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Academy Principal

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Dear Parents /Carers

I hope you all managed to have a lovely summer break and your children are ready and energised for the forthcoming academic year. I would like to welcome all new students to the Academy, and hope that they settle in well to the Brompton Academy family. Please do let your child's Personal Tutor know if there are any issues that we need to be aware of or if you have any concerns.

I would like to congratulate all our students who took the Public GCSE and A Level Exams this summer. The unvalidated results are in and I can report a significant improvement in standards across the majority of subjects. The academy met (and exceeded in some categories) the government's floor targets. 29 students gained University places, and we wish them and all students well in their future career plans.

Please find below a number of reminders regarding the working of the academy and various important dates for your diary.

Dates for your diary

You will get the opportunity to meet your child's teachers at some point in the academic year. It is really important that you attend these sessions if you can – we absolutely need you as parents/carers to help us in guiding your child to make maximum progress in their studies, and make the most of the many opportunities available to them to widen their horizons. Please see the dates below.

In addition we will be sending home academic monitoring reports four times a year so that you know how well your child is doing in each subject. If you wish to clarify anything or you have concerns about your child or their progress then please feel free to phone and speak to a member of staff, or to make a mutually agreeable appointment with that teacher or member of staff. (Please do not arrive in reception without an appointment expecting to see a staff member as you may be disappointed- all staff have timetabled commitments and cannot leave classes or other pre booked meetings to see you).

Sixth Form – Years 12/13/14

- Wednesday 4th November 2015 - Years 12/13/14 Parent/Carer consultation evening with subject teachers 4pm – 7pm. Students should make individual pre booked appointments with staff.

- Thursday 14th January 2016 – Years 12/13/14 Parent/Carer consultation evening with subject teachers 4pm – 7pm. Students should make individual pre booked appointments with staff
- Monday 29th February – Friday 4th March – Sixth form trip to New York

Year 11

- Thursday 24th September 2015 – Year 11 Target group meeting with parents/carers (students also to attend) 5.00 – 6.00pm
- Thursday 15th October 5-7pm – Sixth form curriculum recruitment evening for Year 11
- Year 11 Mock Exams – Monday 30th November through to Friday 11th December.
- Thursday 7th January 2016 - Year 11 Parent/Carer consultation evening with subject teachers 4pm – 7pm. Students should make individual pre booked appointments with staff.
- Year 11 Mock Exams – Monday 7th March through to Friday 18th March
- Thursday 31st March 2016 - Year 11 Parent/Carer consultation evening with subject teachers 4pm – 7pm. Students should make individual pre booked appointments with staff
- Year 11 Geography revision weekend Friday 1st April – Sunday 3rd April 2016.

Year 10

- Thursday 19th November - Year 10 Parent/Carer consultation evening with subject teachers 4pm – 7pm. Students should make individual pre booked appointments with staff.
- Year 10 Work Experience Monday 9th May – Friday 13th May

Year 9

- Tuesday 6th October – Year 9 Parent/Carer Curriculum information evening 6.00 – 7.00pm (the start of GCSEs)
- Thursday 26th May 2016 - Year 9 Parent/Carer consultation evening with subject teachers 4pm – 7pm. Students should make individual pre booked appointments with staff

Year 8

- Wednesday 13th January 2016 - Year 8 Careers Pathway Drop in evening 6-7pm
- Thursday 21st January 2016 - Year 8 Parent/Carer consultation evening with subject teachers 4pm – 7pm. Students should make individual pre booked appointments with staff.
- Friday 24th June 2016 – Year 8 Mini Graduation –all parents/carers invited

Year 7

- Thursday 17th September – Year 7 Higher Attainers evening (you will be notified individually if you are to attend this)
- Tuesday 29th September – Year 7 Parent/Carer Curriculum information evening 6.00 – 7.30pm
- Thursday 8th October - Year 7 Parent/Carer consultation evening with subject teachers 4pm – 7pm. Students should make individual pre booked appointments with staff.

- Thursday 25th February 2016 - Year 7 Parent/Carer consultation evening with subject teachers 4pm – 7pm. Students should make individual pre booked appointments with staff.
- Tuesday 21st June 2016 – Year 7 Careers speed dating event 6 – 8pm

Uniform

As you know Brompton Academy has a strict uniform policy, and I would like to thank you for your support of this. The term has started well and our young people look immaculate in their uniform. Only a few students have chosen to push the boundaries and these students have been sent home to rectify the uniform issue. If a student is sent home for a uniform discretion, we expect them to immediately return to the academy. Time away is registered as unauthorised absence and this may lead to a fine for parents/carers. This may sound draconian but all students and parents/carers know our high standards and there should be no reason for a student to come in without the correct uniform or trying to break the no make- up/no jewellery rule.

