



Joseph Swan Academy

9th February 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

We are now half way through the academic year and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our students on their hard work and effort during Year 8. It has been very pleasing to see the students' progress so far and I look forward to seeing this develop further throughout the rest of the year.

Year 8 have been involved in a wide range of activities, these have included:

- The Shine Awards
- Careers Speed dating
- Sir Christopher Wren day
- Remembrance Day
- The Carol Concert and Christmas lunch
- Show Racism the Red Card
- Night at the Museum – Newcastle University event
- The Joseph Swan Variety Show
- Heart to Heart Day – Row the Amazon River Challenge
- 'Shine Time' weekly rewards event
- Academy Variety Show

The Carol concert and Christmas lunch along with Remembrance were certainly my highlights of the first term. The way in which the students conducted themselves on both occasions was exemplary. I was particularly impressed with the respect and dignity the students showed while planting their remembrance crosses.

This half term has seen the launch of 'Shine Time', a weekly reward scheme where students can cash in their points to enable them to participate in an activity of their choice. My thanks must go to Mr Kenyon for all his hard work in ensuring the success of this event.

As you will be aware, there have been changes to the Academy behaviour policy. I am very pleased to say that the conduct and attitude to learning of Year 8 students has been incredibly positive and we thank you for your support with this. Please continue to support us with these changes, ensuring that your son/daughter comes to the Academy every day fully equipped, in full uniform and ready to learn. If there are any issues with uniform or equipment, then please do contact me so that we can support you with these.

Excellent attendance is also a priority. We expect all students to achieve a minimum of 95% over the Academy year. Please support us to ensure that your child is in the Academy, therefore ensuring they are able to take the most of their opportunities to 'Shine'.

Yours faithfully

Mr G Houston
Year 8 Leader

Head Teacher Miss H. E. Scott, **Chair of Governors** Mr M. Jones
Joseph Swan Academy, Saltwell Road South, Gateshead, NE9 6LE
Tel: **0191 442 2000** Fax: **0191 442 2001** E-mail: enquiries@josephswan.org.uk