



We hope your daughter and/or son had a restful half-term, and we have been delighted with how students have returned to school following the break. Year 11 and Year 13 students have made a very positive start to their first week of mock examinations, and many of them took the opportunity to come into school over the half-term break to work with teaching staff on revision and PSAs; please do ensure that your daughter and/or son is revising at home and a reminder that the LRC and VI Form Study Space are available until 4pm each day should a space for revision be needed; the LRC is also available for our Year 11 students at lunchtime.

Students have received a number of messages this week about routines; it is always important after holidays that a 're-set' is held and expectations are set out clearly again. Attendance, uniform, and equipment remain key priorities; please ensure that your daughter and/or son are leaving home in full uniform, with PE kit as required, wearing their lanyard and have their planner and stationery with them. A reminder that our uniform and PE kit requirements can be seen here [Gospel Oak School - Uniform](#). Further information about the fantastic opportunities available in PE can be read about later in the eZine, thank you to our PE department for all of the additional time they put in to provide these for our students.

Communication with parents and carers is, as you are aware, an area that we are continuing to work to improve. We welcomed in parents and carers for our 'Parents' and Carers' Forum' on Wednesday evening, and it was a meeting of very fruitful discussions to help us to understand more about what is working well and areas we can continue to develop. There are still some teething issues with our 'Contact Us' system; we are working to ensure that these do not happen, but please do make sure you contact Mrs Hampton, PA to the Executive Principal, in line with the message you will receive should you not have a response; this information can all be found here [Gospel Oak School - Contact Us](#). There were some incredibly helpful conversations around how attendance and behaviour can continue to be improved, and developments with homework; further updates will follow on all of these areas over the coming weeks.

A reminder that it is our Remembrance Parade on Monday; please look at the additional information later in the eZine about this. We hope you have a lovely weekend, and do please get in touch via [Gospel Oak School - Contact Us](#) if we can help in any way.

Upcoming Dates

- Monday 11th November – CRST Yr 8 and Yr 9 Boys and Girls Football Tournament
- Friday 22nd November – Teacher Training Day
- Tuesday 26th November – Year 12 and Year 13 HSC Exam Booster Visit to Star City
- Tuesday 26th November – Championship League Match, Etihad Stadium
- Friday 29th November – Flu Vaccination Catch-Up Session

Assembly Themes

Assembly focus this week was Term ahead – expectations

w/c 11/11 – Remembrance Day

w/c 18/11 – Food Bank Appeal

Please take the time to talk to your child about what they have learnt in Assembly.

Community Engagement Survey – Green Spaces in Tipton Town

Please see [Community Engagement Survey – Green Spaces in Tipton Town - Sandwell Council - Citizen Space](#); this is focusing on Green Spaces in Tipton Town, with regards to 'The Railer' and 'The Cracker' green spaces.

Remembrance Day

There will be a Remembrance parade on Monday at school, and the whole school community will observe a period of silence, and listen to the Last Post; our Cadets will take a leading role on what is an incredibly important occasion for all. You may wish to watch <https://vimeo.com/764147228> , a video made by the British Army, to support your understanding of the importance of this event.

Sixth Form

Welcome back to all the students, we hope you all had a restful break.

Before we broke up the Post 16 Open Evening took place. A massive Thank you to all the Year 12 and 13 students that supported the event. It was lovely to see so many year 11 students and parents/carers. Anyone who could not attend the event but would like information on post 16, please don't hesitate to contact me. Applications for Post 16 can be made via the school website and in paper form.

Good Luck to all the year 13 students for the mock exams over the next two weeks.

Good Luck to all the students doing Maths and English resits.

Reminder – To be completing Uplearn, Everlearner and Seneca.

Your sincerely

Mr Bala
Director of Post 16

Year 12 student of the week – Lesha P
Year 13 student of the week – Varni J

Year 12 attendance – 93.9 %
Year 13 attendance – 87.9 %

Events –
Deadline for post 16 application forms 20th December

Parent Line


Sandwell and West Birmingham
NHS Trust



If you are a Parent or Carer of a child in Sandwell aged 5-19 and would like some confidential advice and support, from a School Nurse

Text 07312 263756



24/24 Term 1a

October 2024

Gospel Oak School Sport Newsletter



U15 Girls' Football Tournament

Gospel Oak School kicked off the new academic year hosting the Sandwell School's U15 girl's football tournament. We entered two teams, where the hunger to win was apparent from both. This tournament welcomed girls to the teams who had never played football before. The event was a success, with our teams ending in 2nd and 3rd place.



