



## **E-bulletin Friday 26-06-2015**

### **Important Upcoming Dates and Events**

#### **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July – Senior Leadership Drop-in for Parents and Guardians**

4:30pm – 6:30pm. Parents and guardians are invited to have an informal discussion with a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

#### **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July – Sports Day**

More information will be provided by letter next week.

#### **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July – Summer Concert**

Details TBC. Details will be provided by letter.

#### **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July – Staff Planning Day – Academy closed to students**

Due to a scheduled staff planning day, the Academy will be closed to all students on this day.

#### **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July – Level 3 Work Experience**

Students will be undertaking a week of work experience. This is being organised within the Academy.

#### **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July – Sports Presentation Evening**

5:00pm – 8:30pm. Please see the letter sent Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June for details about tickets and the list of students receiving awards on the night. There will be refreshments from 5:00pm. Presentation will start at 6:00pm in the Sports Hall. [Please click this link](#) to view the letter online.

#### **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July – Academy Summer BBQ**

2:00pm – 4:00pm. Students will finish the Academy day at 2:00pm and remain on site for the Summer BBQ. Parents and family members are invited to attend. Tickets can be purchased from main reception daily during Break Time and between 4:30pm and 5:00pm.

#### **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July – Last Day of Term**

Students finish at 12:15pm.

## **Start of New Academic Year – Staggered Starts**

Please see below for the first day of the new academic year according to year group.

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August** – Bank Holiday

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September** – No students

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September** – Level 3/3+ - time to be confirmed

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September** – New Foundation starters 8:30am – 3:30pm

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September** – Level 2 – 9:30am – 3:30pm

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September** – Level 1/1+ - 8:30am – 4:30pm

## **Important Notices**

### **Changes to Timings of the Academy Day**

Please be reminded that there are changes being made to the Academy day. Please see the Letter from the Principal sent by post on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June. [Please click this link](#) to view the letter online.

### **Messages from the Vice Principal, Mr Street**

#### **Collective Responsibility**

While the recent external review by Challenge Partners did not report formally on behaviour and safety as Ofsted does, they were very clear to us in discussion and in references in the report as to how impressed they were with the attitudes, respect and relationships they saw between students and staff. We continue to work hard with students to ensure that behaviour for learning, manners and respectful attitudes are maintained at the highest standards and we take very seriously any occasions when these standards drop.

We are also working with our students to understand that as citizens of the Academy and local community they have a responsibility to reflect carefully about any concerns they have about others' behaviours and actions. With learning sets, form tutors, heads of house, community police team, staff from the Winch and a range of other mentors and roles of support, students have a number of people they can talk to and share any concerns. By continuing to support the development of ethically minded young people they become central to maintaining the positive and collaborative atmosphere of the Academy. The example of our diligent students regarding the e-cigarettes below is the perfect example of this. Please continue to discuss and talk with your child about the importance of their role in doing the right thing for the greater good.

While incidents of vandalism and bullying are rare with our students, it is vital that all parents and students understand that there is zero-tolerance to these incidents at the Academy. We also expect all our students to report to the class teacher or Head of House

immediately if they are aware of or see any examples of this. Any students who are aware of such incidents and do not report them accordingly will be met with by the Head of House.

## **Flavoured Tobacco Pens and E-cigarettes**

It has come to our attention that some of our students have been approached outside of school and offered e-cigarettes and flavoured tobacco pens. Our diligent students have reported this to us and we are now working with the community police team on this, but I wanted to take the opportunity to ensure parents are aware of this. It is also important that all parents and students are aware that these items, and any similar equipment, are completely banned from school premises and any students who are found to have them on their possession, will receive a serious sanction.

## **General Notices**

### **Breakfast Club**

This will be open as per normal until the last day of term 17 July. Open from 8.00am – 8.30am.

### **Mandarin Notice**

We are currently taking part in a collaborative programme with a Chinese School, Tsinghua High School, Fengtai, as part of the British Council International Link School Programme.

We are looking for any Lower School parents interested in hosting a 13-14 year-old Chinese Exchange student in February 2016 for 12 days.

