

Welcome to our e-bulletin for the 2016/17 academic year. The purpose of this fortnightly e-bulletin is to keep parents, carers and guardians informed about upcoming key events, important schedule changes, general notices and news updates. Also included is a brief summary of some of the many activities and headlines that have taken place at the Academy recently.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

w/b Monday, 27 March — **Battle of the Houses**

A [letter](#) has been sent to parents with further details.

Tuesday, 28 March — **Level 2+ Parents Consultation; 4:30pm – 6:30pm**

You will have received a letter in the post with information regarding appointments. We look forward to welcoming you back to the Academy.

Wednesday, 29 March — **Staff Planning Day**

School not in-session.

Thursday, 30 March — **UAPA Coffee Morning; 8:45am – 10am**

This will be a chance for you to hear more about the upcoming Student International Conference from Mr Bowen. Additionally, you will also have the opportunity to chat to the Co-Principals regarding recently discussed changes to Academy leadership. We look forward to meeting you all.

GENERAL NOTICES

GCSE Drama dress rehearsal evening

On Thursday 27th April, four GCSE Drama groups will present their final examination performance pieces for relatives, friends and staff to enjoy. These pieces are the product of three months of hard work and a great collaborative effort. The evening will contain a mixture of original devised work as well as a scripted piece. Each piece will last for around 25 minutes and performances will run from 6pm–8pm in the Main Hall. Doors will open from 5.45pm. Tickets will be available to purchase via ParentPay for £2 each from Friday 31st March.

Engineering Revision

Engineering revision content is available on Google Classroom. All engineering GCSE students have access to this, and can revise from home. Have a great holiday!

Celebrating Our Students

All Party Parliamentary Engineering Group

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

On Tuesday I was joined by Ephraim Mills, Mariana Djalo-Jaguite, Layth Alhakim, Sadika Akthar and Julie-Maria Kachi-Agwu on a trip to the All Party Parliamentary Engineering Group on the Thames terrace of Westminster. Our students met with a number of peers including Professor the Lord Broers (Fellow and former Director of the Royal Academy of Engineering) and Lord Patel (Director of the charity ATTEND and member of the science and technology committee).

Our students were complimented on their engagement and acuity by a number of guests at the event and held meaningful engaging conversations with groups of pupils and peers that they had been seated with during the luncheon.

We heard short talks from Professors Andreas Fouras, Kevin Brindle and Mark Lythgoe (of UCL) and were given the opportunity to question the professors on the research they have conducted in advanced medical imaging.

All of the students on the trip conducted themselves with poise and confidence, making intelligent conversation and representing the Academy exceptionally well.

UKMT Team Maths Challenge

On Friday last week, four of our Level 1 students, Leon Bohm, Michal Golan, Ali Sam Nateghian and Lara Smith, competed at the UKMT Team Maths Challenge regional finals at Trinity School in Croydon. After four rounds of challenges they were ranked 21st out of 39 schools. We are very satisfied with their solid performance and we hope to do better next year! Many thanks to Ms. Rodriguez-Vega for preparing the team and making this opportunity a reality.



UCL Academy Geography Fieldtrip

A-level Geography students have just completed a successful field trip to West Sussex. During the weekend long exercise, UCL Academy Geographers explored the processes involved in shaping unique coastlines at Newhaven and Seaford. Students collected data samples that will underpin their Geographical Skills requirements in their exams later this year.



Work Experience

Important information for L2+ and L3 students and parents

It might be helpful to give you an update about the Work Experience activity we are asking your children to undertake at the end of this year. We'd like to share this info in case they may not be telling you everything they get up to!

Dedicated work experience weeks:

For L2+ Students: Monday 26th - Friday 30th June.

For L3 Students: Monday 10th - Friday 14th July.

We ask all the above students to arrange an experience which will be useful to them professionally and **the deadline for 'Own Finds'** has been **extended to the 29th of March 2017**. The *Internship and Work Experience Booklet* will be disseminated to the respective students after half term.

It would be useful to encourage students to consider how their existing network of family, friends, previous work experience, clubs and extra-curricular activities might be useful for them during this endeavour.

if you know anyone willing to offer work experience to our UCL Academy students, please contact Mrs E Aliu at: workexperience@uclacademy.co.uk.

Timings of the Academy Day

Please note that you can find the structure for the Academy day based on year level here: <http://www.uclacademy.co.uk/The-Academy-Day>. This includes start and finish times for each year level.

Student Absences

Please be reminded that the correct procedure for reporting your child's absence is by calling 020 7449 3080 and pressing option 1 (student absence) where you will be directed to the Attendance Officer. If you know in advance that your child will be late, please provide the Academy with a medical note, appointment card, note in their planner, letter or email.

Student Punctuality

It is a common pattern that at this time of the term, student punctuality in the morning begins to worsen. Our process for dealing with late students in the morning is as follows:

- Students arriving after 8:30am (8:40am on a Monday) will be marked as late, and should enter the gate at the Harley Road Entrance. Sanctions will be given.
- Persistent latecomers will be sanctioned after school.
- Where lateness is an ongoing concern, we will be writing to parents directly.

The Academy in the Local Community

Local groups, businesses, and organisations are making increasing use of facilities at the Academy. This is very much in line with our desire to be at the heart of the local community. While the majority of our students represent the Academy superbly on the way to and home from school, we would ask all parents and carers to remind their children of the following:

- Guidance from PC Sweeney and Metropolitan Police: Parents and students should remain aware that any toys that could be misconstrued as weapons are completely banned from the Academy. We urge parents and students to hand any such inappropriate toys to the Police. These include objects such as laser pens, BB guns or any replica weapons. **We have a no tolerance approach to any student bringing in objects that may be seen as a weapon.**
- Students should wear their uniform as per the expectations set until they are home or well out of sight of the Academy.
- We continue to work with Camden Council in regards to the traffic challenges and road crossings around the Academy. Our students in the main are exemplary in terms of how they cross the roads and use public transport. They must though always be vigilant, careful and respectful of others. This is something we have made very clear at the Academy and confirmation of this from home can only help us keep our students safe.

Harley Road

AM & PM; stopping on yellow zig zags

Local residents have asked us to kindly remind all parents who drop off their students by car in the morning and pick them up in the evening that stopping on the yellow zig zags is not allowed. It has been reported to us that number of cars stop and even park in these areas in the mornings and evenings. This is a potential safety risk for students trying to cross the road to get to school and also impacts on local residents. We wanted to remind all parents that it is actually illegal to stop and even drop off in these areas. We ask all parents to be mindful of this when bringing students to school and remind you that the local public transport network is extremely quick and reliable for the morning or evening commute.

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.

Social Media

We share our day to day activities and news on Twitter so please follow us @UCL_Academy. We also regularly update Facebook with news stories and photos.

Twitter: https://twitter.com/UCL_Academy

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/theuclacademy>

TERM DATES AND HOLIDAYS 2016/17

Spring Term 2017

Tuesday 3rd January — Friday 7th April 2017

Half-term: Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February

Spring holiday: Monday 10th April to Friday 21st April

Summer Term 2017

Monday 24th April — Friday 21st July 2017

Half-term: Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June

Staff Planning Days 2016/17 (Non-student days)

Tuesday 3rd January

Friday 3rd February
Wednesday 29th March
Wednesday 17th May
Friday 16th June
Thursday 13th July

TERM DATES AND HOLIDAYS 2017/18

Term dates for the academic year 2017/18 have been finalised and are viewable on our website at <http://www.uclacademy.co.uk/Term-Dates>. As previously discussed, planning days for 2017/18 will be finalised by March 30th.

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