Year 9 Football



The year 9 boys opened up their football campaign with a tough home fixture v.s. Bishop Challoner from Coventry. The game started in frantic fashion, conceding 3 and scoring 1 (Harrison). Bishop Challoner added a 4th before goals from Dylan M & Josh made for an exciting end to the game. Fitness shone through in the end with our opponents adding 4 more goals in the final 8 minutes of the game. Lots to work on, but lots to be positive about. MotM: Josh

Year 7 Football

Year 7 'A' team had their first game on Tuesday 1st October 2024. Unfortunately, they lost 1-0 to a strong Wombourne High team, but worked well in their first game together showing great determination and a bright future. Man of the match was awarded to Alfie N for his outstanding performance in the match.



Year 10 Football



The year 10 football team were on the wrong side of a tight game against a well-drilled Kings Edward XI of Kings Norton in the ESFA national cup with the visitors going through to next round with a 3-2 win. Our goals coming from Tru M and Tom R and an outstanding man of the match performance from Hughie P in goal. The lads showed excellent

desire and teamwork as well as some lovely football which was a pleasure to watch- especially considering how little they have played as a team. Hopefully, the year 10s can take the positives into fixtures soon in the Sandwell league and the County Cup. Excellent work lads.

U16 Netball Tournament

On Monday 7th October the U16 netball team travelled to Phoenix for the annual netball tournament.

All girls tried their best within each match that we played, trying new combinations with play and also positions. The team were dedicated to working hard and showed resilience throughout the games.

The team demonstrated some amazing interceptions and great shooting. The team placed 5th overall from the whole tournament out of 12 teams.



Year 8 Football



GOS year 8 team played Arden school on Thursday 8th October. A very tough game for GOS coming up against an experienced Arden side. Unfortunately, the team had individual brilliance but were not able to get together on this occasion and left facing a 10-0 defeat and out of the ESFA cup.

Sixthform Football

The U18 football team played their first game of the season, hosting Solihull school in the national cup. A crazy start to the game saw the GOS men 3-0 down within the first quarter of the game and left with a mountain to climb. Skipper Ward reduced the arrears with a tidy finish following a cut back to make the game much more competitive. Unfortunately Solihull added a further 3 goals late to increase the score, losing out 6-1. MotM: Ward



Year 8 Football



On the 15th October, Gospel Oak School travelled to Sandwell Academy for their next football match. This was the first away fixture of the year and the 'B' team walked away victorious. GOS came from 3-1 down to win 4-3 in the final minutes of the game was truly breath-taking for a neutral. Goals from Harrison W, Ryan G and a brace from Gabe N truly marked a special victory.

U13 Girls' Utilita Cup

Gospel Oak played in a tournament with other schools around the local area on Wednesday 16th October at the Hawthorne's. All teams had one goal in mind, to place in the top spots to then go onto represent West Bromwich in a regional tournament. The girls showed great attitude and teamwork when persevering against strong oppositions. The girls really enjoyed their time at the West Bromwich Academy training dome. Well done!



Year 11 Football - West Midlands Cup



On Wednesday 16th October, the Year 11 Boys advanced to the next round of the cup with a hard-fought victory on penalties against Stoke Park. The game started in scrappy fashion with neither side able to get a foothold, with tackles flying in and chances hard to come by. The deadlock was broken with an excellent strike from Stoke Park's number 8, curling an effort into the top left corner from fully 25 yards.

Heads did not drop however as the GOS boys continued to carve out chances, gradually wresting control and applying pressure all over the park. The substitutes proved to have the biggest impact however, as Ethan R helped stabilise the midfield ultimately providing the flick-on for Kylian C's equaliser. The pace of Kylian and substitute Kai G proved hard for our visitors to deal with as tired legs prevailed as the game wore on. GOS thought they'd scored a winner with mere minutes left when their keeper fumbled a corner after an aerial challenge, but was adjudged to have control of the ball and the goal was disallowed for a foul. Extra time came and went with no real action, but it was Ethan R who again proved an inspired change as he stepped up to secure victory with a calmly taken winning penalty into the bottom left corner, ensuring none of the GOS boys missed their crucial spot kicks. We await confirmation of our opponents and the location of tie in the next round.