Our Uniform Policy can be found by typing into your web browser:

<http://www.bromptonacademy.org.uk/46/uniform>

Behaviour

We have high standards in terms of our expectation that students need to behave well at all times in order for all students to learn in the classroom. This year we are introducing off site provision for students who decide on a continual basis that they will not conform to our high standards of behaviour. Any student who fails to respond to our advice in regard to poor behaviour will be expected to attend our alternative provision-learning centre over the other side of Gillingham. They will not be allowed to return to the Brompton Academy site, and their classes, until they have demonstrated that they are more focused on their learning, and respectful of other student's rights to learn in a peaceful learning environment.

Opportunities

Please do log in to our website on a regular basis as this will keep you informed of all the latest happenings at the Academy. Last year many of our students took advantage of the exciting and amazing opportunities on offer to them. These are provided by our electives and curriculum programmes, by our Sponsor – the University of Kent, by Henry Shein – an international business partner who sponsors our students through the national Outward Bound initiative, and by the various international and national trips on offer – from Barcelona to New York to Zambia to the Lake District to London.

Our Duke of Edinburgh Information evenings will be held on 22nd September for those wishing to attain a Bronze Award, and 23rd September for those aiming at Silver Award. All students will be informed about this via assemblies.

All BA events are on our calendar on our website at:

<http://www.bromptonacademy.org.uk/45/calendar>

Annually the students here always impress me with their individual talents, enthusiasm and energy. This is definitely the academy to nurture talent and creativity.

Edmodo



Edmodo is the name of our new virtual learning platform (VLE). You may well have seen the logo on your child's iPad – if not have a look. This is the site where teachers upload learning materials for students (including homework) and where students can access resources for their learning and post replies to homework and other activities. You, as parents and carers, can also access Edmodo to see what your child is learning in class, what homework has been set (with deadlines), and what feedback your child has received.

How can a parent/carer join Edmodo?

1. Your child needs to join Edmodo first by creating a student account, which they can easily do by pressing on the Edmodo icon on their iPad, and then follow the instructions on the screen.
2. Look on your child's Edmodo Homepage and the Parent Code is located on the bottom of the left side panel. It will be a 6-digit code.
3. Now log onto www.edmodo.com yourself and sign up for a free parental account. Insert the Parent Code in the parental code box. You will need an email address yourself to sign up for an account.
4. You do not have to share your parent account with another parent/carer. Multiple Parent accounts can be set up for one student. Each parent/carer can use the same Parent Code but must use a different email address distinct from the other parent/carer signing up.
5. More than one child? Please note you only need one Parent Account even if you have several children attending the academy. You can add them all to your one account. If a parent/carer has multiple children using Edmodo, they should obtain the Parent Code for each of their children and then go to their own Parent Edmodo Homepage and look for a box on the left hand side, which says, 'Add Student'. Click on it and enter your child's Parent Code. Repeat for all the children you have using Edmodo. You will now be able to see all the classes that your child(ren) have joined and all the work set for them by teachers with deadlines and resources etc.

If you are having any difficulties please email davidmills@bromptonacademy.org.uk.

Site Update

We had hoped that the site would be in full use this academic year - however there is to be a few weeks delay in students being allowed to use the playground area at lunchtime due to some remedial work and some delayed fencing. All the sports facilities are open and are being used.

Electives

The Electives programme for Phase One students (Years 7 and 8) will start in term 2, on Tuesdays, after school from 3.15pm - 4.45pm. Details to follow.

Term Dates

Term Dates can be found on our website or by clicking on the link below:

<http://www.bromptonacademy.org.uk/42/term-dates>

Parent/Carer Views

Your views are of paramount importance to us. We do try to ensure we give you a good service at all times but there are occasions when we fall short. We will be asking parents /carers to complete a whole school survey in term 1.

Admissions for September 2016 and the Fair Banding Test

As you know we are a highly oversubscribed school and we have more students wanting to come here than places available. If you have other children in your family that are seeking a place at the Academy for the Year 7 start in September 2016, then please ensure that they come and take the Fair Banding test – just because they have a sibling here does not mean they will automatically be able to attend the academy. All students seeking a place must take the Fair Banding test. Please ring reception or the Admissions Manager, Jo Hodgson, to register for the test.

My best wishes for a great term ahead.

Judy Rider
Principal