

# Gospel Oak Weekly Newsletter

## w.e. 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025



### UPCOMING DATES

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June - Year 12 Induction, Aston University

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July - Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July - Year 10 Work Experience

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July - Year 6 Transition Day

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July - Reward Trips, - Drayton Manor, Twycross Zoo and Weston-Super-Mare

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July - Reward Trips - Showcase Cinema and Bowling, Thorpe Park and Go Ape

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July - Year 6 Transition Day

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July - Year 6 Parents' Evening

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July - Year 13 Prom

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July - Awards Evening

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July - Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July - School Production

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> July - Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July - Year 12 Work Experience

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July - Coach Bright Graduation - Uni of Birmingham

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July - Trust 6<sup>th</sup> Form Quiz and Sports Day

### ASSEMBLY THEMES

Assembly focus this week was School Diversity Week

w/c 30<sup>th</sup> June - Mental Health Awareness

w/c 07<sup>th</sup> July = Rewards Assembly

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

## MESSAGE FROM MISS MIDDLEHURST, SENIOR VICE PRINCIPAL

The temperature has been a little cooler this week, but school has continued to be extremely busy. Congratulations to over 40 of our students who took part in the Trust Athletics' competition last Friday, and particularly to our Year 10s who ran out as overall victors in their year group event. This week has seen a fabulous Year 11 Prom at the Black Country Museum, and it was lovely to see so many of our Year 11 students again; this was a wonderful evening for students to be able to celebrate the end of their academic year. Year 6 to Year 7 transition activities have begun on-site with a number of our SEND learners coming to visit, and we welcomed in several Year 8 parents and carers for our coffee morning. A group of students from Year 8 took part in the Trust-wide RSA8 programme, visiting Newman University in Birmingham. Well done to our Year 10 students who are currently running campaigns for Head Boy and Head Girl, another really exciting venture for both the students and for the school.

Plans are well underway for next week which is no less busy! Year 10 students will be learning all about the world of work as they take part in their Work Experience programme; we are very much looking forward to finding out all about the learning they have undertaken. Our English department will also be working with Year 10 students next week on launching the Speaking and Listening aspects of their GCSE English Language qualification; this is a great opportunity for our students to demonstrate the importance of communication, such a vital component of success in all aspects of life. There are two very busy days of trips on Wednesday and Thursday for students in Years 7, 8 and 9 with a huge variety of different visits taking place; Weston-Super-Mare, Drayton Manor, Twycross Zoo, and Thorpe Park are just some of the venues that are students have been able to choose from to visit. Our new Year 6 students will be joining us for two days, too, to learn all about student life at Gospel Oak, and we look forward to welcoming their parents and carers into school next Thursday evening as well.

I have written previously about the importance of homework and how we are currently reviewing our provision; processes are in place to significantly streamline the number of online platforms that we are using from September, and it is clear that we need to ensure that students are completing more paper-based homework. Year 10 parents and carers will start to see an increase in the amount of homework being set; as we adjust the systems for homework, we aim to iron out any teething problems this side of the summer holiday. Further information will follow in due course; in the meantime, students In Years 7-9 should continue to complete their Sparx homework as they have been doing previously.

I hope you have a lovely weekend; a reminder that if you have any questions or need any support or information about things happening at school, please use Gospel Oak School - Home to get in touch.

# YEAR TEAM UPDATES

YEAR 7

## 🎉 Year 7 Weekly Round-Up: A Week of Positivity, Progress, and Participation! ✨

This week has been full of fantastic achievements, meaningful moments, and real displays of Year 7 resilience and talent. We're proud to share with you what our brilliant students have been up to across the week.

### 📅 Monday

We kicked off the week on a real high, with Year 7 attendance climbing to an outstanding **96%** 📈—the highest it's been! This is a fantastic achievement and reflects the commitment our students are making to their learning. By attending every day, they're not only gaining the knowledge needed to succeed, but they're also building crucial life skills like resilience and consistency—both of which are vital for success come Year 11 and beyond 💎

### 🗣️ Tuesday

In our morning meeting, we spoke with students about the importance of strong starts and finishes in every lesson 🕒. We reminded them of our shared expectations—how to enter calmly, settle into their seats with purpose, and exit lessons in a respectful and focused manner. These routines help create a smooth, calm school day and support a strong learning environment. Later that afternoon, our **Year 7 girls' rounders team** 🏏 took part in their very first tournament. Narrowly missing out on the top spot by just one rounder, they placed an impressive **second** 🏆—a brilliant achievement for their debut! A huge well done to the team for their determination and teamwork 🙌🔥.



### 🧠 Midweek Support

Miss Hampton has led targeted intervention sessions this week with a group of students, focusing on how to manage anxiety and build self-confidence 💬✨. The feedback from students has been incredibly positive, and it's been fantastic to see them engaging openly and reflectively in these sessions 😊.