Year 7 Football

Year 7 'B' team travelled to Wodensborough on Tuesday 22nd October 2024 for their first league game. This was the first fixture the team had played together, but they battled well. There were quite a few goals conceded during the first half. However, during the second half, the team had a new lease of light, clawing back their defeat in the first half. The final score was 7 - 5 to Wodensborough. POTM: Brayden U, who scored all 5 goals.



Sixth Form Football



The 6th form football team faced up against a very strong Heath Park academy football team in the U18 West Midlands Cup. The team put in an incredibly organised shift in the first half, minimising the attempts on goal and frustrating our Wolverhampton based counterparts. We went into the break 1-0 down, which became 2 quite quickly after the break

following a swift counter attack, from which we almost equalised. A spell of 10 minutes resulted in 3 goals conceded, before Treagust poked home from close range to cut the deficit down. An incredible effort in only the team's second game against a very tough opposition. Onwards & upwards! MotM: S. Singh and Jarvis

Year 9 Football

The Year 9 football team opened their league campaign with a home match v.s. Wodensborough. With a number of players unavailable, a few new players came in to join the team and performed excellently. We won the game 2-0 with goals from Dylan G and Charlie V. MotM went to Junior and Charlie T who both volunteered to go in goal, performing excellently in gaining a clean sheet. The game was officiated by Post 16 students: Rhodes-Collins and Hunter.



U14 Netball Tournament

U14 netball team played in their first tournament of the year on Tuesday 22nd October 2024. All that were there represented themselves and the school well. They sorted the team's positions, made sure they knew which court they needed to be on and when. This led to 2 wins, 1 draw and 3 losses. Miss Webb could not be prouder of you!



Year 8 Football



Year 8 faced Windsor High School in their next match. The match started off well, showing great enthusiasm and team work. But was a bit of a scrappy game. GOS were able to defend well for the vast majority of the game and went into half time drawing 1-1. A brilliant individual goal from Harry T lobbing the keeper from outside the box. However, as the game wore on legs got tired, and gaps started to appear. GOS walked away with a 4-1 loss.

Star Sport Student

Alfie C. Year 13

Sixth formers Deaken and Joel present the first star sport student of the 2024/2025 academic year, taking time to interview Alfie and his recent achievements within his sport.

We at Gospel Oak School are very proud of Alfie and his kickboxing achievements. At the beginning of this term, Alfie embarked on a journey to the Czech Republic for a kickboxing tournament. After years of training and dedication to the sport, Alfie achieved his ultimate goal of becoming kickboxing champion of the World!

We now have a few words from the champ...

“It was a real honour to represent Team GB and win gold. It has always been a big dream of mine to win gold and represent my country. I want to thank my family, friends, coaches and all those at Gospel Oak School who have supported me and believed in me throughout my journey to winning gold at such an important competition”.

Congratulations Alfie, you are a star.



If your son/daughter has had any sporting achievements outside of school, please feel free to send these through the enquiries email with “FAO: PTH/CFI E-Zine” so we can celebrate them in next half-terms PE newsletter.

FREE BOXING SESSIONS

BoxClever Mentoring will be running after-school boxing sessions every TERM-TIME TUESDAY at West Bromwich Leisure Centre. All sessions are free of charge.

Studio 1

West Bromwich
Leisure Centre,
Moor Street,
West Bromwich,
B70 7AZ

4:00 - 5:15pm

Ages 9 - 16 years

FOR MORE INFORMATION



@boxclevercj



BoxClever Mentoring

BOXCLEVER
Mentoring



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Our Ref: SBO.KH.3130

Your Ref:

To: Parents/Carers

8th November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Friday Attendance

I am writing to thank you for your help and support to improve attendance this academic year. We are pleased that the number of students absent from school is significantly lower than this time last year and are confident that this will help improve attainment and achievement.

