

April 2010

Dear Parent / Guardian

I hope you are enjoying the Easter Holiday and I am pleased to enclose relevant information about the Summer term.

**Term Dates (Enclosures – Orange and Light Purple)**

Please find enclosed term dates for the remainder of the 2009 – 2010 academic year. Term dates for the next academic year, 2010 – 2011 are also enclosed.

**Session 3 Summer term (Enclosure – Forest Green)**

Details of Session 3 activities on offer in the summer term are enclosed. Please note that these start on Monday 26 April 2010 and will continue until Thursday 27 May 2010. Please contact Ms Vaughan if you require any further information.

**Parents' Advisory Group (Enclosure - Grey)**

I am pleased to enclose a letter giving details about events being organised by the Parents' Advisory Group during the rest of the academic year. If you would like to be involved in the work of this group, then we would be pleased to hear from you.

**Academy Uniform**

I am pleased to report that since the re-introduction of the clip on tie, Academy students look much smarter and more business-like. Any remaining Velcro ties should be returned to the Academy. I would like to thank parents for their co-operation during the changeover.

*Due to the significant cost to the Academy of providing ties on loan to students, which are then not returned, **after Easter, ties will not be loaned.** If a student arrives at the Academy without their tie, a phone call will be made to ask a parent / guardian to bring a tie for their child to wear. If this is not possible, a new tie will be issued and parents / guardians will be invoiced for the cost of the tie. Please continue to impress upon your child the importance of wearing correct Academy uniform.*

Could I also remind parents that trainer style pumps, shoes or boots with deep tread soles, logos or reflective designs are not acceptable at Sandwell Academy. **Students arriving with inappropriate footwear for the summer term will be identified and parents will be asked to collect their child and organise a suitable pair of shoes.** If you are unsure about the standards for footwear, please consult the uniform policy which is available at [www.sandwellacademy.com](http://www.sandwellacademy.com) or ring the Academy before the start of the new term.

**Academy Uniform Sale**

To help parents replenish uniform supplies, Gogna Schoolwear, will be bringing uniform stock for sale to the Academy Theatre on Wednesday 28 April between 4pm and 7pm. Please use this opportunity to purchase any items required.

### **Coach Payments**

The third and final coach payment for this academic year was due on Friday 12 March 2009. If you have not already paid this instalment, could you please send a cheque (made payable to Sandwell Academy), or bring cash to the Academy reception by **Friday 23 April 2010**. Failure to pay may result in your child losing their place on the Academy coach service.

### **Year 8 SATs**

You may be aware from the national press that the Key Stage 3 SATs have been abolished. However many schools, including Sandwell Academy, intend to continue with the SATs as a useful indicator of student progress and also to give students additional experience in sitting exams in preparation for their GCSEs. It should be noted that the DCSF will still collect 'End of Key Stage Assessment Levels' in June.

Students have already received guidance in their English, Mathematics and Science about revision and we would strongly encourage students to prepare a revision plan during the Easter holiday. The dates of the SATs examinations are as follows:

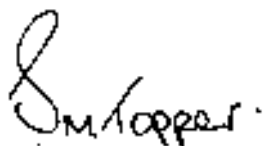
Tuesday 4 May 2010	Mathematics
Wednesday 5 May 2010	English
Thursday 6 May 2010	Science

### **Year 8 Key Stage Information Evening (Enclosure - Buttercup)**

A letter with further details about the above event is enclosed, please note this important date for your diary.

I look forward to seeing the students again on **Monday 19 April 2010** and am eagerly anticipating a successful summer term.

Yours sincerely



**Simon Topper**  
Head