

Gospel Oak Weekly Newsletter

w.e. 13th June 2025



UPCOMING DATES

Friday 20th June - Year 7 to Year 10 Trust Sports Day, Abbey Stadium

Friday 20th June - 'Not In My School' Workshop

Wednesday 25th June - RSA8 Trust Project, Newman University

Wednesday 25th June - Year 8 Coffee Morning

Wednesday 25th June - SEND Transition Afternoon

Thursday 26th June - Year 8 HPV Catch Up Vaccines

Thursday 26th June - SEND Transition Morning

Thursday 26th June - Year 11 Prom

Friday 27th June - Scifest, Uni of Wolverhampton

Friday 27th June - Year 7 Parent Coffee Morning

ASSEMBLY THEMES

Assembly focus this week was Attitude to learning

w/c 16th June - National School Sports Week

w/c 23rd June - School Diversity Week

Please take the time to talk to your daughter and/or son about what they have learnt in Assembly.

YEAR 7

YEAR 8

YEAR 9

YEAR 10

SIXTH FORM

LETTERS

COMMUNITY

MESSAGE FROM MISS MIDDLEHURST, SENIOR VICE PRINCIPAL

It has been lovely to see so many students in Year 10 considering applying for leadership roles in school; applying to become head girl, head boy, or a prefect shows a real commitment to students developing themselves and to the continued development of our school. Do please encourage your daughter or son to explore more about what this entails and think about whether they would like to apply for these crucial roles. I am also conscious that we are moving ever closer to Year 10 Work Experience week, another fabulous opportunity for students to learn new skills in an exciting and different environment. As you know, exam results are crucial to next steps and improved life chances; however, all of these other opportunities are vital to ensuring that our students will have successful future careers. Thank you to the many Year 10 parents and carers who came into school yesterday evening to talk about the next steps that are needed to secure the best possible exam grades next year; it was really good to see you all.

Year 11 and Year 13 exams continue to go very well; the exam season is close to finishing for Year 11 and this time next week they will all have completed all exams. I know they will be looking forward to a well-earned rest and their Prom on 26th June. Please do keep ensuring that your daughter and/or son is revising; every mark counts towards ensuring the very best possible grade and there should be no let-up in their preparation until they have finished their last exam.

Many of our students are away in Italy now, having a wonderful time on their sports' tour to Milan. We look forward to hearing their stories when they return. There have also been many of our students auditioning for Gospel's Got Talent this week; the final of this will be held later this month. The auditions provide us with an excellent reminder of the wealth of talent that we have in our school community. On a very similar note, the Trust Sports' Day is next Friday and we know that the athletes who have been chosen to represent the school in this event will put in excellent performances.

Away from all of the fabulous additional opportunities for our students, much work is going on in school to prepare for the next academic year. I have written to you previously about homework and you will be aware that a number of changes were made to our approach to homework for this year; following a review and feedback from a number of our students, parents and carers, including our Parent and Carer Forum, there will be some further changes for next year. It is vital that homework becomes a natural and expected part of the school day; students who work hard achieve the best results. I will update you further on the changes in the future.

Have a lovely weekend. As always, please get in touch via Gospel Oak School - Contact Us if needed.

YEAR TEAM UPDATES

YEAR 7

📢 Attendance Alert! Let's Turn It Around!

This week, our Year 7 attendance dropped to 86% – the lowest it's been this year. That's a big concern. Every day in school really does matter. Taking holidays in term time isn't allowed, and missing lessons means missing out on important learning. Even in Year 7, everything you do is helping build the knowledge and skills you'll need to smash it in Year 11. Let's work together to get that percentage back up – aim for 100% next week! Your future self will thank you. 🙌📅

💬 The Power of Words – A Message from Mr Dunkley

On Monday, we had a powerful assembly from Mr Dunkley reminding us about the importance of being respectful and kind. He spoke about how words can have a huge impact – both positive and negative. Even things that seem like “banter” can sometimes go too far. Let's all try to be more thoughtful with our words this week. A kind word can make someone's day. A harsh one can ruin it. Choose kindness. ✨

🌙 Eid Mubarak!

This week we celebrated Eid during our morning meeting – a big shoutout to all our students and families who marked this special occasion. Whether you were celebrating with food, family, prayers, or new clothes – we hope it was full of joy and togetherness. Eid Mubarak from all of us! 🕌🎉

🎧 DJ Club Hits the Right Notes!