### 👨👩 Friday – Parent Visit & Talent Show 🎤

We were delighted to welcome a group of parents into Gospel Oak for a morning visit. After enjoying some delicious sweet treats 🍰 prepared by our talented Year 10 cooking students, parents had the chance to view a showcase of excellent Year 7 work 📚 before going on a guided tour of the school. It was a pleasure to open our doors and share the amazing efforts and progress of our students—we look forward to the next one in the new academic year!

Also on Friday, during P1, some of our very own Year 7s took to the stage for **Gospel Oak's Got Talent** 🎵. Their bravery, enthusiasm, and positivity were truly inspiring. A massive well done to everyone who took part—you did Year 7 proud! 🌟🔥



## YEAR 8

As we cruise through **Week 4 of the final half-term**, we can proudly say that **Year 8 are ending the year on a high** 🎯. It's been a week of **ups, downs, breakthroughs, and big wins**, and throughout it all, our incredible students have shown **grit, unity, and determination** 🧡❤️. This year group really are a family—and this week, they proved it once again.

We were absolutely thrilled to welcome so many of you to our **Year 8 Coffee Morning!** Hosted by the dream team—**Mr Johnson and Mr Marrs**—parents were treated to:

- 🏠 A **behind-the-scenes tour** of the school
- A front-row seat into live lessons
- 📖 An **in-depth book look** to see just how far your children have come
- 🔧 A presentation on the team's ongoing work to **boost behaviour and attendance** across the year group

The atmosphere was full of warmth, pride, and collaboration. Thank you to everyone who joined us—you are such an important part of the Year 8 journey 🧡.

This week, a select group of Year 8 students joined **Miss Smith** for the **RSA8 programme**, and what a phenomenal day it was! ✨ Students visited **Newman University**, where they:

- 🗣️ Heard from **inspiring guest speakers** on real-world social issues
- 👉 Took part in thought-provoking workshops
- 🗣️ Delivered their own presentations with confidence and passion

And it doesn't stop there... These students are now **planning their own community project: a market stall selling unused and unwanted clothes** to raise money for **local charities** 🗣️💬❤️. An incredible example of young people turning learning into **real-world impact!**

This week, Year 8 also attended **two powerful and thought-provoking assemblies** led by members of our **Senior Leadership Team**:

- 👤 **Mr Dunkley** delivered an impactful session on the **effects of racism**, encouraging our students to be courageous, inclusive, and always speak up for what's right.
- 💚 Our brilliant **Mental Health First Aiders** led an uplifting session on **resilience and taking care of our mental wellbeing**, leaving students with practical tips, motivation, and a message of hope.

These assemblies sparked real reflection and meaningful conversations across the year group. So proud of how maturely Year 8 engaged!

💚 A massive round of applause for **Leah Smith, Evie Roper, and Olivia Mia Reardon**, who took part in **Race for Life** last weekend and raised an **incredible £3,000** between them for cancer research charities! 🧡👉🌟

These amazing girls have done us all proud—they are walking (and running!) reminders of how powerful kindness and action can be.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support.

Mr Johnson and the Year 8 Team

## YEAR 9

Happy Fourth Week of Summer 2 Y9 Family! The next 4 weeks are going to be filled with lots of exciting experiences and opportunities including rewards trips, Gospel Oaks Got Talent, GOS Sports Day and lots of preparation for our transition in to KS4 and our options starting in September! So much to look forward to and we can't wait to be a part of that journey and continue making the memories! ✨

So, what can we celebrate this week? We are very fortunate in Year 9 to have some absolutely superstar sportsmen and women who consistently go above and beyond to represent not only our Y9 family but also our Gospel Oak School community as a whole. Some of our chosen Sports Leaders visited Wednesbury Oak Primary School to run a range of fun and active sessions for National School Sports Week!

This was the first time a lot of the pupils had led anyone other than their peers in PE lessons, but they were able to develop their skills and teamwork. In each session, the primary school pupils rotated three times to participate in a variety of what was on offer from our GOS leaders. The activities offered were: pickleball, athletics, handball, parachute, ultimate frisbee target practice and team building. GOS Year 9 Sports Leaders received the highest compliments and praise from the staff at Wednesbury Oak and the children were appreciative of the opportunities provided to them – We are SO proud of you Diego, Charlie, Eshan, Ethan, Jovan, Sanna, Natalie, Davinelle, Josepha, Rach, Alexandra, Brianna, Kayla and Lexi! 🏆🌟



Now as we look ahead to the next few weeks we think about all the great experiences, opportunities and adventures ahead. We need to ensure we 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! Our family is built on respect, kindness, care but also effort in everything we do and put our mind to – So let's continue to show this!

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 #BestYearTear

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

Miss Ralph and the Year 9 Team

# YEAR 10

And we are off !!!

