

Gospel Oak Weekly Newsletter

w.e. 23rd January 2026



UPCOMING DATES

Thursday 5th February - Arrow Vale Science Trip

Thursday 5th February - New York Information Meeting - 4.30pm

Wednesday 11th February - Parent / Carer Forum

Thursday 12th February - Year 9 Guided Choices Evening

Friday 13th February - Year 9 DTP Vaccines



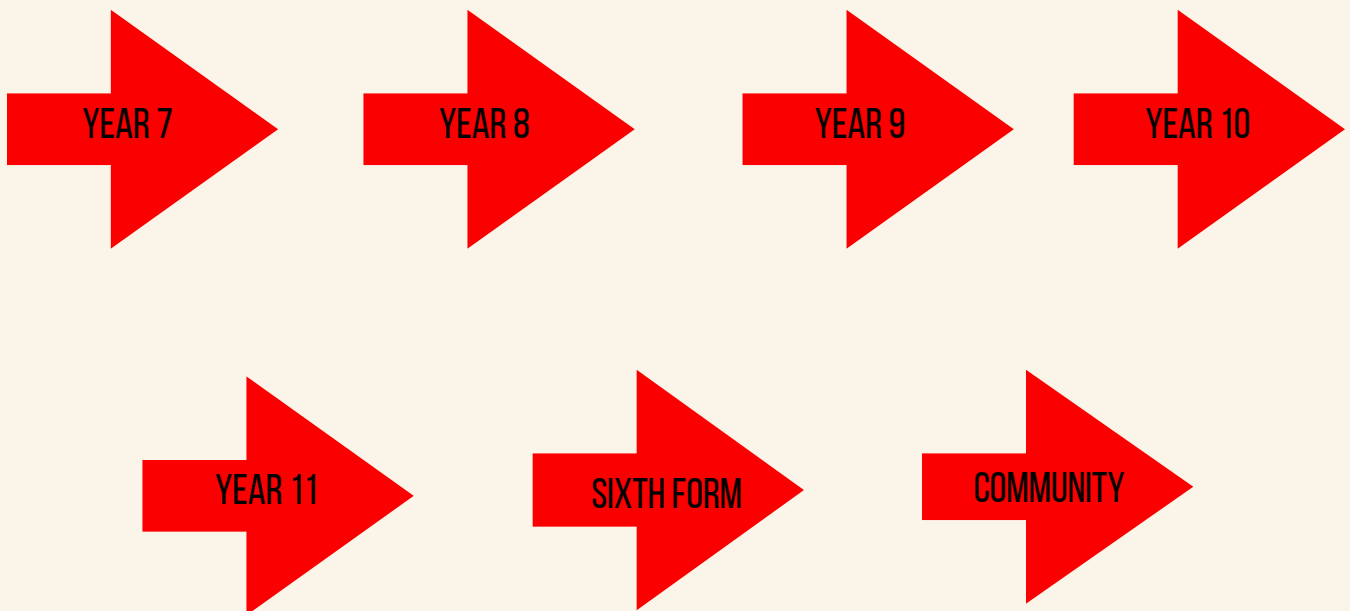
ASSEMBLY THEMES

Assembly focus this week was Knife Crime

26/01 - Holocaust

02/02 - Children's Mental Health Week

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



MESSAGE FROM MISS LANE, ASSOCIATE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

This week's assemblies have been particularly important and impactful. Students have taken part in thoughtful discussions around knife crime, focusing on making safe choices, and how we can all contribute to keeping our community and wider society safe. These assemblies play a vital role in supporting students' personal development and understanding of real-world issues.

We were also privileged, as a whole school, to listen to speakers during Holocaust Week. Their powerful testimonies and reflections gave students an opportunity to deepen their understanding of history, tolerance and humanity. Our students conducted themselves with maturity, respect and compassion, and they should be commended for how wonderfully they engaged with these sessions.