A massive well done to our brilliant Year 7s who took part in DJ Club after school on Wednesday! From mixing beats to keeping the vibes high, you showed real talent and creativity. Whether you're a future superstar DJ or just love music, it was great to see you getting involved. Keep spinning those tunes! 🎵🔥

Have a great weekend and see you next week!





YEAR 8

It has been another fantastic week for Year 8, and we are thrilled to share some highlights with you.

First and foremost, attendance continues to be a real strength for the year group – averaging an impressive 92.5%, which puts us head and shoulders above the rest of the school. A huge thank you for your continued support in making sure students are in every day and ready to learn.

A quick reminder: all Year 8 students are expected to complete three pieces of homework each week – Maths, Science, and Reader. Missing homework will result in a detention for each piece not completed, so please encourage your child to stay on top of their tasks and manage their time well.

We would also like to give a huge shout out to Rishab Jain and his team for their excellent work in organising and distributing rewards from the ClassCharts rewards store this week. The effort and positivity coming from so many students is something we are incredibly proud of – they really are doing the right things and it is not going unnoticed.

Finally, a small group of our Year 8 students jetted off to Milan on Tuesday as part of the Inter Milan Football Tour with Mr Johnson. We have had glowing feedback from staff and coaches abroad – the Inter coaches have described our students as ‘a delight’ and we hear they are conducting themselves to the highest standards, both on and off the pitch. Well done to everyone involved!

Mr Johnson and the Year 8 Team

YEAR 9

Happy Second Week of Summer 2 Y9 Family! The countdown to KS4 is on with us having 6 weeks to absolutely smash it with everything that is thrown at us, taking every opportunity with both hands and making the most of the run up to summer! ✨

So, what can we celebrate this week? Overnight trips galore have happened / are happening this week with the 2 night, 3 day PGL residential being an absolute success last week, a fun filled break where 4 of our wonderful Y9 girls decided to showcase their role model skills in front of the Y7/Y8 students when tackling the highs of the Giant Swing and the depths of the water in their kayaks! Really great influences on their younger peers and an absolute credit to the year group, Miss Ralph loved making those core memories with you girls so thank you Imaani, Tiff, Evie and Soph!



And this week, 30 of our wonderful Y9 family members have been lucky enough to jet off to Milan on the incredible Sports Tour! Lots of praise and recognition has been awarded to the group of youngsters already with Mr Bowser saying how “class” the boys had been on the long coach journey there and how the whole Y9 collective are a “great group” and are doing everything that is asked of them! We would expect nothing less and we can’t wait to hear all about it on their return early next week!



So, as we look ahead to the next 5 full weeks we think about all the great experiences, opportunities and adventures ahead and remind ourselves that in order to succeed and achieve we must follow the BASICS, get it right and show that 10/10 attitude and mantra that we follow every day!

Looking forward to seeing what else we can achieve and be a part of in the next few weeks Team Y9!

Let's keep this hard work and effort up and show everyone why we are the #BestYearTeam.

We have got you, so you have got to keep giving back to us!

Miss Ralph and the Year 9 Team



YEAR 10

Hi all, so chuffed to be stating our attendance has started to improve again. Thank you for everyone supporting getting the students into school.

Our very lucky crew of Milan students are living it up, breakfast in France, Lunch in Switzerland and Dinner in Italy. We are hearing lots of positive comments as well as receiving the following from the staff "Year10 students have been absolutely spot on"

Thank you to parents and carers who attended the Year 10 Parents' and Carers' Evening yesterday evening; lovely to see so many of you and so many positive conversations about how to ensure the very best exam results next summer.

Miss Malkin and the Year 10 Team



SIXTH FORM

We have had a busy week organising events for year 12 and the up-and-coming Year 11 induction day.

Year 12 will be participating in a trust wide Sports day and University Challenge on Friday 11th July.

We are looking forward to meeting the new Year 12 cohort on the induction day at Aston University – details are being sent out shortly.

We look forward to celebrating the year 13s at their leaver's assembly on Wednesday 11th.

A reminder to be logging on and completing your online learning.

We are still taking applications for anyone that would like to join the Gospel Oak 6th Form.

