



Message from the Headteacher:

This has been an extremely busy term, packed with activities, trips and sporting events. The school is on an amazing journey of improvement, and I thank you for your support as we strive to improve the quality of education for each and every one of our students.

School will close at 12.30pm on Thursday 19th December. The dining hall will be open until 1pm for students to purchase lunch if required. School reopens for the Spring term on Monday 6th January.

AAB Member: We currently have a vacancy for a parent governor to join our AGB. If you are interested, please contact Jane Bailey (Head teacher's PA – janebailey@noelbakeracademy.co.uk) for more information and an Expression of Interest form. The closing dates for applications is Monday 13th January 2020.

Head Teacher's Award: This goes to Nuha Rashid in Year 8. I would like to recognise this young lady, who produced an amazing piece of writing in her Spanish test and achieved full marks. It is so accurate and detailed and has lots of different tenses all formed correctly. Exceptional work Nuha – well done!

Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.



Safeguarding & Antbullying:

Bike Safety

For those students who cycle to school, could parents please support us by ensuring the following:

- **Helmets must be worn if children are riding a bike to school (this is a mandatory school requirement from January 2020).** We strongly recommend that children also wear high-vis overclothing, especially during the dark mornings and nights.
- Bikes should be roadworthy, with brakes, reflectors and lights if riding in the dark.
- Children should use the secure bike shed by the Sports Block unless they arrive late or know they are leaving early, in which case there is limited bike storage near to Reception – **a lock is required.**
- Bikes should not be ridden on the pavement – especially by the school gates where there are hundreds of children, staff and parents.
- Bikes should be pushed and not ridden when on the school site for the safety of riders and pedestrians.
- More than one child should not be on a bike (sitting on the handlebars etc.) when riding on the road.

Cycling is enjoyable, healthy and environmentally sustainable. We want children to enjoy cycling, so please support us in encouraging children to use bikes in a way which promotes safety and security.

Thought for the Week Ahead:

16.12.19 – “Be so good they can't ignore you.” *Steve Martin*





Year 7 (Miss Morgan):

Form of the week: 7K who have amassed over 8,000 positives! ☺

Stars of the fortnight:

7N – Gabriella Radford 7O – Leah Domachowski
7E – Sabrina Abroquah 7B – Reid Rawson
7A – Aviyah Kelsey 7K – Charlie Montandon

Year 7 Positive Points Total: **45,019**... Amazing!

Year 10 (Miss Southern):

Form of the week: 10E for the least amount of negative marks.

Stars of the fortnight: Rosemary Amissah 10B and Ahmed Damiya 10B, for 100% attendance and positive reward points.

Year 8 (Miss Scott):

Form of the week: Goes to 8K for getting 7,794 positive points.

Stars of the fortnight: Navdeep Singh, Kirti Saini, Ebony Greenway and Leearna Asri for consistently trying their best.

Year 9 (Mr McDonagh):

Form of the week: Goes to 9L for achieving the top positive behaviour and consistently improving keep up the good effort!

Stars of the fortnight: Edward Heath for excellent effort and consistent improvement.

Lewis Lindsay for clear focus and dedication to learning.

Daniel Edwards for having excellent positive conduct in our community.

Isabelle Woolley for creating learning opportunities and succeeding in lessons.

Erin Lee for her excellent organisational skills and determination to succeed.

Year 11 (Mr Lumber):

Form of the week: 11O for the most positive points in the Year 11, with 6,440 positive points. Well done 11O.

Stars of the fortnight: James Bowler for having 412 positive points, 0 negative points and 100% attendance. Well done James.

PSHE:

Year 7 – Careers.

Year 8 – LORIC – communications – debate.

Year 9 – Feedback.

Year 10 – LORIC – initiative – being in control.

Year 11 – Careers.

Assembly:

Rewards Assembly. *Pastoral Leads*





Quality of Education:

This week marks the end of our first data and assessment point of the year. Students have completed a range of assessments over recent weeks, with teachers now assigning each student a current grade.

The importance of assessments is not the number or grade assigned to it, but what the assessments tell us about what students know and do not, what they can do and what they cannot.

Whilst summative assessments take place 3 - 4 times a year, teachers will frequently use low stakes testing during lessons. We encourage this because research tells us that testing helps students learn, and a summary of the research is found below.

1. Retrieval aids later retention - this is known as the testing affect. The more pupils are tested, the more they remember long term.
2. Testing identifies gaps in knowledge which are then acted on by the teacher.
3. Testing helps students learn more during the next topic.
4. Testing produces better organisation of knowledge in student's brains.
5. Testing improves the transfer of knowledge to new concepts.
6. Testing encourages students to study.

Well done to all students for applying themselves so brilliantly so far.

Uniform:

If children are wearing trainers or other inappropriate footwear, as per school policy, they will be provided with a pair of brand new shoes to wear in the interim whilst parents purchase proper school shoes.

We do appreciate it is an expensive time of year and we want to support parents, but the proper school uniform must be worn, with no exceptions. School shoes are expensive, and we understand this, so if necessary, please speak to us in confidence, so we can look at purchasing shoes on your behalf and agreeing a more affordable method of payment with you.

Please also see attached, opening hours over the Christmas period for Uniform Direct.

Facilities Management:

Cashless Catering – A Reminder

In January, our aim is to no longer accept cash as payment for dinners and trips. Most parents now use the School Gateway App which is a secure and convenient way to make payments and view transactions from your smartphone or computer. If you haven't yet downloaded the App, please read the letter on the school website here:

<https://www.noelbakeracademy.co.uk/images/NoelBaker/LettersHome/School-Gateway-App.pdf>

This explains how to register for the App and, for those that prefer an alternative, how to make payments in local shops using PayPoint.





Future Dates for your Diary:

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|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday 17th December | Annual Celebration Evening (by invitation only). |
| Wednesday 18th December | Video Competition Showing in Theatre (50p admission, proceeds to Rainbows Hospice). |
| Thursday 19th December | School closes for Christmas break at 12.30pm. Canteen Open for students to purchase lunch until 1pm. |
| Monday 6th January | School re-opens for Spring Term. |

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS HOURS

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| 9th - 10th Dec | 9.30am-5pm |
| 11th Dec | closed |
| 12th Dec | 9.30am -5pm |
| 13th Dec to 31st Dec | closed |
| 1st Jan 2020 | closed |
| 2nd Jan | Open as usual 9.30 to 5pm |






