



Friday, 20 October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

End of Autumn 1 Update

I am writing to thank you for your support of us and your child throughout the first half-term of this academic year.

Student Conduct and Behaviour

I am very proud to be the Principal of Skegness Academy, and I am pleased to report that since September, we have seen a significant improvement in student conduct and behaviour. Students and staff have commented that learning can now happen in a safe, disruption-free environment. Similar feedback has been received from parents and external visitors, including Cllr Edginton, who not only commented on how smart our students look in their uniform, but also how well-mannered and hardworking they are.

Rewards

As we understand the importance of recognising students' effort, progress and achievements, we introduced a new rewards system at the beginning of the school year, which has been a great success. For every lesson, students have the opportunity to be the 'Student of the Lesson' and receive one credit for their excellent effort. Every Friday at Skegness Academy is 'Fantastic Friday', a day when we hand out individual and group rewards to celebrate students' effort and achievements. In the last week of this half-term, we organised a rewards activity for every year group; this activity was for students who consistently met our high expectations in terms of attendance, effort and behaviour. While we organised a variety of inflatables for our Year 7 students, the other year groups opted for a 'Pizza and Film' activity as their reward. All students thoroughly enjoyed their respective rewards.

Electives

We have been very impressed with the large number of students taking part in our after-school electives, with some teams participating in external competitions. Our debating club went to Edinburgh at the end of September and took part in the St. Andrews University Schools Debating Competition, where they were awarded the 'Novice Category Champions' award. Additionally, a group of Year 9 and 10 students participated in the trust inter-academy football tournament at Kingswood Academy in Corby earlier this week. The girls' team finished second overall, and the boys' team finished fifth; overall, Skegness Academy finished fourth, which is an impressive

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achievement. Please follow our Facebook page for regular updates on the amazing work that our students undertake.

Student Leadership

We are pleased to report that we have Year 11 Prefects, as well as a Sixth Form Leadership Team. Any student who wished to be involved took part in an application and interview process. Congratulations to those students who were successful and have already started to have a positive impact. For example, the Year 11 Prefects organised a Bake Sale and Raffle earlier this week and raised an amazing total of £190.38 in the Bake Sale and £58 in the Raffle, with a combined total of £248.38 going to the Derbyshire Children's Holiday Centre. The Sixth Form Leadership Team is representing the academy in a range of duties and being great role models for our younger students.

Open Evening

Our Open Evening earlier this month was a huge success. Our students were excellent ambassadors for the academy, showing prospective students and their parents around and talking about their experiences. Each department organised a range of activities that prospective students could try to get a flavour of what it is like to be a Skegness Academy student. I would like to thank everyone involved in the Open Evening for their hard work and effort, which made the event a success.

Uniform

To ensure a smooth start to the second half of the autumn term, I kindly ask all parents and carers to ensure that their child attends school in full uniform. If you require assistance in purchasing parts of the uniform, please let us know. Additionally, your child needs to have a sufficiently large rucksack to carry all schoolbooks and required equipment for the day. Handbags and all other types of bags are not permitted. Furthermore, with the colder weather setting in, please ensure that your child has a jacket or coat that keeps them warm on their way to and from school, as well as during break and lunchtime. Please note that coats/jackets must fit over the blazer, and hoodies and tracksuit jackets are not allowed.

Training Day

Please remember that Friday, 1st December is a trust-wide training day, and the school will be closed for all students.

Finally, Skegness Academy is a school on a journey. We will continue to make improvements in all aspects of the academy to ensure that every student is put on the path to a happy, successful and fulfilling life. If you would like to meet with me to discuss any aspect of the work we are doing, please contact my PA, Mrs Abbott, who will happily arrange a meeting with me.

In the meantime, have a restful half-term, and I look forward to welcoming fully equipped students dressed in smart uniform back to school on Monday, 6th November 2023.

Yours faithfully,



Claudio Gissendorf
Principal

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