

Gospel Oak Weekly Newsletter

w.e. 12th September 2025



UPCOMING DATES

Monday 15th September - Year 7 Photographs

Thursday 18th September - Year 6 Open Evening

Wednesday 24th September - Year 12 Settling In Evening

Friday 26th September - Macmillan Coffee Parent Afternoon, 1.15pm-2.50pm

Wednesday 8th October - Year 7 Settling in Evening

Friday 10th October - Futures Fair



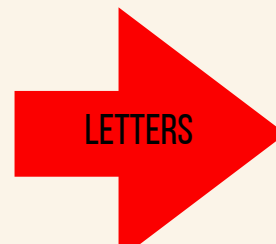
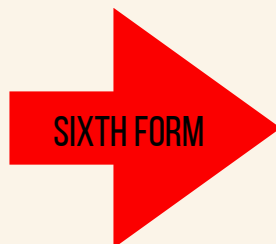
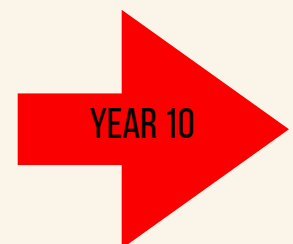
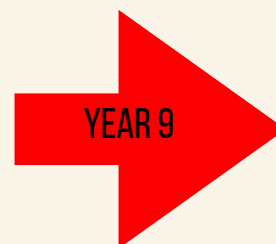
ASSEMBLY THEMES

Assembly focus this week was International Literacy Day, 8th September

w.c 15/09 - Caring for each other - moral responsibility for the well-being of others

w.c 22/09 - European Day of Languages, 26th September

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



MESSAGE FROM MISS MIDDLEHURST, SENIOR VICE PRINCIPAL

We have been very impressed with just how quickly students have settled back into routines, and adapted to their new school year. New timetables always bring lots of changes with different teachers, different rooms, different students in classes to name just a few; the lanyards are very definitely helping students to stay organised, and to maximise their learning time. A reminder that the lanyards are a compulsory part of school uniform, so do please continue to check that your daughter and/or son has these as they leave the house.

As you will know from my letter earlier in the week, we are making a change to our Free School Meal provision from Monday; it is really important that everyone understands that the Free School Meal allowance (£2.60) will only be available at lunchtime and that if students who receive Free School Meals wish to have something to eat at break, parents and carers will need to have put money onto their School Gateway account. Students have had numerous messages about this; the provision is for a 'meal' and meals are only available at lunchtime. Please do reinforce this message with your daughter and/or son; as we often reference in our newsletter and so many of our communications, there are so many aspects of learning which happen at school and the importance of a healthy, balanced diet is another example. I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you about our breakfast provision, with all students welcome to have a free breakfast in the Restaurant in school from 8am.

Please ensure that homework is being completed at home this weekend; hard work brings about academic success and the work that students undertake outside of school is key to this. Whilst much homework will be paper-based, please do let us know through [Gospel Oak School - Contact Us](#) if your daughter and/or son needs support with an electronic device at home to complete homework; we will do our best to help.

A reminder that it is our Open Evening for prospective new Year 7 students from September 2026 next Thursday; details can be found on the school website. I look forward to seeing many of our current parents and carers join us for the event, along with many new ones. As always, we hope you have a lovely weekend, and please get in touch through [Gospel Oak School - Contact Us](#) if we can help in any way.

YEAR TEAM UPDATES



YEAR 7

We've been so impressed with how you've started this crucial year – what a brilliant first week it has been!

Attendance matters

Year 7 have BEEN SUPERB, attendance so far this week = 98%. On Tuesday we had 100% attendance – the first time a year group has achieved this in 15 years!
Every single day in school makes a difference, and we're aiming high for the very best this year.

Homework Matters

The **homework schedule** is back up and running. All tasks are available to check on **ClassCharts**, and deadlines begin **next week**. Remember: homework detentions will take place at **lunchtime** for those who do not complete work on time. Let's get into great habits now.

Uniform Reminder

Lanyards and bags are **compulsory parts of school uniform**. Lanyards must be worn **around your neck** – not in pockets or bags. Let's keep our presentation smart and consistent.

Punctuality

You must be in line up by 8.30am or you will be marked as late. If you are late, you must report to the **theatre at break time** for a late detention. Every minute counts – let's make the most of our time in Year 7

Clubs Are BACK!