Your sincerely,

Mr Bala
Associate Assistant Principal Post 16



Year 12 student of the week –Hasti
Year 13 student of the week – All of them for their
persistent hard work during their exams
Year12 attendance – 92 %
Year 13 attendance – 90 %

Events –

11th June - Year 13 leavers assembly
4th July – Year 11 into year 12 transition day
8th – 10th July - Year 12 work experience
11th July sports day



To: All Parents/Carers

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13th June 2025

Our Ref: AM.KH.3298

Your Ref:

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Online Safety Webinars for Parents/Carers – Hosted by Kooth

We are pleased to share with you an exciting opportunity to take part in a free online webinar designed to support you in helping young people stay safe while using smartphones and the internet.

The webinars will be delivered remotely by *Kooth*, a trusted external agency that provides expert mental health and wellbeing support for young people. These short but informative sessions will focus on key aspects of online safety, including:

- Recognising online risks and how to manage them
- Setting boundaries and healthy screen time habits
- Communicating with young people about their online experiences

There are two available sessions, and you are welcome to attend either:

- **Wednesday 23rd July, 6:00pm – 6:30pm**
- **Thursday 24th July, 6:00pm – 6:30pm**

To attend, you will need to sign up in advance using the online referral form linked below:

<https://connect.kooth.com/events/event/23-jul-helping-young-people-stay-safe-on-smartphones-and-online>

These webinars are a valuable opportunity to increase awareness and confidence in supporting your son's/daughter's online safety. We highly encourage all parents and carers to take part.

If you have any questions or need help accessing the form, please don't hesitate to contact the relevant year team enquiry boxes, please use [Gospel Oak School - Contact Us](#)

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Mr A Mason

Associate Assistant Principal



To: Yr 11 Parents/Carers

13th June 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Year 11 Study Leave

Please see the details for next week:

Monday 16th June – Physics (am)

- All students attend school at 8.25am and register in the Theatre.
- Exam starts at 9.00am.
- All students to leave site after the exam after signing out in the Theatre. Please note that students who study Combined Science will be leaving site at about 10.30am, and students who study Triple Science will be leaving site at about 11.00am.

Tuesday 17th June – Spanish (am)

- GCSE Spanish students attend school at 8.25am and register in the Theatre.
- Exam starts at 9.00am.
- All students to leave site after the exam after signing out in the Theatre. Please note that students who study Foundation Spanish will be leaving site at about 10.15am, and students who study Higher Spanish will be leaving site at about 10.30am.

Wednesday 18th June – DT (am), Further Maths (pm)

- GCSE DT students attend school at 8.25am and register in the Theatre.
- GCSE DT exam at 9.00am.
- All DT students to leave site after the exam after signing out in the Theatre; this will be at about 11.15am.
- GCSE Further Maths students to arrive on site at 10.00am and sign in at the Theatre for revision.
- GCSE Further Maths exam at 1.00pm.
- GCSE Further Maths students to leave site at about 2.50pm after the exam.

If your daughter and/or son is entitled to Free School Meals and you wish for these to be provided at this time, or have any other questions, please contact the Year 11 Team via [Gospel Oak School - Contact Us](#) so that arrangements can be made.

Yours faithfully,

Miss C Middlehurst
Senior Vice Principal

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Our Ref: CM.KH.3308

Your Ref:



To: Parents/Carers

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13th June 2025

Our Ref: SBO.KH.3307

Your Ref:

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Gospel Oak School Rules

Thank you for your ongoing support with the continuous improvements at Gospel Oak School. We believe it is essential to regularly review our systems and processes, involving a wide range of stakeholders—especially our students.

As you may be aware, we conduct half-termly student voice sessions with a diverse group of students. This half term, our focus has been on the Gospel Oak School rules. Please find attached the school rules, which have been developed in collaboration with our School Council representatives. These rules have been shared with students during assemblies and will be included in both our staff and student handbooks.

Each term, we will ask our students to agree to our Code of Conduct. As we move forward as a school community, it is vital that we all respect the rules established by our students. We are on a journey of growth and student voice plays a key role in shaping our school environment.

We are very proud of the rules outlined by the students and kindly ask for your support in encouraging your sons/daughters to follow them. Students appreciate clear rules and boundaries, and when everyone consistently adheres to these processes, we create a safe and positive learning environment where both staff and students can thrive.

Ultimately, this approach helps us develop well-rounded young people who will leave Gospel Oak School with excellent outcomes.

Thank you once again for your partnership and support.

