

NW/kt

30 March 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

As Easter approaches we are reflecting on what has been a highly significant term for The Vale Academy. The first term in our new building has been very successful and I have been impressed by the way in which students and staff have quickly adjusted to their new surroundings; indeed after just a few weeks in the new school it felt as if we had always been here. Our new building provides the state of the art facilities our students and staff deserve and it has been a pleasure to see everyone benefit from a greatly improved learning environment.

One of the enrichment highlights this term has been our Singers' Showcase, a new venture for our music department focusing entirely on students' vocal skills. A large number of students were involved as soloists as well as part of small groups and of course our choir. It was an excellent evening which really did showcase the incredible talent of our students. This month, our gifted musicians have had another successful week at the North Lincolnshire Music Festival, with a number of individuals and groups winning prestigious awards. Our sports teams have also had numerous successes, the highlight being our students' victory at The Delta Academy Games. This is an annual competition held at the English Institute of Sport in Sheffield where The Vale team were crowned Academy Games Champions for the third successive year- a huge achievement. I would also like to congratulate our KS3 boys' basketball team who are North Lincolnshire Basketball Champions.

Well done to all those students who have contributed to the many enrichment activities this term. As always there are too many to mention each one individually, although most are reported in this term's Vale Views. None of these many events would take place, however, without the ongoing hard work and dedication of our staff for which I am extremely grateful.

I am mindful that the summer examination season is rapidly approaching. Students in Years 11, 12 and 13 are focused on revision and final preparation for their forthcoming examinations. There are a number of revision sessions scheduled during the Easter holidays and full details are available on the academy website, as well as this year's GCSE and AS/A2 timetables.

A group of Year 8 and Year 9 students are spending the first week of the Easter holidays skiing in the Italian Alps; we wish them a safe and enjoyable trip.

Finally, I would like to remind parents and carers that the spring term ends at **3.20 pm on Friday 7 April** and the new term begins at **8.45 on Monday 24 April**. I wish all students, staff, parents and carers a restful Easter break.

As always, I am hugely appreciative of your ongoing support.

With best wishes,

Nicola Williams
Principal