculate. I should like to express our appreciation for all your efforts in ensuring they are so smart: it reflects great credit on our community and it demonstrates a real sense of pride and self-belief. Of even more importance, their behaviour and effort in school have been most encouraging and a distinguished guest who visits schools across the country has already commented on the "stunning" and "delightful" atmosphere we enjoy in our Academy.

Unfortunately, I must inform you that, in order to enable staff and students to prepare for our Open Evening, **school will close early at 2.15 p.m. on Thursday 22 September.** Can you also please note that we have three staff training days this term, on **Friday 23 September, Monday 31 October** and **Friday 25 November**, when the school will be closed for students.

Finally, we would be most grateful for your continued support in encouraging all our students to attend school regularly and punctually. They have made an excellent start but they need to maintain that effort. It is our policy not to authorise holidays in term-time unless there are exceptional circumstances and please avoid arranging any appointments in school-time if at all possible.

Yours faithfully



S McMahon
Principal

Autumn Term 2011

Thursday 22 September	Open Evening for Y6 parents and students
Friday 23 September	Staff Training Day - school closed for students
Monday 26 September	Open Morning for Y6 parents and students
Thursday 13 October	Celebration Evening for prize winners and parents
Monday 24 – Friday 28 October	Half Term holiday
Monday 31 October	Staff training Day - school closed for students
November (Date to be notified)	Y7 Settling in Evening for Y7 parents and students
Friday 25 November	Staff training Day - school closed for students
Dates to be notified	Presentation Evening for last years Y11 prize winners and parents
Tuesday 1 – Wednesday 30 November	Y11 Mock GCSE Exams
Monday 7 – Thursday 17 November	Y11 GCSE Exams
Thursday 15 December	Carol Service at Christchurch, Oxton
Friday 16 December	Last day of term

Key Dates in 2012

Tuesday 3 January	Return for Spring Term
Monday 13 – Friday 17 February	Half-term holiday
Friday 23 March	Staff training Day - school closed for students
Monday 2 April – Friday 13 April	Half Term
Monday 7 May	May Bank Holiday
Monday 14 May	GCSE Summer Exams start
Monday 4 June – Friday 8 June	Half-term holiday
Friday 20 July	Last day of summer term

