

Sandwell Academy

Parent Update

December 2018



Upcoming dates for your diary

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Module Reports brought home on:

Friday 18 January 2019
(Module 3)

Friday 1 March 2019
(Module 4)

Spring Term Starts : Monday 7 January 2019

Beauty and the Beast Production :

Thursday 5 March 2019
Wednesday 6 March 2019
Thursday 7 March 2019

Sixth Form External Information Evening:

Wednesday 30 January
2019

1978: The Ultimate Goal



Over two nights in December, the culmination of two-year journey was brought thrillingly and movingly to life in the Academy Theatre when Year 10 performing arts group delivered their show "1978: The Ultimate Goal. "It was a story researched, created and then brilliantly performed by the pupils which drew acclaim from some exalted company.

The show followed a challenge from West Bromwich Albion to delve into the story of the Club's iconic "Three Degrees" team some 40 years previously. Brendon Batson and the late Cyrille Regis and Laurie Cunningham were the three black footballers who, in facing and conquering the racism and bigotry of those days, nudged Britain along the path to a greater understanding of the racism which threatened to divide the nation.

That the show went on just days after widely-publicised incidents of racist abuse at Premier League football stadia had been reported added even greater pertinence to the story.

Over the two nights, Albion's Head Coach Darren Moore, Batson himself - who actually joined the cast on stage for a memorable cameo in the final scene - and members of all three families witnessed a truly outstanding and unique production which rightly received rapturous applause. Drawing on vintage newsreel and the soundtrack of the era as a backdrop, the cast delivered a show that did not dodge the difficult conversations of the subject matter but filled the audience with joy in its message of hope and positivity.

As Brendon himself told the audience at the finale: "I'm sure you will understand I have mixed emotions having experienced this - but on behalf of Cyrille, Laurie and myself, you have honoured us with your performance. Thank you so much."

Session 3 Activities

Details of Session 3 activities on offer in the Spring term are available on the Academy website. Please note that these start on Monday 14 January 2019 and will continue until Thursday 14 February 2019. Please contact Mr Moore if you require any further information. **Students are not permitted on the Academy site beyond 3.20pm unless they are attending one of these sessions.** Please remind your child that they need to sign up for Session 3 on the day before in the restaurant.

Timings of the Academy Day

We continue to work hard with students to ensure that they are in lessons promptly in the morning. The ideal time for students to arrive is between 8.05am and 8.15am so that students are in lessons for **8.20am for a prompt start.** Students arriving late disrupt lessons for other students and after half term we are introducing new measures to deal with repeat offenders. For students who are repeatedly late we will be introducing an Extended Learning Session to mitigate the effects of persistent lateness on their education. The new protocol for lateness will be available on the website accessible via the Useful Documents page.

Sixth Form Christmas Jumper Day

House System Positives

In tradition at the Academy, Sixth Form students were invited to join staff in wearing a Christmas Jumper on Friday 14 December in return for a £1 donation. Proceeds will go the Save The Children's charity.



Well done to the students below who have received the highest number of house points in their year for the Autumn term:

Name	Year	Total
Evie Baines	7	96
Charlotte Christy	8	102
Jude Mason	9	58
Charlie Beadle	10	41
Harriet Turner	11	28
Ellie Faulkner	12	45
Molly Barton	13	41

Extreme Weather

In the unlikely event of Sandwell Academy being closed due to extreme weather conditions, please check the following sources of information:

Website www.sandwellacademy.com

Twitter @SandwellAcademy

Radio Free Radio (96.4fm), Heart (100.7fm), Radio BBC WM (95.6fm)

Sandwell Academy will be open as normal unless broadcast on the radio and displayed on our website and Twitter feed. Parents who have provided a mobile telephone number to the Academy may also receive a text message confirming the Academy status in extreme weather but this should not be relied upon. **Please check the website in the first instance. Please do not call the Academy Reception.**

Use of mobile phones and smart watches

Please can you remind your children that mobile phones should be switched off at all times whilst on the Academy grounds and must be kept in lockers or a zipped up pocket. Smart watches are not permitted in the Academy as they cause a distraction.

Important Reminders

My Child at School (MCAS) website and app

This is a new online information portal for parents/carers to be able to access student information. You will be able to view your child's behaviour, attendance and recent reports. Additional information, such as their timetable, lessons and teachers are also available. You can login into the website by following the links on the Academy website, or you can download the app for free from your relevant app store.

Safety at the front of the Academy

May we continue to encourage parents to keep the front of the Academy a safe environment at the start and end of the day.

Parents should avoid turning round in the Academy entrance and parking on the yellow lines

Your co-operation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Mock Examinations

Timetables for forthcoming Sixth Form mocks are on the Academy website. Year 12 students will be completing mock exams from 7–11 January 2019. Students must prepare for their mock exams using revision material given by subject teachers and using the online curriculum.

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Term dates 2019/2020

Term dates for the next academic year 2019 / 2020 are attached and are also available to download from the Sandwell Academy website:

<http://www.sandwellacademy.com/page/term-dates.aspx>

Please also note the term dates for the remainder of this Academic year and avoid booking holidays during term time.

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Parent Questionnaire Results (enclosed)

We are pleased to share with you the results from the Parent Questionnaire sent out in the Summer Mailing. We had a very positive response to this and We would like to thank all parents and carers for their replies.

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Rules of Admission 2020

Please note the Rules of Admission 2020 are now available for consultation. For further details please visit:

<http://www.sandwellacademy.com/page/y7-2020.aspx>

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Communication with Parents

You will be aware that the Academy aims, where possible, to communicate with parents electronically via text message or email. If you change personal details i.e. email address or mobile phone number, please inform the Academy as soon as possible so we can update our records.

We do hope you and your family have a wonderful festive period. Sandwell Academy re-opens on Monday 7 January 2019 for the start of the Spring Term.