Magna Academy
Poole
an Aspirations Academy
Principal: Ms N Ullah

Ashdown Close, Canford Heath, Poole, BH17 8RE
01202 604222
office@magna-aspirations.org
www.magna-aspirations.org
@MagnaAcademy

9th December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you may have seen, there has been a lot of national publicity about illness recently and the local area has definitely felt the impact of this. Despite these recent challenges, our students have continued to go above and beyond, both within the classroom and through their enrichment activities this term. For instance, students in Year 10 and the Sixth Form, who will be taking part in the upcoming Zanzibar expedition, also organised a successful Christmas disco for Year 7. The enthusiastic and purposeful student leadership displayed by the organisers was great to see. In addition, our Sixth Form student leadership team organised a very successful Christmas Hamper competition in conjunction with Bournemouth Food Bank, for which there are more details later in this letter.

Christmas Dinner

Christmas Dinner will be served in the canteen on Wednesday, December 14th this year and is a festive roast turkey dinner (a vegetarian option is available) with a choice of dessert. The cost is £2.30, the usual price of the meal deal. Other options such as baguettes or pasta will also be available on the day.

Christmas Caboodle

Magna's alternative to Christmas jumper day is on Friday 16th December. Whilst still raising money for Save the Children, our students will be able to accessorise their uniforms by wearing one Christmassy item, for example a Christmas jumper, tie, Christmassy earrings (not hoops) or stripey elf tights. We emphasise that students must be in full academy uniform, adding or exchanging only one item. Blazers must still be worn and must not be the item they exchange. Once again, we hope for a very successful and enjoyable last day of term.

The academy day will finish after period 4. Students will be dismissed by year group:

12:45pm Sixth Form & Y11;
12:50pm Y10;
12:55pm Y9;
1:00pm Y7&8.

Staffing update

We are pleased to report that over the last two years we have maintained a healthy and low staff turnover. However, at times, we recognise that some staff may wish to leave us for career progression or personal reasons. Mrs Saxby is one of our longest serving members of staff and is moving to a role closer to her home. We are really pleased that she will remain as part of Aspirations Trust, using her knowledge and experience from Magna to build and grow a fledgling PE department at Livingstone academy. She has been a dedicated teacher and leader throughout her time with us and we wish her all the best in the future. We would also like to thank Ms Clampin for her years of service at Magna, including her recent pastoral and SEND work with the Phoenix team, and wish her well in her next role.

Due to increased numbers of students in the Sixth Form and full year groups across the academy, we have been very busy over the last term appointing new staff to join the team. We have appointed the following new staff that will join us in January.

Mr Lane	Teacher in Charge of Theology & Ethics
Mr Hall	Teacher of Physical Education/Science
Mr Fortescue-Norris	Teacher of Physical Education/Science
Mr Donaldson-Browne	Teacher of Geography/Sociology

We have also made several appointments who will join us from April.

Mrs Taylor	Teacher of English
Mr Helson	Teacher of English
Miss Dyer	Teacher of Design & Technology (Food)
Mr Law	Head of Physical Education
Ms Mackenzie	Teacher of Science

Equipment and uniform expectations

All students will return after the Christmas break on Wednesday 4th January. The academy day starts at 8.27am promptly. Please help us to maintain the highest standards and expectations by checking that all students are fully equipped and have the correct uniform prior to their return.

Everyday, tutors check that students are wearing the correct uniform and have the right equipment with them. We believe it is essential that students are fully prepared and equipped to learn. Therefore, we ask parents/carers to support their child in ensuring they are organised and bring the correct equipment each morning. Equipment can either be purchased from the academy at our student reception before school or from an outlet of your choice.

The following items are on our list of essential equipment:

30cm long clear pencil case, Helix Maths Set, 30cm ruler, protractor, safe compass, Casio FX 85GTX Calculator, 3 x black or blue pens, 3 x HB pencils, highlighters, 1 x whiteboard pen and 1 x green pen.

Moving forward if a student's equipment/uniform is incomplete, parents will receive a text message informing them of what item is missing. If this should occur again, another text message will be sent and the student will be issued with a sanction point. We want to encourage our students to develop strong personal organisation skills and, if they are missing equipment for a third occasion, a 30 minute detention will be issued for after the academy day and parents informed by text message. The vast majority of our

students get into good habits quickly, however, if equipment problems persist, the relevant Tutor will contact home and will issue a 60 minute detention. Whilst we would rather not have to issue detentions such as these, there does have to be a consequence when students do not adhere to academy rules.

Student Leadership update

As you are aware over the past few weeks, students at Magna Academy have been collecting long life tinned items for the Bournemouth Food Bank in time for Christmas. On Thursday 8th December, the Sixth Form presidency team, who have been instrumental in researching, planning and leading on this appeal, visited CityGate Church in Bournemouth to deliver the donations. The presidency team and Mr Ginger were positively astonished with the sheer amount of items that were donated to such an important cause and we would like to thank everybody for their kindness and compassion shown with every single donation. The items will now be delivered to doorsteps by Bournemouth Food Bank as individual hampers for those in need, in time for Christmas day this year.

We would also like to say a special thank you and congratulations to the students of 8SCB, who donated the most items of any tutor group in the school (89) and also went above and beyond to decorate their hampers in the form of a Christmas tree. 8SCB have won themselves a nice treat on the last day of term for their fantastic efforts, which will add to the intrinsic reward of doing something good to help out others in need.

Well done to everybody who donated items - what a wonderful thing to do!

Yours sincerely,

Ms Ullah
Principal