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11<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Dear Parents, Carers, and Members of the Landau Forte Amington Community,

As we approach the end of term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the many significant events and achievements that have shaped academy life over recent weeks. It has been a time marked by both deep sadness and great celebration.

First and foremost, we continue to mourn the tragic loss of Ned Payne, a valued and much-loved member of our Year 11 cohort. Our thoughts remain with his family, friends, and all who have been affected by this heartbreaking event. Ned will be dearly missed by our entire community.

In the midst of this sorrow, there is also much to celebrate. Congratulations to Felicity Broome in Year 11, who has been selected as a Staffordshire Sheriff's Cadet—an exceptional achievement and a reflection of her dedication and outstanding character. This prestigious honour is awarded to only two young people across the county.

Huge congratulations must also go to Skyla Giddings, a remarkably talented Year 11 student who is competing in an international Cheer competition in Florida over the Easter break! We wish Skyla the very best of luck.

I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to our Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) for their continued hard work and commitment to enhancing the experiences of our students. If you would like to find out more or volunteer your time to support the PTA, please email pta@lfata.org.uk for further information. We are also deeply grateful to our Academy Committee members, especially our parent representatives, Natalie Baglin and Sarah McGill, for their invaluable support and guidance.

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Louise Poole as our new Designated Safeguarding Lead and Associate Assistant Principal for Student Welfare. Many of you will know Louise from her previous role leading our Child and Family Support, where she made a significant impact supporting families across our community. In addition to her new leadership role, she is also a parent and Academy Committee member, and we are delighted to welcome her to the Senior Leadership Team.

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OUR ACADEMY OUR COMMUNITY

This term has been filled with enriching experiences for our students, including: A ski trip to Italy Year 9's visit to Aston University A maths enrichment trip to London for Year 11 Careers events and workshops Creative writing workshops with former student and published author Ben Davis

Looking ahead, we have even more exciting opportunities planned, including a trip to Kraków, Poland, and a variety of residential experiences.

It was a pleasure to meet recently with our Student Leadership Team to discuss important issues, including uniform. As recognition for their ongoing contributions, they will have the opportunity to visit the Houses of Parliament to see democracy in action—led by our dedicated History teacher, Mr Smith, who also serves as a local councillor.

In February, we were proud to present a fantastic production of Chicago over two sold-out nights. The performance showcased the incredible talents of our students and the commitment of staff including Mr Philips, Ms Wright, Ms Alvey, and Ms Mogelmose, who devoted countless hours to rehearsals. Thank you to everyone who attended, and to our Academy Committee and Trustees for your continued support.

Please save the date for our Amington Fete, taking place on Saturday, 2nd July, from 12:00pm to 4:00pm. It promises to be a wonderful event, and I hope to see many of you there.

In response to parent feedback, we will be extending the next Year 7 Parents' Evening, with appointments beginning earlier. As a result, the academy will finish at 2:30pm on Thursday, 8th May for all students.

I would also like to take this opportunity to celebrate four students who have exemplified our core values of ambition, bravery, and kindness:

Ava Poole (Year 10) - for her daily volunteering at Breakfast Club

Max Suffling (Year 9) – for 100% attendance, an excellent number of achievement points, and being a role model student

Hallie Brown (Year 8) – for outstanding all-round contributions, including to the academy netball team

Baker Letman (Year 7) – for demonstrating our academy values every day

A huge congratulations to them, and to all our students who have earned rewards this term— 145,275 points in total, with 51,109 awarded this term alone. Ms Plumpton is currently planning an end-of-year reward day for our students—so watch this space for more information!

As our Year 11 students prepare for their final examinations, we are offering additional revision sessions over the Easter break and on Saturdays leading up to exam season. These sessions can make a significant difference, and I strongly encourage all students to take full advantage of them. They will run in addition to our already well-attended tutor time and after-school revision sessions.

Thank you once again for your continued support throughout the term. I wish you all a safe, happy, and restful Easter break. We look forward to welcoming students back on Monday, 28th April.

Best wishes, Andrew Deen Principal