Extracurricular sign-ups opened this week and the excitement was real! From sports to music, drama to STEM – Year 7s are READY to get involved and show what they're made of!
Mr Wilson & Mr Minton will be running football club – open to ALL

Thank you to everyone for making this such a fantastic start to the year – now we need to maintain it.

Mr Wilson and the Year 7 Team



We've had a fantastic start to the term, and we want to take a moment to say how proud we are of how well our Year 8s have settled back into school life. Their positive attitude and energy have really stood out this week!

🎯 Attendance Update

We're thrilled to share that **Year 8 attendance hit over 97% mid-week** – an excellent achievement! Thank you for your continued support in getting students into school each day. Regular attendance is a key factor in strong academic progress and future GCSE success. Let's keep pushing for even better!

🍰 Macmillan Morning – Friday 29th September


We're looking forward to supporting a fantastic cause with our Macmillan Morning on Friday 26th September. Students are invited to bring in cakes to donate, or money to buy some tasty treats during break time. All proceeds go to Macmillan Cancer Support – thank you in advance for your generosity!



Free School Meals Update - Please note that from **Monday 15th September**, free school meals will only be available for use at **lunchtime not breaktime**. Students who are eligible will need to plan accordingly. If you have any questions or require support, please contact us.

🎉 What's New This Term?

- 🎯 **Class Charts Reward Store – Now Open!**
Starting 12th September, students can place orders through Class Charts the night before. Rewards can be collected the next day from the reward store. Keep earning those points!
- ⚽ **Extra-Curricular Clubs – Sign Up from 12th September**
From Sign Language to Football, we've got a club for everyone. Sign-up on Friday 12th September at lunchtime in the sports hall, so don't miss out! Full club lists will be available on the year 8 notice board and from your tutors.

HT1 Extra Curricular Clubs			
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Lunchtime (12:20 pm – 12:55 pm): ■ Choir – F15 ■ Geography Club – F9 After School (3:00 pm – 4:00 pm) ■ Drama Club – G9 ■ Y8 Football Club – Pavilion ■ Netball – Pavilion	Lunchtime (12:20 pm – 12:55 pm) ■ Book Club – U9 ■ Y9 Booklet Club – S9 ■ History Club – G6 ■ GCSE Art Intervention – G3 After School (3:00 pm – 4:00 pm) ■ Y9 Football Club – Pavilion ■ Badminton Club – PE Changing Rooms ■ Hospitality Revision – G14	Lunchtime (12:20 pm – 12:55 pm) ■ Dance Club – Dance Studio ■ GCSE Art Intervention – G3 After School (3:00 pm – 5:15 pm) ■ Cadets – MUGA	Lunchtime (12:20 pm – 12:55 pm) ■ Women & Girls Empowerment Club – U1 ■ Y7, Y8 & Y9 Chess and Homework Club – L5 ■ Band – F15 ■ GCSE Art Intervention – G3 After School (3:00 pm – 4:00 pm) ■ Y10 & Y11 Football Club – Pavilion ■ Y7 Football Club – Pavilion ■ Hospitality Revision – G14 ■ Cadets – MUGA – 3:00 – 5:15
	Friday		
	Lunchtime (12:20 pm – 12:55 pm) ■ Y7, Y8 & Y9 Chess and Homework Club – L5 ■ Choir – F15 ■ GCSE Art Intervention – G3 ■ British Sign Language Club – HIVE After School (3:00 pm – 4:00 pm) ■ GCSE Speaking Club – S10 ■ Friday Fun – PE Changing Rooms		

Reminders

- Uniform: Please ensure students are wearing full, correct uniform each day. Hoodies and non-school jumpers are not permitted.
- Lanyards: These must be brought and worn every day – they are essential for student safety and access around school.

Final Word from the Year 8 Team

We are so proud of how well Year 8 students are settling in. Your maturity, effort, and positive attitude are shining through. Let's keep the momentum going – hard work and commitment now lead to great results later!

Thank you for your continued support.