Kind regards,

Miss S Bott
Senior Vice Principal

Gospel Oak School Rules

Students should...

1. **Be on time to school and all lessons.**
2. **Attend school everyday.**
3. **Treat other members of the school community with respect.**
4. **Behave in lesson time**
 - Always follow the teacher's (or other member of staff's) instructions.
 - Wait until you are invited to speak in the classroom and not shout answers out.
 - Respect the teacher's and other students' contributions and not talk while others are giving feedback.
 - Ensure the classroom is an orderly environment to learn in and not get out of your seat, unless you have been given permission to do so.
5. **Bring the correct stationery and equipment to all lessons.**
6. **Be correctly dressed in the school uniform.**
7. **Neither take part in or tolerate bullying nor any form of discrimination.**
8. **Walk on the left along corridors and on stairs.**
9. **Remain on the school premises throughout break and lunch times.**
10. **Only eat food in the designated areas.**
11. **Stay 'in bounds' during break and lunch times.**
12. **Follow school rules regarding mobile phones.**
13. **Not bring in prohibited Items. For example:**
 - Chewing gum
 - Energy drinks
 - Matches
 - Lighters
 - Cigarettes
 - Electronic cigarettes (also known as 'e-cigarettes' or 'e-lites' or 'vapes')
 - Illegal substances
 - Weapons

COMMUNITY

Holiday Food Vouchers

Dear parents/carers

We are pleased to confirm that school holiday vouchers for children in receipt of benefit-related free school meals will resume this term. Families will receive two vouchers – one in July 2025 to cover Easter and Whitsun holidays (backdated) and the six week summer holiday. This works out as nine weeks at £10 per week and totals £90.

A second voucher will be issued in December 2025 to cover the October half-term (backdated) and the Christmas and February half-term holidays. This works out as four weeks at £10 per week and totals £40.

If you have any questions please contact our finance team.

Miss H Nutting

A WALK IN THE PARK
FOR MEN'S MENTAL HEALTH IN SANDWELL

#MOVEMORESANDWELL

FRIDAY 13, SATURDAY 14 AND SUNDAY 15 JUNE 2025

SIX COMMUNITY PARK WALKS WELLBEING ADVICE AND SUPPORT
FREE ACTIVITIES ON SUNDAY 15 JUNE AT WEST SMETHWICK PARK FROM 1PM

www.healthysandwell.co.uk/walkinthepark

WALKING SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

SANDWELL BETTER MENTAL HEALTH
Better mental health for all

HEALTHY SANDWELL
We find the support you need

Sandwell
Metropolitan Borough Council

UK Health Security Agency

NHS

Measles is still common in many countries worldwide

Make sure you and your loved ones are up to date with MMR vaccinations.

Contact your GP practice if you need to catch up before.

ALBION Football Club
The spirit of our family

HALF-TERM HOLIDAY
FOOTBALL CAMPS

10:00AM - 3:30PM | AGES 4-14

WEEK LONG CAMPS ACROSS VARIOUS VENUES DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

£20 PER DAY

£85 FOR 5 DAYS

Summer Term Parent Support Series

Free Parent Webinars

Join us and Elevate Education for FREE 60-minute webinars designed to help you support your child's studies at home.

[Click here to Register](#)

In the Summer Term, we'll cover:

1. **Ask Me Anything (Live Q&A)**
- 6th May @6:00pm (BST)
2. **How You Can Help Improve Your Child's Memory**
- 20th May @6:00pm (BST)
3. **How to Help Your Child Alleviate Stress**
- 17th June @6:00pm (BST)
4. **How to Get (And Keep!) Your Child Motivated**
- 1st July @6:00pm (BST)
5. **How You Can Set Your Child Up for Success**
- 15th July @6:00pm (BST)

elevate
education



SHAPE CAREERS EXPO 2025

SATURDAY 12 JULY 2025
12 NOON – 3 PM

A fantastic opportunity for 14 - 19-year-olds (and up to 24 years with an EHCP) to be inspired about future career opportunities.



Discover next steps with employers, apprenticeship providers, colleges, universities and Connexions Sandwell Careers Advisors all under one marquee roof!

At Sandwell Valley, Salter's Lane, West Bromwich, B71 4BG

To register for your free tickets:
click on the events tab on our website or
scan the QR code



www.connexionssandwell.co.uk

