

**H**appy spring holiday! 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 & EVENTS

Monday, 10 April – Friday 21 April — **SPRING HOLIDAY**

Monday, 24 April — **First Day of Term**; Late Start (9.25am)

w/b Monday, 24 April — **STEM Week**

Please see *General Notices* for more details.

Monday, 1 May — **Bank Holiday**

The Academy will be closed to students.

Thursday, 4 May — **Early Finish**; 3.35pm

Thursday, 4 May — **L1+ Parents Consultation**

A letter will be distributed shortly.

Friday, 5 May — **Late Start**; 9.25am

Monday, 8 May — **SLT Drop-In**; 4.30–6pm

Wednesday, 17 May — **Staff Planning Day**

The Academy will be closed to students.

Wednesday, 24 May — **Level 2 Parents Consultation**

Further details TBA.

## LETTERS FROM ACADEMY LEADERSHIP

### Letter from Mrs Davies

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

A final word from me as your Lead Co-Principal.

Again, sincere thanks for your on-going support over the years. We have assembled an enviable body of staff, clever, dedicated and skilful in the complex arts of teaching. We are therefore in a strong position and I am confident that the Academy will grow and flourish under the leadership of Mr Street and Mr McBride. So a final well done and thank you from me to students, staff and you, the parents, guardians and carers for making the UCL Academy, the school I had always dreamed of leading. Please expect a letter from Mr Street and Mr McBride in the Spring Newsletter. Good luck to all students taking public examinations this summer.

Best wishes

Geraldine Davies, Lead Co-Principal

### Governors' Update

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

The governors have held the Spring 2 round of Committee meetings, and the full Governing Body Meeting, with the key focus across all meetings involving the full review of the Autumn term data, and with particular attention on the first cohort coming up to their GCSEs this summer.

The governors reviewed the progress of each year group, with the overall picture being very positive on the progress being made. The governors noted that the More and Most Able students are progressing well, with this being an area of focus from the recent Ofsted inspection.

This year will see the first of the new grades in English and Maths, with the score of 1-9, rather than the traditional A\* - E grades. It was discussed that with the uncertainties of the new exams, both Ofqual and Ofsted are recommending schools not to set predictions, with the national grade boundaries not being set until the results have been moderated. The Academy team have been applying cautious predictions, so as to ensure progress and attainment measures are tracked, and curriculum teams have been moderating their predictions externally.

The Spring term data is to be reviewed by the governors in the Summer term, so as to continue to track progress of all student groups.

Best wishes are sent to all students as they revise and begin their exams.

The governors reviewed statutory policies, and as policies are updated over the coming terms, these will be available to view on the Academy website.

The Co-Principal model continues to be monitored and reviewed, with reports provided by our School Improvement Partners (SIPs) on the model. The governors continue to be very content with the model, and look forward to supporting Mr McBride and Mr Street as they lead the model forward in the Summer term.

The governors again raised thanks to Ms Davies in leading the Academy over the starter years, and we look forward to celebrating Ms Davies' contribution to the Academy and education, in the Summer term. Further details to follow.

Key items coming up for next term (Summer 1) include the following:

- ✓ Data summary update on the Spring term;
- ✓ Curriculum Focus presentations on STEM Subjects;
- ✓ Governing Body Self Evaluation to be undertaken;
- ✓ Review of the Pastoral and Wellbeing Programme;
- ✓ Review of Admissions for September 2017.

If you have any specific questions to raise to governors, please do direct these via the Clerk to the Governors, Louise Garcia: [l.garcia@uclacademy.co.uk](mailto:l.garcia@uclacademy.co.uk)

Best regards

David Price, Chair of Governors

## GENERAL NOTICES

### Revision Sessions

#### Academy Access

During the holidays, we are running a broad program of revision classes. It is critical that students understand that they will **only** be allowed on the school site if their name is registered at reception. Students are **not allowed** to use the school as a casual revision drop-in site, and must stick to the agreed-upon timetable. This is due to the facilities team carrying out a broad program of general upkeep—including painting, cleaning, installation etc—creating significant Health & Safety concerns should students be on site without permission. We are grateful for your cooperation.