We now have our 9 candidates who are running for Head Boy and Head Girl and we cannot say thankyou enough to everyone involved, supporting and encouraging.

There really is a whole school buzz where all students from each year group are voting for who inspires them.



This week our amazing Mental Health First Aiders have inspired the school talking and educating around the stigma of mental health along with strategies to support all of our students thankyou Treasure E, Grace W, Kaden C, Bawandeeep and Hamreet K we are so proud of you.



Next week we are out on our Work Experience placements out about in the world of work. A few reminders below if you can support please

### **Before You Go**

1. **Be Prepared:**  
Know where you're going, how to get there, and what time to arrive. Make a good first impression.
2. **Dress Appropriately:**  
Wear what's expected – smart, tidy, and suitable for the environment.
3. **Understand the Basics:**  
Learn the name of your supervisor and what your main tasks might be. Ask if unsure!!

### **During the Placement**

4. **Be On Time, Every Day:**  
Punctuality shows responsibility and respect.
5. **Have a Positive Attitude:**  
Be polite, enthusiastic, and willing to help. Smile, even if the job is small.
6. **Ask Questions:**  
Don't be afraid to ask how things work. You're there to learn.
7. **Be Safe:**  
Follow all safety rules. Wear any given lanyard / high-vis etc. If you're unsure about something – ask first.
8. **Use Your Initiative:**  
Look for ways to be helpful – but always check before doing anything new.
9. **Respect Everyone:**  
Be courteous to all staff, customers, and other students – you're representing Gospel Oak.

### **Reflection and Learning**

10. **Keep a Record:**  
Note what you're doing and learning in your Work Experience diary.
11. **Think About the Future:**  
Even if this isn't your dream job, think about what skills you're developing – communication, teamwork, time management.
12. **Say Thank You:**  
Be polite at the end – a simple thank you can go a long way (a handwritten note is even better).

Thank you all.



Miss Malkin and the Year 10 Team

## SIXTH FORM

Year 12 have started to complete their UCAS application, this is an important part of their journey into their next steps for the future.

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 – Celine M  
Year12 attendance – 92 %

### Events –

4th July – Year 11 into year 12 Transition day

8th – 10th July - Year 12 Work Experience

11th July – Trust University challenge and sports day

14th August – A level results day



To: All Parents/Carers

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27th June 2025

**Our Ref:** HT.KH.3310

**Your Ref:**

Dear Parent / Carer,

**Re: Exam Invigilators**

We are reaching out to share an exciting opportunity to become more involved in our school community. We are currently looking to recruit **exam invigilators** to support us during our examination periods over the course of the next academic year. Our examination periods comprise of; mock examinations in October, February and April and external examinations which take place through November, January and from May to mid-June.

Exam invigilators play a vital role in ensuring that our assessments are conducted smoothly, fairly and according to strict guidelines. This is a paid, casual hours position ideally suited to individuals who are reliable, punctual and have a calm and supportive manner. No prior experience is required, as full training will be provided.

**Key Responsibilities Include:**

Supervising students during exams, for example:

- Distributing and collecting exam papers
- Ensuring exam conditions are maintained
- Assisting with any queries during the exam process

We believe that parents/carers and members of our school community bring a valuable perspective and commitment to this role. If you have some time available during term time and would enjoy helping students succeed in a calm, structured environment, we would love to hear from you.

**To Apply:**

Please contact the HR department on [goshr@gospeloakschool.co.uk](mailto:goshr@gospeloakschool.co.uk) or by calling us on 0121 556 1351 for more information or to request an application form.

Thank you for your continued support. We hope you will consider joining our team in this important capacity.

Yours sincerely,

**HelenTanner**  
**SeniorVice Principal**



To: All Parents/Carers

27<sup>th</sup> June 2025

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**Our Ref:** PG.KH.3318

Dear Parent / Carer,

**Re: Identifying and Supporting Young Carers – Family Questionnaire**

At Gospel Oak School, we strive to ensure that all our students receive not only academic support but also comprehensive support for their overall wellbeing. Some students in our school community may be young carers – young people who help to care for someone at home with a disability, illness, mental health condition or addiction.

Recent statistics show that:

- Over 800,000 young carers are estimated to live in the UK.
- Approximately one in five secondary school students may be a young carer, although many remain hidden and unsupported.
- Young carers are more likely to struggle with attendance, emotional wellbeing, and academic progress.

Young carers often assume essential roles, such as assisting with household tasks, caring for siblings, managing medications or offering emotional support. While many do this with love and pride, the extra responsibility can sometimes impact their education, social life and mental health.

We want to ensure that no young person takes on too much or goes without support. To help us identify any students who may be young carers, we invite families to complete a short and confidential questionnaire. This will enable us to understand whether your son or daughter has caring responsibilities and, if so, how we can provide the necessary support.

