

Dear Parents and Carers,

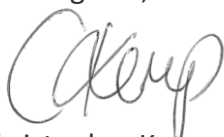
I hope this letter finds you well. It was fantastic to see so many of you at Year 9 Parents Consultation Evening on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December and I hope you found the evening useful. We now find ourselves at the half way stage of their learning journey here at Mark Hall Academy. With this in mind, it was great to hear and see such positivity and maturity from our pupils, as they begin to decide their future career paths.

The Autumn term has been a busy one; a particular highlight was the visit of Harlow MP Robert Halfon, who was interviewed by our own Student Parliament, Rudolph Walker, of Eastenders fame, as guest speaker, as well as the visit of Clare Nunn from Essex County Council, providing our pupils with the opportunity to join the Harlow Youth Council.

The Department for Education conducted research into the link between absence and attainment, finding that pupils with no absence are 1.3 times more likely to achieve level 4 or above, and 3.1 times more likely to achieve level 5 or above, than pupils that missed 10-15 per cent of all sessions. With this in mind and January and February ahead, we thank you for your continued support and efforts in ensuring our pupils have the highest attendance possible.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a restful break and a Merry Christmas.

Kind regards,



Christopher Kemp  
Key Stage 3 Co-ordinator

**Principal: Mr Jonathan Fuller BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH**

Mark Hall Academy, First Avenue, Harlow, Essex, CM17 9LR

T: 01279 866 280 F: 01279 866 286 E: [office@mha.atrust.org.uk](mailto:office@mha.atrust.org.uk) W: [www.mha.atrust.org.uk](http://www.mha.atrust.org.uk)