Have a great week

Mr Bowser and the Year 8 Team



🎉 WHAT A WEEK, YEAR 9! 🎉

We've just wrapped up our **first full week back**, and WOW — what a start! 🌟 The energy, the effort, the excellence... Year 9, you've come back **STRONG!** 🙌🔥

⚽ **Football Fever!**

Our incredible Year 9 football team kicked off their season with an EPIC training session led by the legendary Mr Johnson. Blood, sweat, and maybe even a tear or two were shed 💧😭 — but the boys gave it **everything**. Mr Johnson was **buzzing with pride** and we know this is just the beginning of something special. ⚽🏆

📈 **Attendance on POINT!**

This week, we smashed it with an **average attendance of 95%** — YES, NINETY-FIVE! 🙌 That's a HUGE leap in the right direction, and it shows just how committed this year group is. Big shoutout to our awesome parents and carers for backing the mission. 🌟👏
#AttendanceMatters #OnTheUp

🌟 **Clubs Are BACK!**

Extracurricular sign-ups opened this week and the excitement was real! 😍 From sports to music, drama to STEM — Year 9s are **READY** to get involved and show what they're made of! 🎨🎵🏆⚽

🎤 **Assembly Goals!**

Miss Tiso delivered an inspiring assembly on the **power of literacy** 📖🌟 and we were blown away by the **respect and maturity** shown by the year group. Mr Marris said the behaviour was "outstanding" — and SLT were literally speechless 😲 with comments like:

👉 "The best entrance to an assembly I've seen all week!"

👉 "Year 9 standards are sky high!"

We see you, Year 9! 🙌🙌🙌

🎯 **Eyes on the Prize**

Every step we take is building toward that big goal — your **GCSEs** 🎓. And let's be real — giving you the best education possible is the **GREATEST** form of care we can offer. So let's keep pushing, supporting, and dreaming big. 🌟🚀

🙌 **Thank You!**

To our families: thank you for the energy, the encouragement, and the belief. ❤️ We're so excited for what's to come this year — and this is just the beginning.

Let's keep the momentum going, Year 9 — the future is **OURS!** 🌈

Mr Johnson and the Year 9 Team



Week 2 of Autumn 1, Year 10 at GOS done already! The days are flying by and success and achievements are also flying in so let's talk about what we have experienced this week because we have LOTS to be proud of already! 🌞

This week saw the Year 10 family embark on their homework journey here at Gospel Oak with all subjects (options and core) setting homework in order to stretch, challenge and support students to achieve their targets and goals for the future. Students have taken this new part of their school journey in their stride and we are seeing a real committed, mature attitude towards learning which we couldn't be prouder of! A shout out must go here to our wonderful students for how they are tackling this transition into KS4 but also a shout out to parents/ carers / guardians who are also doing all they can to support but also push students to be the best versions of themselves! We can't wait to continue watching them smash these goals in preparation for their GCSEs – We know you can and will do so well Year 10!

As well as thinking of academic success and accomplishments, Miss Ralph announced on Monday the return of Extracurricular clubs and encouraged all of the Year 10 family to be grasping these opportunities with both hands and ensuring that right balance between working hard academically and working hard physically and mentally is prioritised! On Friday, the Sports Hall turned into an Extracurricular fayre where sign-ups opened and students were able to go and get their names down to be a part of some fantastic clubs! We can't wait to see and hear what they all have to offer!

When thinking of success within Team Y10 we have to be reminded daily of the BASICS that we follow here at GOS particularly focusing on and prioritising our attendance as always! We are seeing **attendance** improving slowly but surely seeing high figures of 93% on Tuesday which is something to recognise of course, however, we CAN and MUST do better so we need to be ensuring that we are in school every day on time in order to succeed and achieve because that is what we are all here for and what we all want! By being in school every single day and gaining 95% attendance or higher students give themselves an 80% chance of passing Maths and English at grade 4 or above. That's four out of five pupils. Wouldn't it be incredible if in August 2027 when our Y10 family open those envelopes we are flooded with grade 4s and above? Let's make it happen, be here, at school every day, succeeding and achieving! ✨

Now, as we look ahead to week 3 of Autumn 1, let's see what our 10/10 attitude towards learning, our 10/10 mindset towards success and achievement and our 10/10 positivity every single day can get us – Let's go TEAM GREEN! ❤️

Miss Ralph and the Year 10 Team



YEAR 11

Welcome Back Year 11!

We've been so impressed with how you've started this crucial year – what a brilliant first week it has been!

