

13th November 2009

Dear Parent / Carer

It was great to meet so many of you at our new style parents' evening last week, and even better to read such positive comments like "*Helpful, friendly environment*", "*Welcoming and if I have any problems I know they will be dealt with*" and "*It's the best thing that has been done in Immingham, let's all look after our fab school*".

Whilst it is clear that the vast majority of you appreciate the changes that we are making at the Academy, I have also duly noted that we need to be much better in terms of communication, Timetables and the use of student planners.

Please be reassured that all the Academy Leadership Team is working very hard with a highly committed staff to ensure that we continue to improve provision as rapidly as possible.

I am also delighted to report that the Academy is currently on track to meet the challenging targets that it has set itself in terms of examination results. With our current Year 11 students expected to achieve the best results in the history of secondary education at Immingham by some considerable margin. In the 6th Form we are excited by the prospect that, overall, our students are making very good progress which will lead them into employment or higher education, and parents of current year 11 students might like to note that our 6th form Open Evening is being held on 3rd December, further information will follow. To ensure that we achieve these targets it is vital that we continue to draw on the support of parents as much as possible and I would be extremely grateful if all parents could stress the importance of high expectations and a positive attitude to learning. Whilst behaviour in the Academy is very good overall, the first part of the term required a number of fixed term exclusions for disruption to learning. Since half-term I have been much happier that our key messages are getting across to the minority of students that were causing problems and the reduction in exclusions suggests that everyone in the Academy is aware of the need for excellent behaviour.

The recent changes to the Academy's curriculum and to the timetable have been implemented smoothly and successfully. I am well aware that this has been a source of ongoing concern for parents so I am pleased to confirm that all the underlying issues have been addressed, the systems and structures are working and the Academy Leadership team is now fully in control of this vital area. Mr Mitchell, who has been leading on this development is keen to work with students and their parents so that they have a greater say in future curriculum developments and that our guidance procedures are as effective as possible in ensuring that all learners end up on appropriate courses. A key feature of the Academy this term has been the introduction of an excellent student council that is able to support this process.

Over the last 6 months we have collected a substantial amount of lost property including coats, blazers, shoes, bags and numerous other items. This will all be put on display on Tuesday 17th November in the Agora from 3 – 4 p.m. for students and parents to come and claim any items they have lost. Anything not claimed will be passed to the local Charity Shops or disposed of.

There have been a number of highlights so far this term including:

- An extremely well attended Open Evening in September, for parents and students who will be joining the Academy over the next two years.
- A further Open Evening in October for anyone to come along and see what the Academy had to offer
- A brilliant performance of “Bugsy” which played to packed audiences on two nights last month
- A highly successful Remembrance Day Service that included representatives from the Local British Legion, the Immingham Town Council and Local Church leaders.
- A series of regional and national awards for our staff and students in areas such as Enterprise, Aim Higher and staff professional development.

I would also like to take this opportunity to highlight the introduction of our Community Learning Programme. The Fitness Suite will be open and courses in Basic Brickwork, ICT, Beauty and Cake Decorating will be available. Further details are on the leaflet you should have recently received, they are also on the website and available from the Academy Reception.

Finally I would like to thank all of you for the support that you have given to me personally and the Academy in general as we strive to transform this Academy into a truly great school.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony Rawdin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A' and a long, sweeping underline.

Mr T Rawdin
Executive Principal