



20th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Have a Peaceful Christmas Holiday

Thank you for all of your support over what has been a very successful term for us all at Rockwood Academy.

Here are just a few highlights from this term:

- The Winter Showcase just yesterday involved a range of pupils performing for a merry audience of parents and staff. Well done to all that took part!
- A Languages Trip last week to a London theatre was an example of the enrichment outside of the classroom that we offer.
- The Combined Cadet Force has continued to engage our pupils with a series of events, including last weekend at Altcar Training Camp in Liverpool
- A number of pupils have taken part in auditions and rehearsals for Echo Eternal Events that are upcoming.
- A group of our pupils took part in a Christmas Gospel event at Birmingham Town Hall last week along with other CORE Education Trust schools and pupils.
- Over 60 Year 7 and 8 pupils have taken part in “Bikeability”, learning to ride their bicycles safely around the roads in the local community.
- This week all Year 7 students took part in an exciting Flamenco workshop where they were immersed in the Spanish culture and enhanced their language learning experience!
- We also held a Calligraphy Workshop for Year 7, which was an opportunity to celebrate the Arabic World Day which is 18th December every year.

Parent Meeting regarding recent “Explosives Threats”

On Tuesday 17th December I held a meeting that was attended by a number of parents and the local community police.

The aim of this meeting was to provide information and reassurance following the recent “hoax” threat phone calls that the school has received that, as you know, has led to 2 site evacuations in the last month.

At the meeting we covered:

- More information on the nature of the threats received and the rationale from myself for the decisions that I took. In my talk, I outlined a point made recently in a previous letter: we will only evacuate the school in the same manner if specifically instructed to by the police. We *must* do all we can to preserve the education of our pupils whilst managing the risk that such phone calls create.
- A talk from the local police on the processes that they go through and actions taken recently.
- A presentation from Mr Cooke (Deputy Headteacher) on the range of strategies that we employ to keep all children safe. This includes the introduction of the Inclusion Base, a new hub set up by our newly

appointed Head of Inclusion, Mrs Lawrence, that is designed to remove the barriers to success in school, be they related to behaviour, attendance, mental health or welfare issues.

- Parents also had the opportunity to ask questions and this provided some further important discussion.

If any parents/carers were unable to attend and wish to communicate with me directly, please do email me at rreeve@corerockwood.academy
If you wish to give any feedback, do email me on rreeve@corerockwood.academy

I would like to take the opportunity to reiterate my main point to parents at this meeting: we go to great lengths to keep your children safe at Rockwood. The actions we have taken recently underline this point.

Important Notice on our Medical Policy

As part of our commitment to safeguarding the health and well-being of all students at Rockwood Academy, we want to remind you about our school's medication policy and provide some important guidance. The policy complies with the UK Department for Education guidelines on managing medicines in schools.

All medication must be handed to the school reception and will only be administered with written parental consent.

Students are not permitted to carry medication with them during the school day unless specifically authorized (e.g., inhalers for asthma, EpiPens for allergies).

Parents or carers must complete a Medication Administration Form, available for the school reception before any medication can be given at school.

All medication must be in its original packaging, with clearly visible pharmacy label that includes:

- The child's full name
- Prescribed dosage
- Expiry date
- Instructions for use

Parents must ensure that all medication provided is in-date and replaced as needed.
All medications must be collected at the end of the academic year in July.

Have a good break

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a restful and peaceful holiday. We will see you all again in 2025!

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Mr R Reeve
Headteacher