

September 2015

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians

Starting our fourth year at The UCL Academy is both exciting and surprising. Time, as we all find as we get older, both slows and accelerates. In some ways I can't imagine or recall a time without The UCL Academy and yet these four years since my appointment in September 2011 have flown by.

Our Level 2 began the next phase of their education this term and they are maturing into young adults. New cohorts of Foundation and Level 3 students have also joined the Academy and our numbers have grown to just under 900.

Our examination results in the summer were the second highest in Camden (based on tables published by The Ham and High) and I am delighted with the continued success. Our Level 3+ students have gone on to study medicine, pharmacy, law, physics, engineering, maths, chemistry, midwifery and our first student has gone to UCL IOE to study to become a teacher. The students have gone on to study at Kings College London, Queen Mary University of London, Warwick University and Manchester University among others. These results confirm the high quality of teaching at the Academy.

The start of an academic year is also the time to reinforce expectations. I held a series of assemblies last week reminding students of our sponsor UCL and the contribution that UCL students and staff have made to the world. The presentation that I gave can be found with the Principal's Letter in the letters archive on the Academy website (www.uclacademy.co.uk/letters) if you would like to take a look.

In any school setting, discipline and order are fundamental to effective learning. We are pleased with the way that the term has started but discipline must always be at the very heart of our agenda. The way that a uniform is worn is also an indicator of this, so please remind yourself of the uniform list and ensure that students arrive at school dressed appropriately. Obedience, self-control and respect for each other and for those in authority doesn't finish at the Academy gates and I am confident that you will assist us in reinforcing these expectations.

Orion House has a new Head of House, Ms Ikeogu as Ms Rimmer moves to part time and takes on a role for developing the Duke of Edinburgh award across the Academy. I know you will welcome Ms Ikeogu warmly to the Academy.

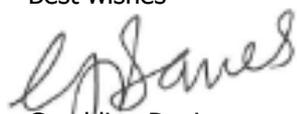
Another change for September has been the development of the role for senior staff within the houses. A senior member of the Academy has always been linked to each house and this year they will be taking on the role of 'House Principal', a position of senior authority.

Enclosed with this letter is a complete almanac of key dates for this academic year across all year levels and a guide to the structure of the Academy day. All of this information is also available on the Academy's website and I urge you to familiarise yourself with our site as it is the hub for communication at the Academy. We also share our day to day activities and news on social media via Twitter (@UCL_Academy) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/theuclacademy) so please follow and like us. For those of you who do not use Facebook and Twitter you can still view all of the content through our Social Media Wall, a link to which is available on the Website home page.

The first Parent e-bulletin of the year has also recently been emailed to all parents. The e-bulletin is a fortnightly newsletter containing all of the Academy's news and events. If you have not received the Bulletin please contact us as soon as possible via enquiries@uclacademy.co.uk to confirm your email address.

Once again, thank you all for your continued support.

Best wishes



Geraldine Davies
Principal