As you know we are keen to help and support all our students and their parents/carers to achieve the best possible outcomes from the school and reach their full potential. This academic year we look forward to your continued support in ensuring your son/daughter attends school every day. Current research states:

**Students who miss 2-4 days in September go on to miss nearly a month of school.
Students who miss 4 days in September go on to miss an average of 70 days for the year**

Recent data indicates a concerning decline in attendance on Fridays, which aligns with a national trend. Consistent attendance is vital for our students to fully engage in their lessons, deepen their understanding and achieve better academic outcomes. Each day of instruction builds upon the last, and missed days can lead to gaps in knowledge that are difficult to fill.

In our commitment to enriching student experiences, we are excited to offer an increased number of trips, fabulous Friday prize draws and a variety of enrichment activities throughout the year. Please note that attendance will be a key factor in participating in these enriching experiences. We kindly ask that students make a concerted effort to be present each day to fully benefit from what we have to offer.

If you need support or have any concerns regarding attendance, please do not hesitate to reach out to a member of our student support team. We are here to help.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring our students' success.

Kind regards,

Miss S Bott
Senior Vice Principal



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8th November 2024

Our Ref: AHI/EJH

Your Ref:

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: **Proposal for Year 7, 8, and 9 Rewards Days – 2nd & 3rd July 2025**

We are excited to offer our Year 7, 8 and 9 students two fantastic Rewards Days on Tuesday 2nd July 2024 and Wednesday 3rd July 2025. These days will celebrate their hard work and positive achievements throughout the school year, giving them a chance to enjoy fun activities outside the classroom.

Tuesday 2nd July 2025: Students will have the opportunity to select one of these three activities for the day:

1. Weston Super Mare Beach – A fun-filled day at the beach, including ice cream treats.
2. Drayton Manor Theme Park – A thrilling day at the popular theme park, filled with exciting rides.
3. Twycross Zoo – A Day of discovery at one of the UK's best zoos, home to a variety of animals.

Wednesday 3rd July 2025: Students will have the opportunity to select one of these three activities for the day:

1. Thorpe Park – Another action-packed day at one of the UK's premier theme parks.
2. Cinema, Bowling, and Food – A more relaxed day including a cinema trip, bowling, and a meal.
3. Baggeridge Country Park & High Ropes Centre – A fun and active day with a picnic and the challenge of high ropes at the beautiful Baggeridge Park.

The cost for each activity will vary, but to ensure inclusivity, we will be subsidising the cost for students eligible for the pupil premium. We believe these days will provide a memorable and well-deserved experience for our students, fostering both enjoyment and positive social interaction.

Thank you for your support in making these rewards days a success.

Kind regards,

Mr A Hickinbottom
Assistant Principal



To: Parents/Carers

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4th November 2024

Our Ref: RQ.KH.3135

Your Ref:

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Live Feedback

We are excited to announce the launch of a new live feedback strategy, designed to support and enhance your son's/daughter's learning experience. This initiative aims to provide timely, constructive feedback during lessons, helping students to improve their work in real-time and fostering a deeper understanding of the material.

The live feedback strategy involves our teachers providing immediate, actionable feedback to students during the deliberate practice section within lessons. This will enable them to make improvements on the spot.

Research has shown that live feedback helps students to feel more supported and motivated, as they receive guidance exactly when it is needed. This can lead to improved academic performance and increased confidence in their abilities.

We encourage you to speak with your son/daughter about this new feedback method, discussing the importance of listening to and acting on the guidance they receive in lessons.

If you have any questions, please use [Gospel Oak School - Contact Us](#). We look forward to working with you to make this strategy a success for every student at Gospel Oak.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Quirk
Vice Principal



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Our Ref: SW / SB

4th November 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: KPMG and Frankfurt Christmas Market Birmingham Wednesday 4th December 2024

We would like to invite your son/daughter to join the Sixth Form Team to KPMG's Opening doors to opportunities workshop, followed by a trip to the German Market as a reward and celebration of hard work and commitment. This is a day of togetherness and team building to build on the momentum we have gained in the first full term at GOS Sixth.

Gospel Oak School will be taking all Year 12 and 13 students to this event on Wednesday 4th December 2024. We will depart Gospel Oak School around 8:30am and walk to Bradley Lane Tram Station and take the Tram into Birmingham City Centre. Students will be dismissed at 3.00pm from Victoria Square and will be responsible to make their own way home. If students opt to come back with the P16 Team, please state in your return slip.