Homework remains a key priority at Gospel Oak, helping learners build independence, resilience and strive for their very best. Quiet study spaces are available: Years 7, 8 and 9 can use the LRC at lunchtime and after school, while Years 10 and 11 can access the Sixth Form study room. Thank you to parents and carers for being such an important part of our learners' success.

Have a lovely weekend!

YEAR TEAM UPDATES

YEAR 7

★ Year 7 Newsletter Update 🎉

Dear Parents and Guardians,

What a fantastic start to the week we've had! 😊 We are delighted to see such great attendance from our Year 7 students – thank you for your continued support in helping us settle into the new school year smoothly. 📅🌟

We want to remind everyone of the importance of completing homework on time. 📖📝 Homework is a key part of your child's learning journey, and we have lots of support available to help them succeed. During lunchtime 🕒 and after school 🕒, our dedicated staff are on hand to provide assistance with homework, or any questions students might have. Please encourage your child to take advantage of these support sessions! 🙌

If your child encounters any issues with their passwords or usernames 🔑💻 for online learning platforms, don't hesitate to contact the Year Team 📞📧. We're here to help ensure everyone can access their work easily. ✅

And exciting news! 🎉 We are thrilled to share that there will soon be an opportunity for our Year 7 students to participate in a PGL trip 🏕️🌲. More details will be shared in due course, so stay tuned! 📢

Keep up all the hard work 💪 – we are really proud of each and every one of you! 🌟 Let's make this a fantastic year of learning and fun! 🎈🎉

Mr Wilson and the Year 7 Team



Attendance

As always, we are pushing, thriving, and striving to be the best we can be. Attendance continues to improve, and we want to thank you for your hard work and resilience—this effort does not go unnoticed. However, we must keep going and continue building strong attendance habits every day.

Punctuality

It is essential that students are on time every day. Lining up begins at **8:25am**, and recently we have seen a significant drop in students arriving on time. This needs to improve, as punctuality sets the tone for a positive and successful day of learning.

Lessons

Following learning walks by the Year 8 team, we are extremely impressed with the focus, behaviour, and hard work being shown in lessons. Year 8 are demonstrating great attitudes to learning—please keep this up!

Homework

Please remember to complete all homework we don't want to see you getting detentions

Deadlines are:

Science –Monday

English – Tuesday

Maths – Wednesday

If not completed, you will receive 1-hour detentions the day after, any issues ask the year team or class teacher

Quote of the Week

“Whether you think you can or think you can't, you're right.”

— **Henry Ford**

Let's continue to aim high, support one another, and finish the week strong!

Mr Bowser and the Year 8 Team



Year 9 have enjoyed another highly positive week, with attendance continuing to rise 📈. We are extremely proud of the way students and families are maintaining a strong focus on attendance and pushing standards in the right direction. Being in school every day is essential to success, particularly as students begin preparing for the demands of their GCSE courses. 📚

During assembly this week, Dr Grewal led an informative and impactful session on knife crime. Year 9 were fully engaged throughout, showing excellent levels of respect and maturity. Students contributed thoughtfully by answering questions and demonstrated a 10/10 attitude from start to finish, which was fantastic to see.

Mr Johnson also delivered a morning meeting focused on Vaping, highlighting how important the message of vaping is dangerous is and how real the danger is also. Once again, year 9 were amazing, and showcased what it truly means to be a GOS student by showing Respect, Pride and Aspiration in their morning meeting 🗣️

Just a reminder that the **Cinema and Bowling trip has been cancelled due to low numbers**. Parents and carers who have made payments will receive a **full refund** in due course, and Classcharts points used to purchase discounts are also being given back to students.

📌 Homework Reminder 🗣️

If students are unsure of their **ClassCharts login** or **home computer login**, help is readily available. Students can speak to their tutor, Mr Johnson, or visit the IT team during break or lunchtime. 📖

Please be aware that **any homework not completed by the deadline will result in a 1-hour detention the following day** ⌚

📅 Homework Deadlines:

- **Maths:** Tuesday 📊
- **English:** Thursday 🗣️
- **Science:** Friday 🧪

📖 Homework Club

Homework Club runs every **Wednesday after school in the LRC**, offering a quiet, supportive space for students who need assistance or prefer to complete homework in school.