Strong Start

Year 11 have hit the ground running with an excellent **97% attendance so far this week**. Every single day in school makes a difference, and we're aiming high for the very best results this year. Line ups have also been **immaculate** – a real credit to you all. Keep it up!

Homework Matters

The **homework schedule** is back up and running. All tasks are available to check on **ClassCharts**, and deadlines begin **next week**. Remember: homework detentions will take place at **lunchtime in F3** for those who do not complete work on time. Let's get into great habits now.

Uniform Reminder

Lanyards and bags are **compulsory parts of school uniform**. Lanyards must be worn **around your neck** – not in pockets or bags. Let's keep our presentation smart and consistent.

Punctuality

Lateness to school needs to decrease. If you are late, you must report to the **theatre at break time** for a late detention. Every minute counts – let's make the most of our time in Year 11.

Key Date

Save the dates:

Parents' Evening – Thursday 11th December

Mock Exams – Start date 13th October

Get Involved

We're looking for Year 11 volunteers to help at our upcoming **Year 6 Open Evening**. If you'd like to support your subject, please speak directly to your teachers.

We're so proud of the start you've made – now let's keep the momentum going and show what Team Year 11 can achieve this year!

Miss Malkin and the Year 11 Team



We have had a productive first week back with students engaged in lessons. It is positive to see so many students proactive and working hard in lessons and in the sixth form area.

We would kindly ask that any forms that have been handed to students to complete are completed and returned by Monday 15th September.

We are still currently taking applications for year 12, contact us on - sixthformenquiry@gospeloakschool.co.uk

Your sincerely,

Mr Bala
Associate Assistant Principal Post 16

Upcoming events –

24th Sept – Yr 12 Settling In Evening

23rd Oct – Post 16 Open Evening



To: All Parents/Carers

8th September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Catering Provision at School

Being able to buy snacks and meals at school at break and lunchtime is an important part of our school provision; I know that many of our students use this option rather than bringing in a packed lunch. There is a need for us to review provision to ensure that it reflects what is needed for our school community.

From Monday 15th September, a student's Free School Meals' allowance will only be available at lunchtime; Free School Meal provision is for a "healthy school meal". Our catering providers, Aspens, provide a range of healthy meal options at lunchtime and not at breaktime when snacks are available. This will be explained to students in assembly, and I would be grateful if you could remind your daughter and/or son about this; if your daughter and/or son is in receipt of Free School Meals and you would like them to have a snack at breaktime, please ensure that you have topped up their School Gateway account for this. Please note that water is available free of charge at school, and I would urge students to use this so that they can use all of their Free School Meal allowance on food.

An understanding of good nutrition and the benefits that this brings is extremely important; work will be undertaken over the coming weeks to review our school provision to ensure that the food that is available to all of our students reflects what is needed as part of a balanced diet within a healthy lifestyle.

From 15th September, the maximum overdraft facility available for meals and snacks at school will be £5.00; this will ensure that students do not develop a large debt on their School Gateway. However, provision will be in place in the case of emergencies so that no student misses out on lunch; they will be able to speak with a member of the duty team at lunch who will support them to get their food, and parents and carers will be contacted directly about this.

We will continue to offer breakfast provision every morning from 8.00am - 8.20am in the school Restaurant; a reminder that this is completely free of charge and is open to all students in school.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support of the work of the school; please use [Gospel Oak School - Contact Us](#) if you have any questions or need any further support.

Yours sincerely,

MissCMiddlehurst
Senior Vice Principal

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W www.gospeloakschool.co.uk

Our Ref: CM.KH.3350

Your Ref:



To: KS4 Parents/Carers

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12th September 2025

Our Ref: SD.KH.3351

Your Ref:

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Science Homework

Following on from Mr Burrows' letter regarding homework, I am writing to outline the expectations for homework in Science.

Paper-Based Homework

This will begin with immediate effect.

To support your son/daughter in revisiting prior learning and preparing for their upcoming GCSE exams, they will receive paper-based homework focused on prior knowledge. This will be set:

- Once per week for students studying Combined Science, or
- Once per fortnight for each science subject for those studying Separate Sciences.

This homework has been carefully planned across the academic year to ensure that all foundational concepts in the curriculum are regularly revised.

The structure of this homework will include:

1. Reading – Students will be provided with concise notes on the topic.
2. Mind-map – Students will create a mind map based on the notes they have read.
3. Multiple-Choice Questions – Students will complete 20 multiple-choice questions.
4. Exam Questions – Students will answer one or more exam-style questions.