Students will need to bring sufficient funds to buy food on the day or they can come prepared with a packed lunch. If you're son/daughter is entitled to free school meals please indicate on the form and a grab bag will be provided.

The day will be insightful and inspiring to give our students the insight, skills and confidence to thrive in the world of work. Developing essential skills by taking on challenges that some of KPMG's clients are facing today while experiencing what it's like to work at KPMG. Students will have the chance to connect with industry professionals through KPMG volunteer support (One of the big four accounting firms)

Students will be expected to follow instruction from the Sixth Form Team from the arrival into Birmingham until dismissal.

If your son/daughter wishes to bring any further funds to purchase food or gifts from the market they can, your son/daughter will be responsible for any of their own belongings or valuable items.

Please can you complete the attached consent form for your son/daughter to attend the event.

With kind regards,

Mr S Bala
Director of 6th Form

Educational Visits Consent Form					
Trip to:	KPMG and Frankfurt Christmas Market Birmingham			Date:	Wednesday 4 th December 2024
Name of Child:		Year:		Tutor:	
I give permission for my child to attend the trip.			Yes	No	
My child is entitled to free school meals			Yes	No	
My child will return with P16 Team:	Yes / No				
By (Name of person collecting)					
Emergency contact name:					
Emergency contact telephone number:					
Medical Conditions/Medication:					
Special Needs:					
Dietary Needs/Allergies:					

Parent/Guardian Signature:	Print name:	Date:
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PLEASE RETURN THE FORM TO RECEPTION. THANK YOU.



To: Parents/Carers

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4th November 2024

Our Ref: SBO.KH.3136

Your Ref:

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Anti Bullying Week

I am writing to inform you that Gospel Oak School will be participating in Anti-Bullying Week from Monday 11th November to Friday 15th November 2024.

During this week, students will attend assemblies focused on educating them about the importance of kindness, respect, and understanding towards one another. Additionally, there will be further discussions and activities integrated into your son's or daughter's Personal, Social, and Health Education (PHSE) lessons to reinforce these messages.

This year's theme centres around promoting a safe and inclusive environment for all students, encouraging them to stand up against bullying and to support each other. We believe that fostering a culture of respect and empathy is essential for the well-being of our school community.

Thank you for your support in reinforcing these important values at home.

Kind regards,

Miss S Bott
Senior Vice Principal



To: Parents/Carers

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8th November 2024

Our Ref: AHi.KH.3140

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Implementation of our new Behaviour for Learning Framework

I hope this letter finds you well. At Gospel Oak School, we are committed to providing the highest standard of education and ensuring that every student is equipped to achieve their full potential. To support this goal, we are excited to introduce our new Behaviour for Learning framework, which we have carefully designed to create a positive and focused learning environment.

This framework emphasises the importance of consistent, high expectations in every lesson. We believe that by encouraging students to take ownership of their learning and work hard in every subject, we can help them develop essential skills such as resilience and perseverance. These attributes are critical not only for academic success but also for navigating challenges in life beyond school.

Research consistently shows that students who demonstrate strong work ethics and resilience achieve better examination outcomes. By fostering a culture of hard work and determination, we aim to give every student the best possible opportunity to excel. Our framework also supports students in understanding the value of pushing through difficulties, learning from mistakes, and celebrating their achievements.

Staff are being trained on the protocol and they will follow a four step non-confrontational approach when doing this:

- During deliberate practice, the teacher should circulate the classroom while students engage in 'struggle time' to assess their understanding and identify those needing additional support.
- If a student is disengaged or has their head on the desk, address this privately by setting an achievable target for the student to meet (Chance to change).
- Check back in to ensure the student has achieved their target. If they have, provide positive reinforcement and continue circulating. If they remain disengaged or with their head on the desk, issue a B2 warning and inform them that continued disengagement will lead to removal from the lesson.
- Maintain purposeful circulation and check in with the student again. If they have now started working and achieved their target, resume normal monitoring. If they are still disengaged, issue a B3 and make a call-out for further action.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership and for supporting our commitment to high standards of learning and behaviour.

The new protocol will commence on Monday 18th November 2024.

Yours sincerely,



Mr A Hickinbottom
Assistant Principal