Thank you for your continued support 🙏. It has been another excellent week for Year 9, and we are excited to see them continue building on this positive momentum.

Mr Johnson and the Year 9 Team



Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are pleased to report a positive and settled start to the week for our Year 10 students. Attendance is consistently reaching **90%**, which is encouraging to see, and we thank you for your continued support as Year 10 marks an important stage in students' GCSE journey.

As coursework and assessments begin to increase, we would like to remind students of the importance of completing homework and independent study on time 📅. Developing good organisation and study habits now is essential for success in the coming months. Support is available during lunchtime 🍴 and **after school in the Sixth Form area** 🕒, where staff are happy to help students with subject content, homework, or revision strategies. We strongly encourage students to make use of these opportunities.

We would also like to highlight the importance of students beginning to **secure a work experience placement**. Work experience plays a valuable role in developing employability skills, building confidence, and helping students make informed decisions about future pathways. We encourage students to be proactive in researching opportunities, speaking to family and local employers, and seeking support from school where needed.

Just a reminder that the **Star City trip has been cancelled due to low numbers**. Parents and carers who have made payments will receive a **full refund** in due course.

If students experience any issues accessing online learning platforms due to login or password difficulties 🗝️💻, please contact the Year Team 📞📧 so we can resolve this promptly and ensure learning is not disrupted.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We are proud of the effort Year 10 students are showing and look forward to working closely with them as they continue through this important academic year 🌟.

Miss Dunn and the Year 10 Team



YEAR 11

Attendance & Punctuality

Huge well done to everyone who achieved **95%+ attendance** most days this week
Our next target is that magic **96%** – every lesson counts now.

Morning Routine

Students should be on site by **8:30am**, lined up and ready.

From **8:35am**, students will be moving straight to classrooms to begin focused revision.

February Mock Exams

Mocks in **February** will be sat in:

- Core subjects
- Geography
- History

Sport exams will take place **in class**.

Homework Timetable – Important Change

From **Monday 19th**, the homework timetable is changing so that **no two core subjects are due on the same day**.

This is to make workloads more manageable and allow students to produce their best work.

Leavers' Hoodies

If you'd like to order a leavers' hoodie, details are below:

- Website: <https://shop.fizz-group.co.uk/>
- Unique Code: **26564YR11**
- Orders close **1st February at 12am**.

Revision Support

Teaching staff will be uploading **topic overviews and revision guidance** to the website – please check these regularly and use them to plan independent revision.

Lateness – Important Reminder

Due to persistent lateness, sanctions are now stricter:

- Late to school → 60-minute same-day detention
- Late to lessons totals in a week:
 - 30+ mins → 30-minute detention
 - 45+ mins → 45-minute detention
 - 60+ mins → 60-minute detention

Let's finish this half-term strong, focused, and consistent

Updated homework schedule:



WEEK A				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option A Option D	Option C	Option B English	Science	Maths

WEEK B				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option C	English Option D	Maths Option A	Science	Option B

Miss Malkin and the Year 11 Team



Students in both year 12 and 13 have continued to work hard this week.

I would like to remind students the importance of arriving on time to lessons, this includes supervised study. Any amount of lateness to lessons will have an impact on learning.

We are still taking sixth form applications from Year 11 and interviews for sixth form will continue in this week.

Year 12 attendance – 91%
Year 13 attendance –90 %

Your sincerely,

Mr Bala
Director of Post 16

Upcoming events:

6th July – 10th July – Work experience

COMMUNITY

YEAR 9 ONLY

Please complete the below link for your child to receive their vaccine:-

<https://midlands.schoolvaccination.uk/dtp/2025/sandwell>

- Diphtheria
- Tetanus
- Polio
- Meningococcal ACWY



Vaccination UK will be attending Gospel Oak School on Friday 13th February 2026 to administer the Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio (DTP) and Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY). Should you wish for your child to receive his / her vaccine then please complete the above link by midnight on Friday 6th February 2026. Please ensure that your son / daughter has no allergies to the vaccine and should you have any queries then please contact Vaccination UK on 0121 592 1110.

