

Monday 2nd October 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to another year at BOA and a particular welcome to new parents.

I am delighted to inform you that our August 2017 exam results were outstanding. Our Post-16 results were the equivalent of A*A*A with a 23% improvement in our additional academic A Levels. In a year when GCSE results were difficult to predict due to the new qualification, our students did amazingly well. Headline results: English 94%, Maths 85%, Science 83% and 5 A*-C including Maths and English 79%.

Congratulations to both students and staff for all their hard work.

New Staff

We have a number of new staff:

Jermaine Wilkinson	Teacher of Maths
Gurpreet Sandhu	Teacher of Maths
Sarah Atkins	Head of House and Teacher of English
Tara With	Lead Practitioner for Maths
Toni Grehan	Director of Music
Daniel Summers	Teacher of Singing in MT
Jonathon Salisbury	Teacher of Music/Music Technology
Tom Kinsella	Teacher of Music
Dan Branch	Director of MT
Robert Paterson	Teacher of History
Rachel Fox	Teacher of Dance
Hannah McGhee	Teacher of Dance
Holly Arnold	Teacher of Dance
Jason Cortese	Teacher of Science

We also welcome Rian Holloway back from maternity leave and Danielle Grieve, Emily Cooper and Hannah Wolstencroft will all return from maternity before Christmas.

Performances

We have a full programme of performances, exhibitions and activities scheduled throughout the academic year. Please visit www.boa-academy.co.uk.

Parents' Evenings

Year 10 Settling in Evening - Thursday 12th October
 Year 11 - Thursday 16th November
 Year 12 Settling in Evening - Thursday 9th November
 Year 13 - Thursday 23rd November

Make the Most of Opportunities - Post 16 Particularly

It has been a very busy three weeks. Students have already had the opportunity to work with Frantic Assembly and Susie Self. They have also been invited to audition for Alice (our professional Christmas show at The Old Rep) and audition with Dion Singer (Executive Vice President - Warner Brothers Records). He has played a pivotal role in the careers of Michael Bublé, Josh Groban and many other artists on the Warner Brothers roster.

All Post-16 students were made aware of these opportunities at the first assembly, by their pathway Directors and on the digital signage around the building. It's just under two years since Warner Brothers did their last worldwide talent search here. For current Year 12 and 13 students, they may well not be at BOA the next time Dion visits.

If your son/daughter is serious about a career in performance, they need to seize the opportunities when they present themselves.

Become a Parent Director

BOA is currently looking to fill its Parent Director vacancy on its Board of Directors. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ian Shepherd who has been a tremendous Director for the last two years. He stepped down at the end of last academic year, hence the vacancy.

Becoming a Parent Director offers you the opportunity to make a real contribution to the development of the academy over the next few years. Academy Directors play an exciting and key role in the leadership, support and challenge of the academy. Directors know the academy well and act as a critical friend to the Principal. We are particularly looking for a parent who will sit on the finance committee and play an active role in fundraising.

I would like to invite you, as a parent of a student at BOA to consider putting your name forward for this crucial and exciting role. Becoming a Director will require some of your time and it is an on-going commitment. You will need to attend at least three full working days plus three half days for the meetings. This year's dates are:

28.11.17	Finance Committee	09.00am
12.12.16	Full Board	13.30pm
13.3.18	Finance Committee	09.00am
27.3.18	Full Board	13.30pm
19.6.18	Finance Committee	09.00am
10.7.18	Full Board	13.30pm

It will be a very rewarding and fulfilling experience and gives you the opportunity to contribute to the long term strategic vision for BOA, and for the duration of your child's attendance at the academy.

Every parent of a registered student at the academy, whether or not you live with your child, is entitled to be nominated as a Parent Director and to vote in a Parent Director election.

Support and training will be available to help the successful candidate in carrying out their duties and in becoming an effective and confident Parent Director. Once elected, you will remain a Parent Director until your child's education at BOA finishes.