Can I please ask that you click and complete the following [MS Form](#).

All information shared will be handled confidentially and with care. Where needed, we can connect families with helpful services, both within the school and in the broader community.

Thank you for working with us to help ensure that every student at Gospel Oak School feels seen, supported and valued.

Yours sincerely,

**Parm Grewal**  
**VicePrincipal – Designated Safeguarding Lead**



To: Parents/Carers

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25th June 2025

**Our Ref:**

**Your Ref:**

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Re: Gospel Oak School Sports' Day Festival – Thursday 17th July 2025**

We are delighted to be able to let you know the arrangements for our Sports' Day Festival; this will be held at Gospel Oak School on Thursday 17th July. This is a fantastic occasion in the school calendar, when all members of the school are able to come together to celebrate sport and the school community in our fantastic facilities on site.

All students Years 7-10 are encouraged to take part in Sports' Day Festival; form tutors and the PE department will be working with students to plan teams and events in preparation for the day. All arrangements for the day will be clearly explained to students in school in advance; we are also grateful for your support in talking through the following organisational points with your son/daughter:

- All students should arrive at school at 8.25am in their full Gospel Oak School PE kit. Please note that
- 'Croc's' are NOT permitted, and midriiffs must not be exposed.
- The day will celebrate sport in all lights, from traditional track and field events to opportunities to take part in a sports quiz, making banners to support their tutor group, rounders tournaments and the option to take part in either dodgeball or football tournaments.

**All students**

- Students must bring extra fluids for the day in order to stay hydrated. No carbonated or energy drinks are permitted.
- Students should prepare for all weather eventualities – they should have sun cream, a hat, a waterproof jacket. Students may also wish to bring an umbrella to provide protection from rain and/or sun.
- Students should ensure that all medication – for example, for hayfever – is taken as needed before the school day. Our school policy for 'Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions' applies for those students who may need to take medication during the day: <https://www.schoolbus.co.uk/compliancemanager/public/supporting-pupils-with-medical-conditions-policy/6747e87e-76ea-45ef-bb2a-432f026f86ce/11405> . First Aid will be provided on school site.
- Attendance is compulsory and our school 'Attendance Policy' – (see <https://www.schoolbus.co.uk/compliancemanager/public/attendance--punctuality-policy/88a8498b-75e1-46f0-bb16-e0701b3def82/82033> ) applies.

Please note that, in the event of extreme weather conditions, adaptations to the day will be made if deemed necessary by school staff.

We are very much looking forward to our Sports' Day Festival; thank you for encouraging your son/daughter to participate and for your support of the school for this significant event for our school community.

Yours faithfully,



**Miss P Thacker**  
**Director of Learning & Standards for PE**



**Mr C Field**  
**Director of Learning & Standards for PE**



To: Yr 7 to 10 Parents/Carers

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27th June 2025

**Our Ref:** SBr.KH.3300

**Your Ref:**

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Re: Years 7 to 11 End of Term Arrangements**

I am writing to inform you of the end of term arrangements and those for the start of term in September.

School will finish at 12.20pm for all year groups on the last day of this term, Friday 18th July. Any students who are unable to find their own way home at that time may remain in school where they will be supervised until 3.00pm. Please let us know by Tuesday 8th July using the 'Contact Form' at [Gospel Oak School - Contact Us](#) should you wish your son/daughter to remain in school until 3.00pm.

May I please remind you of the importance of good attendance right up until the end of term? Although we are approaching the end of the academic year, students will still be completing important work, including in some cases, coursework/controlled assessments and therefore it is vital that they maintain their attendance right up until the last day.

I would like to take this opportunity to let you know that we have finalised the dates for the staff training days and the arrangements for the start of the autumn term. The complete set of term dates can be found at [Gospel Oak School - Term Dates](#). The school will re-open for all students in next year's Year 11 and 12 on Wednesday 3rd September at 8.30am and for all students in next year's Years 8, 9 and 10 on Thursday 4th September at 8.30am.

I wish you all a very happy summer break.

Yours sincerely,

**Mr S Brownlow**  
**Executive Principal**



To: Yr 12 Parents/Carers

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27th June 2025

**Our Ref:** SBr.KH.3299

**Your Ref:**

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Re: Year 12 End of Term Arrangements**

I am writing to inform you of the end of term arrangements and those for the start of term in September.

School will finish at 12.20pm for all year groups on the last day of this term, Friday 18th July.

I would like to take this opportunity to let you know that we have finalised the dates for the staff training days and the arrangements for the start of the autumn term. The complete set of term dates can be found at [Gospel Oak School - Term Dates](#). Consequently, the school will re-open for all students in next year's Year 13 on Thursday 4th September at 8.30am.

I wish you all a very happy summer break.

Yours sincerely,

**Mr S Brownlow**  
Executive Principal