



Aston Academy

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy Friday! This week it was wonderful to welcome our Y7 parents and carers into the academy on Monday to allow them to meet with their child's group tutor and receive an update from Mr Kilgannon on academy life in Y7. We hope that our guests found the evening welcoming, useful and informative. The feedback has been very positive, and we are certainly extremely proud of our Y7 cohort and their first term at secondary school.

As the festive spirit begins to build, the academy are starting to plan some Christmas activities for the students. Christmas lunches will be served for Y7 on Wednesday 11th December and all other year groups on Thursday 12th December. Our year teams are busy planning the Christmas celebration assemblies, ordering student rewards and counting achievement points. On Friday 13th December we run our annual 'Snowflake Fayre,' a wonderful Christmas themed event to raise money for Sheffield Children's Hospital. To add to the Christmas feeling our students will be able to wear Christmas jumpers that day if they wish. Please watch out for further information on all these Christmas activities.

Below is a further reminder of our December school closure days. These are on our website calendar, but details are also below:

- Friday 6th December - Disaggregated Day (school closed to all students and staff).
- Friday 20th December - INSET day (school closed to all students, therefore the final day of term 1 for our students is Thursday 19th December).

A negative to report this week that concerns me, is that we have confiscated vapes from individual students. Not only does this carry a very serious sanction but it seriously risks the health of the student. Vapes contain toxins that are addictive. The facts are very clear that if a child vapes, they become addicted very quickly. Not only will this seriously harm a developing body, but it is obvious that it will severely disrupt learning and progress for a child. Students who vape regularly miss lessons/truant, have poor punctuality/attendance, find it difficult to concentrate or complete tasks. We will continue to educate about the risks and next week I will be delivering an assembly to all students about the risks these vapes carry to further communicate this message.

Next week will be a four-day week for all our students. I hope that this will support a week of full attendance. In the run up to Christmas we do not want all the hard work by students and staff around maintaining good attendance to drop. We have some attendance reward surprises for the form classes with the best attendance in each year group. So, every student present counts in helping your tutor group win!

Have a wonderful weekend.

The combination of home, school and student will make a difference.

Best regards,

Mr J Graham
Principal



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