If you are interested in becoming the Parent Director, please send your nomination and application form (using the forms enclosed) to Rhiannon Sharp, BOA, 1 Grosvenor Street, B4 7QD, or scan a copy to Rhiannon.Sharp@boa-academy.co.uk, by 9am on Monday 16th October 2017.

The nomination process will be overseen by myself, the Principal. An election will be held in November.

Lost Property

Every week we have a significant amount of lost property which is usually unnamed. We ask you to label all your child's belongings so we can return items to their owners.

Students with Medical Conditions

Parents must inform the school if their child has a medical condition or an allergy. Please ensure Mr Pitt and your child's Head of House are aware. Please note we are not able to give any form of pain relief unless permission has been given to the Academy.

Lateness and Absence

Please note the Academy has very strict rules on both punctuality and absence. All students must try to be in the Academy in plenty of time for the start of their lessons (not just at the beginning of the day).

If your son/daughter is unable to attend for whatever reason please contact 0121 359 9300 and select the option for attendance.

If your son/daughter fails to attend their first lesson, a text message will be sent to you. It is very important that we are always made aware of new contact details. Often important messages such as school closures, parents' evenings or students not showing for school are transmitted via a text message alert.

Please keep checking our website for the most up to date information and do not hesitate to contact us if you have any issues you need to discuss.

Cladding

On 7th July 2017, I wrote to all parents explaining that samples of our cladding had been taken from BOA and sent to the Building Research Establishment (BRE) for testing.

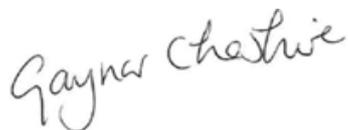
It took considerably longer than anticipated to receive the results but I am pleased to say our cladding is not the ACM cladding used on the Grenfell Tower and has been passed as safe. However, as part of our compliance, we have already carried out a fire drill with all staff and students.

BOA Digital

As you are aware, we received approval to open BOA Digital much earlier in the year. The political situation this year has delayed the process, however. The new school will not open in September 2018 as there is still much to do in securing a site. I apologise to all the parents (many of whom have a child currently at BOA) who had put a siblings name down on the waiting list for Year 7. We are as equally frustrated over the delays to the opening of BOA Digital.

I look forward to seeing you over the academic year and I hope 2017/18 is a successful one for your child.

Yours sincerely



Gaynor Cheshire
Principal

Parent Director Application Form

Personal Details

Title	
Forename	
Surname	
Date of Birth	
Male/Female	
Address	
Email Address	
Telephone (Home)	
Telephone (Mobile)	
Why do you want to become a Parent Director? (This text will be included on the ballot form - no more than 200 words)	
Are you currently or have you ever been a Director/Governor at another establishment?	
If yes, please provide details:	
Have you ever been removed from membership of a Governing Body or Board of Directors for any reason?	

If yes, please provide details of the establishment and the reason for your removal

Do you have any criminal convictions?
(Please note if you are elected your position on the Board of Directors is subject to a satisfactory DBS check)

If yes, please provide details

Skills Audit

Do you have any of the following skills or experience? (Tick if applicable)

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Future planning | <input type="checkbox"/> | Financial planning | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Research | <input type="checkbox"/> | Acquiring services | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Working with young people | <input type="checkbox"/> | Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| ICT | <input type="checkbox"/> | Marketing | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Legal knowledge | <input type="checkbox"/> | Project Management | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Public relations | <input type="checkbox"/> | Human Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Health and Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> | Analysing Data | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Performance Management | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

Are there any other skills or experiences you have gained that you could bring to the academy?

Are you or have you been a contractor or supplier to Birmingham Ormiston Academy?

If yes, please provide details

Please return the completed form by 9am on Monday 16th October 2017 to Rhiannon Sharp, BOA, 1 Grosvenor Street, Birmingham, B4 7QD. Alternatively, scan a signed copy to Rhiannon.Sharp@boa-academy.co.uk.