NHS
Birmingham and Solihull

NHS
Black Country



Important Message

Flu Vaccinations – Updated Primary and Secondary School Children Communications Toolkit

Dear colleagues,

Please see an [updated version of the primary and secondary school children flu vaccination communications toolkit](#) we shared earlier in the week, with amendments to the ways parents can arrange vaccinations and the Vaccination UK contact numbers.

If a child has missed their school vaccination session, parents can still arrange vaccination **before 31 January by:**

- Attending a **mobile or community vaccination clinic**
- Contacting their **GP practice**
- Calling **Vaccination UK directly** to book an appointment – each Place has a direct number

Getting school-aged children vaccinated helps keep them well, reduces absences from school, and protects the wider community during winter when the NHS is under pressure.

Please share [the updated communications toolkit](#) with schools across your Place and help promote the final reminder messaging across your channels up until 31 January.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused. Thank you for your continued support.

Communications Team
NHS Black Country Integrated Care Board
Email: comms.blackcountry@nhs.net

For out of hours communications support please contact 01902 943029.



YOU OK, MATE?

তুমি ঠিক আছো ভাই
उमी ठीक रे भतर
کیا حال ہے بھائی
क्या तुम ठीक हो भाई



Lets connect our community and get Men talking...
Join us for tea, coffee and light refreshments
COMMUNITY EVENT:

MONDAY 26TH JANUARY 2026
1:30PM TO 3:00PM

BANGLADESHI WOMENS ASSOCIATION
TIPTON MUSLIM COMMUNITY CENTRE
WELLINGTON ROAD
TIPTON DY4 8RS



Call: 0121 726 3983
Text 'MATE' to 07821668092 or 85258
Email: contactifa@idealforall.co.uk
Social media: @idealforall



YOU OK, MATE?

Lets connect our community
and get Men talking...



We welcome you to join us for
tea, coffee and light refreshments
COMMUNITY EVENT:

FRIDAY 30TH JANUARY 2026
10:30AM TO 12:30PM

JUBILEE PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE
POWIS AVENUE
TIPTON
DY4 0RJ



Call: 0121 726 3983
Text 'MATE' to 07821668092 or 85258
Email: contactifa@idealforall.co.uk
Social media: @idealforall



YOU OK, MATE?

We care about your
Health and Wellbeing
Need to talk? Need any help?



Are you worried about a mate?
Do you need support yourself?

Please talk to us in confidence. We are here to help you.

'You ok, mate?' is a project run by men for men.
We are here to listen and not judge.

- Get in touch today for free one to one support.
- Access other services that can help you.
- Find out about groups or events in your town.
- Make friends, get involved or just talk.



Call: 0121 726 3983
Text 'MATE' to 07821668092 or 85258
Email: contactifa@idealforall.co.uk
Social media: @idealforall



Are you struggling or worried about any of these?

- Feeling stressed / Anxious
- Overwhelmed
- Work issues
- Money worries
- Family problems
- Depressed
- Mental health
- Long-term health conditions / disabilities
- Had feelings of suicide
- Feel lonely or alone
- Socially isolated / cut off
- Benefits concerns
- Debts / cost of living pressure
- Unemployment / lost your job
- Drugs / Alcohol recovery
- Housing issues / Homelessness
- Feel there is nowhere to go
- No data or Wi-Fi
- Disability or care needs
- Cancer support
- Parenting worries
- No up to date training / skills
- Struggling with digital or IT

'You ok mate?' Be honest about how you are doing. We are here to listen, help and guide you to the right support for you. If we can't help you, will try and find someone who can. Let's get talking as men in Sandwell.

Men's Wellbeing Hub:
Ideal for All,
The Independent Living Centre
100 Oldbury Road,
Smethwick,
B66 1JE



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