This homework will be marked in class by students. Following this, teachers will collect and review each student's work. Any misconceptions or errors identified will be addressed through 'Connect' questions at the beginning of subsequent lessons.

Online Homework

This will be introduced from Half-Term 2.

To reinforce learning from lessons and improve subject knowledge, your son/daughter will also complete an online quiz using the Educake platform. This will be set:

- Once per week for Combined Science students, or
- Once per fortnight for each science subject for Separate Science pupils.

This homework is automatically marked by the platform. Teachers will analyse the results and address any misconceptions or errors through 'Connect' questions at the start of the next lesson.

It is essential that your son/daughter completes all homework to ensure they achieve their full potential in Science and are well-prepared for their GCSEs.

If you have any questions regarding your son's/daughter's Science homework, please do not hesitate to make contact via the contact form on our website.

Kind regards,



Mrs S Davies
Assistant Principal



To: Yr 11 Parents/Carers

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12th September 2025

Our Ref: MB.KH.3357

Your Ref:

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Year 11 Maths Homework

Following on from Mr Burrows' recent letter regarding homework, I am writing to outline the expectations for Maths homework this academic year.

Paper-Based Homework

This will commence with immediate effect.

To support the development of your son's/daughter's exam technique and overall mathematical proficiency, we will be setting one Hannah Kettle half past paper each week. This consists of half of a past paper, split into odd-numbered questions one week and even-numbered the next.

The paper will be set every Friday (Week A) and Thursday (Week B) and students will have one week to complete the task.

This homework is designed to help students:

- Build confidence in tackling exam-style questions,
- Develop self-reflection skills, and
- Enhance their revision strategies.

Students will be expected to:

- Complete the paper and submit it to their teacher for a brief check and guidance.
- Use the QR code on the paper to access the online tutorial video. In the video, Hannah Kettle will walk through the solutions. Students should use this to mark their own work.
Record their score on the front of the paper before handing it in.

Online Homework

Online homework will be delivered through DrFrost Maths.

DrFrost Maths is an interactive platform that allows teachers to assign both exam-style and practice questions, which are automatically marked to provide instant feedback. It also enables students to message their teacher directly for additional support.

During the Autumn term, DrFrost Maths will be used for targeted additional homework. In the Spring and Summer terms, its use will expand as students begin to focus on their individual target areas.

If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,



Mr M Brown
Director of Learning and Standards for Mathematics



To: All Parents/Carers

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12th September 2025

Our Ref: SBr.KH.3355

Your Ref:

Dear Parent /Carer,

Re: Parent / Carer Forum

I am writing to remind all parents/carers of the Parent/Carer Forum that takes place termly, with the next one due to take place in late October/early November. The Forum is designed to build on the home-school partnership that already exists and introduce a two-way level of help, trust and support.

If you are interested in being a member of the Forum, please complete the form [here](#). Alternatively, you can email us on info@gospeloakschool.co.uk stating your name, your son's/daughter's name and their year group.

I look forward to hosting the next meeting in late October/early November.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Brownlow
Executive Principal

COMMUNITY

MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON

Friday 26th September | 1:15pm – 2:50pm



Join us for an afternoon of cakes, conversation, and community.

There will be:

- Delicious cakes and treats on sale
- Fun games to enjoy
- A chance to learn more about the important work being done
- Displays of our students' fantastic work to celebrate together

REMINDER

Year 7 School Photographs
Monday 15th September 2025

Please ensure that all students are in full school uniform adhering to our school uniform policy.

P&E SPORTS
www.pandesports.com

MORE THAN LETTINGS,
POWERED BY COMMUNITIES

DISCOVER MORE FIND A VENUE

About P&E Sports

The image shows a website banner for P&E Sports. It features an aerial view of a sports field with a large green dinosaur-like creature in the center. The text 'P&E SPORTS' and 'www.pandesports.com' is at the top. Below that, the slogan 'MORE THAN LETTINGS, POWERED BY COMMUNITIES' is displayed. Two red buttons labeled 'DISCOVER MORE' and 'FIND A VENUE' are positioned below the slogan. At the bottom, there is a red bar with the text 'About P&E Sports'.

<https://pandesporrts.com>