#### Revision Content

Please find revision content for your courses available on Google Classroom. We wish you a great holiday!

### STEM Week 2017

This year's STEM Week will take place during the first week of summer term (24–28 April). The theme this year is *2040 is closer than 1994 – How are we preparing?* Events will include a design lecture with architect George Clark at Imperial College, a "Learning By Design" event, Tomorrow's Engineers "Energy Quest" workshop, and much more. Full coverage of the week's events will appear in the first parent bulletin of the summer term.

### STEM Internships

Are you a current L2P or L3 student? Do you want a chance at a STEM Internship at **Atkins Global** in Camden? Limited work experience spaces remain available; please apply to [weareSTEMLondon@atkinsglobal.com](mailto:weareSTEMLondon@atkinsglobal.com) if interested. See the attached document below for further details.

 [Work Experience enquiry form.docx](#)

## GCSE Drama dress rehearsal evening

On **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> 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 are available to purchase via ParentPay for £2 each right now!

## Level 2 Engineering

Any Engineering students who are undertaking Unit 2 Part B, should download Autodesk Fusion on to their home computers and complete the Fusion tutorials on [udemy.com](https://www.udemy.com). Autodesk Fusion is completely free, and undertaking this 4 hour tutorial will be massively beneficial for these students when it comes to moving on to their 2<sup>nd</sup> Unit.

Secondly, please be aware that Level 2 Engineering students will be submitting the unit they are currently working on to be marked on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May at 4.30pm.

## What's Been Happening at the Academy?



*March 31 | Visit to Prudential HQ*

Just a brief list of key headlines at the Academy:

- ➔ On Friday 31 March, the Academy welcomed **Dame Alison Peacock**— Chief Executive of the Chartered College of Teaching—where she received a tour from two Foundation students and spoke with staff about the development of

the school. Following her visit, she was fulsome in her praise of the Academy, saying to Co-Principal Mr Street that although she visits many schools, the **atmosphere, energy and enthusiasm** present here is what she hoped the College would be able to cultivate in all schools.

- On Friday 31 March, the Academy announced its new **House Champion** after an intense week of **Battle of the Houses**—congratulations, **Cygnus House!**
- On Friday 31 March, several of our Maths students in Level 2 students visited the **Prudential** international headquarters, as part of their ongoing development of **financial literacy** and mathematics applied in a **business context**. The students received a lecture from Prudential staff and enjoyed themselves—particularly in relation to the headquarters building!
- On Tuesday 4 April, the Academy welcomed **Professor Toby Greany**, of **Leadership and Innovation** at the **Institute of Education**, where he received a tour of the school and discussed our Professional Enquiry model for staff and how the CPD/CPL program at the Academy succeeds and might be improved.
- On Thursday 6 April, students from Foundation up to Level 2 experienced their **Exit Point** as part of the **Connected Curriculum**. **Foundation** students solved puzzles (included a staged murder mystery in the Maths department!), **Level 1s** created political parties and had a General Election, **Level 1Ps** learned how established brands stay fresh in a changing marketplace (Lego as the primary example) and **Level 2** presented on their Grand Challenge of Global Health at UCL. Well done to all our students for their hard work, discipline, and persistence this term!

As always, please follow our Twitter account for fresh updates.

## 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 26<sup>th</sup> - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June.**

**For L3 Students: Monday 10<sup>th</sup> - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July.**

We ask all the above students to arrange an experience which will be useful to them professionally. The *Internship and Work Experience* Booklets have been disseminated to the respective students.

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](mailto: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

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 do follow us for regular updates. We also regularly update Facebook with news stories and photos.

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

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

## TERM DATES AND HOLIDAYS 2016/17

### Summer Term 2017

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April — Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017\*

**Half-term:** Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

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

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July

\*Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July

\*Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July

### Additional Planning Days Added

We have added two additional staff planning days in July. These will be non-student days. As such, **Wednesday 19 July** will be the last day of term for all students.

## 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>. Planning days for 2017/18 will be communicated shortly.