Please forward your Expression of Interest to [h.yin@uclacademy.co.uk](mailto:h.yin@uclacademy.co.uk)

### **Student Absences**

Please be reminded that the correct procedure for reporting your child's absence is by calling 02074493080 and pressing option 1 (student absence) where you will be directed to the Attendance Officer.

### **Guidance on Mobile Phones**

Please be aware of the procedure on confiscated phones:

At the Academy, we absolutely understand that mobile phones are an important method of communication between parent and child which can enhance student safety. If a student wishes to bring a mobile phone to the Academy, they must ensure that it is kept in their locker and that they are not seen at all in the learning spaces, corridors or in the communal areas. Mobile phones seen or heard by staff inside the Academy will be confiscated, unless a member of staff has given explicit instruction that it can be used. A student's mobile device is their own responsibility. We do not take responsibility for students' losing mobile devices. This information is clearly printed in your child's planner.

If your child's mobile phone is seen by a member of staff when permission has not been given, it will be confiscated. A member of staff will then contact you to inform you. **We ask that you please collect the mobile phone from reception between 4:30pm – 6:30pm.** Confiscated phones will be kept in the school safe and can only be collected by a parent or guardian unless special dispensation has been given by a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

There is absolutely no reason for any student to have their mobile phone out and visible without permission whilst on Academy premises. Should they need to contact a parent or guardian urgently, students must speak to a member of Academy staff.

## News and Other Information

### Students get "candy for the mind" testing unreleased apps

Recently, UCL Academy computing science students who have been working on a project designing and creating mobile apps were invited to meet the team at Mind Candy. Mind Candy is an entertainment company best known for the development of the successful children's online game, Moshi Monsters, in which players create, name and nurture a virtual pet monster.

Students received an amazing opportunity to visit Mind Candy's exciting office environment, experience what goes into making an app and test some new unreleased products.

CEO and founder of Mind Candy, Michael Acton Smith OBE said:

"We were delighted to welcome two UCL Academy groups into Mind Candy's office, to learn about how we develop and test our apps. The students were enthusiastic and inquisitive, and we were delighted to hear about how they're developing their own apps and thinking how they can shape the future of digital entertainment."

Given the visible excitement of the students, this trip is something that they will remember for quite some time. In particular, Fortuna, one of the students on the visit was given a very special chance to show off some of her own work to the creative designers. Fortuna said:

"I got to see some of the art they were working on and they evaluated mine. They said they thought it was very advanced. We talked about animation as it is one of my main interests in art. I feel very privileged to have met an artist at Mind Candy."

<http://www.uclacademy.co.uk/Students-get-candy-for-the-mind-testing-unreleased-apps-1>

## Social Media

We share our day to day activities and news on Twitter so please follow us @UCL\_Academy. For those who do not use Facebook and Twitter you can still view all of the content through our [SOCIAL MEDIA WALL](#) – click link. Link also on the website home page.

Twitter: [https://twitter.com/UCL\\_Academy](https://twitter.com/UCL_Academy)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/theuclacademy> where our news and photos are also published.

## Trips

**Hampstead Heath Trip** – 30<sup>th</sup> June or 2<sup>nd</sup> July – see relevant letter

## Upcoming Sports dates

**Sports Day** – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July

**Sports Presentation Evening** – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July

## **2014/2015 term**

### **Summer term**

Monday 20 April - Friday 17 July 2015

Half term Monday 25 May - Friday 29 May 2015

## **Term and Holiday 2015/16 \***

### **Autumn term 2015**

Wednesday 2 September to Friday 18 December 2015

#### **Staggered start dates:**

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September** – Level 3/3+

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September** – Foundation

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September** – Level 2

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September** – Level 1/1+

Half-term: Monday 26 October to Friday 30 October 2015

Christmas break: Monday 21 December 2015 to Friday 1 January 2016

### **Spring term 2016**

Monday 4 January to Thursday 24 March 2016

Half-term: Monday 15 February to Friday 19 February 2016

Easter / spring holiday: Friday 25 March to Friday 8 April 2016

### **Summer term 2016**

Monday 11 April to Wednesday 20 July 2016

Spring Bank Holiday: 2 May 2016

Half-term: Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June 2016

\*Subject to change; staff planning days to be added at a later date