



The Belvedere Academy

'This is an outstanding school' – Ofsted 2015

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Dear Parents,

Could I just begin my final letter of 2017 by thanking all of our parents for their ongoing support during this calendar year. This is much appreciated not only by the girls, but particularly by the staff who continue to do all they can to ensure that standards, expectations and outcomes at Belvedere remain outstanding in the face of a constantly changing educational environment.

End of term

As you will probably know, the current term ends on Tuesday, 19th December at 1pm and Belvedere will reopen again for students at 8.30am on Tuesday, 9th January. The academy office will close at 12 noon on Friday, 22nd December and reopen at 9.00am on Wednesday, 3rd January.

Grade cards

I have enclosed your daughter's grade card for this term unless she is in Year 11 in which case she will receive the results of her mock examinations in January. We are in the process of developing an electronic version of the grade card so you should also receive a copy via email. All grade card reports can also be found on Firefly. (If you require a parent Firefly login, please email fireflysupport@belvedereacademy.net)

Credit Notes

If your daughter has received any credit notes this term her certificate will also be enclosed.

Awards / Certificates / Website

As usual we will be recognising outstanding effort and achievement during our end of term assembly. Those who have just missed out will be mentioned on our website under "News and Events – Christmas Lists" together with the girls awarded certificates during the assembly.

Enrichment

Our enrichment programme will begin again on Monday, 15th January with academy coaches leaving at 4.15pm from Tuesday, 16th January. In the week beginning 9th January, the coaches will be leaving at 3:15pm.

Charities

I thought you might like to know that during the Autumn Term girls have raised over £1000 for Children in Need and The Whitechapel Centre through various activities including cake sales, disco fit, nail salon and wearing spotty accessories! We will also raise money for Save the Children through a Christmas jumper day at the end of this term. Thank you all for your support.



Parents' Evenings

The first Parents' Evening of the New Year is for Year 11 parents and takes place between 4.00pm and 6.30pm on Monday, 15th January. This is a particularly important evening when staff will be able to discuss mock examination results and examination prospects with parents.

The Options Evening for Year 9 parents will take place between 4.00pm and 6.30pm on Wednesday, 17th January. This is another important event when parents and their daughters can meet with teaching staff to discuss GCSE option choices for Years 10 and 11.

Sixth Form Open Evening

This year's Sixth Form Open Evening will take place on Thursday, 25th January. The evening will begin at 4.30pm with presentations at 5:30pm in the main hall. (This is a change to previously advertised timings.)

The evening is intended for girls in Year 11 wishing to stay on for the sixth form as well as girls from other schools considering joining Belvedere for their post 16 education.

You will have the opportunity to meet our team of A level teachers, hear more about the courses we will be offering this year and meet some of the students currently studying in Belvedere's sixth form.

In addition, you will also hear how to apply for a place in our Year 12 and what to expect during the application process.

Cadet Expansion Programme

I am delighted to be able to inform you that Belvedere's application to establish a cadet unit under the Cadet Expansion Programme, a government commitment and joint initiative between the Ministry of Defence and Department for Education to expand cadet units across the UK, has been successful.

Following a detailed bid and competitive process we have been given approval to open a CCF unit, Royal Navy section. Cadet units within schools provide a unique range of activities and opportunities for personal development, for pupils and staff alike. Cadets have the opportunity to develop self-confidence and improve their social, problem solving, team work and leadership skills.

This will be a wonderful opportunity for some of our girls and I will be able to give you more information early in the New Year.

And finally...

Could I take this opportunity to wish all our parents, students and staff, together with all those involved in the life of The Belvedere Academy, a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Yours sincerely

PM Kennedy
Principal