



An Active Learning Trust School



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

Our ref: ACW/SK
19 December 2019

Dear Parent/Carer/Student

As the Autumn term comes to a close, I would like to take time to reflect on the breadth of success that we experienced over the term.

This term saw the Academy awarded two very prestigious awards when our work in the Arts was recognised by the awarding of ArtsMark Gold. This was in recognition of the importance that we place on developing and honing the talents of our students. We also achieved the very important Gold Standard Award for Young Carers in Schools. We have a significant number of students who not only perform exceptionally well in school both socially and academically, but they also support members of their family in a caring role. It is important that these young people are supported and recognised for the additional workload that they have. To achieve the Gold Standard in this crucial area confirms that we are working collaboratively with our young carers.

On the sporting front we continue to have success both locally and nationally, with our U14 Girls and U14 Boys football teams setting the standard by reaching the fourth round of the National Cup competitions. The U14 Girls are representing our region in the national finals. I am particularly heartened to see hockey being played competitively in the Fenland region again and the Academy has been the driving force in establishing a competitive outlet for this sport.

Our careers work continues to be a strength and it was great to see eight former students returning to speak to our students regarding employment choices. Their work is supported by our Alumni Programme with Future First and KPMG.

Current students continue to have individual success at national level with two of our sixth form students achieving success in science and poetry, at the Big Bang science final at the NEC and having a poem published in the book 'Timeless Words' respectively.

Our Year 8 science students benefited from working with scientists from Oxford University via a Skype link that led to some very detailed discussion and learning across a variety of topics.

On the fundraising front, the Academy and the local community have responded magnificently and we received donations for March Foodbank of over half a tonne of food to help others at Christmas. We also liaised with the Fenland Police to assist with donations of toys and gifts for local children. I was staggered by the number of donations that we received and I am proud of our local community who responded to the appeal.

Last week, Miss Griffin once again produced a fantastic Carol Concert at St Wendreda's Church that was exceptionally well supported with many highlights including the staff choir.

Inevitably, the end of term signals the retirement and movement of some staff. This term we say goodbye to Mrs Margaret Harpham, Cleaning supervisor, after 26 years' service. Also retiring is Mr Patrick O'Connor, DT Technician. We wish them all the best in their retirement. Finally, Mr Paul Green leaves us to move to a promotion at a Lincolnshire school. He travelled a substantial distance to work at Neale-Wade and has made a significant contribution to our Maths department, and we wish him the best of luck in his new role. He was a popular member of staff and he will be missed by students and staff alike.

Can I take this opportunity to remind you about the National Online Safety interactive online workshop which we announced on 12 November 2019. Please find below the URL you need to visit to register your account. You will need to complete your details and select 'I am a: Parent/Carer' from the dropdown:

<https://lms.nationalonlinesafety.com/school/nealewade>

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and I look forward to a new year and fresh challenges in the Spring term.

Yours faithfully



Mr J Wing
Executive Principal

NEALE-WADE ACADEMY

School Term and Holiday Dates

2020

<u>Spring Term</u>	
Term Starts	Monday 6 January 2020
Half Term	17-21 February 2020
Term Ends	Thursday 2 April 2020
<u>Summer Term</u>	
Term Starts	Monday 20 April 2020
<i>May Day</i>	<i>Friday 8 May 2020 (moved from Monday 4 May)</i>
Half Term	25-29 May 2020
Term Ends	Friday 17 July 2020