

# Gospel Oak Weekly Newsletter

## w.e. 6<sup>th</sup> February 2026



### UPCOMING DATES

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February - Aspire to HE Visit to Uni of Wolverhampton

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February - Parent / Carer Forum

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February - Year 9 Guided Choices Evening

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February - Year 9 DTP Vaccines

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February - Yr 10 Girton College Visit

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February - Onatti Theatre Company

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February - WBA Manufacturing Festival Trip

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February - Year 7 Parents Evening



### ASSEMBLY THEMES

Assembly focus this week Children's Mental Health Week

09/02 - Chinese New Year

23/02 - Term Expectations

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

YEAR 11

SIXTH FORM

LETTERS

COMMUNITY

## MESSAGE FROM MISS LANE, ASSOCIATE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Thank you for another positive week here at Gospel Oak. It has been lovely to see our students continuing to show focus, resilience and enthusiasm for their learning as we approach the final week before half term.

This week, students have been spending time exploring careers and future pathways, looking through their prospectuses and reflecting on the opportunities available to them after their journey with us at Gospel Oak. Supporting learners to think about their next steps is such an important part of helping them feel confident about the future.

Students in Years 11 and 13 have been sitting their mock examinations this week and we are incredibly proud of the focus and hard work they have shown throughout. These mock exams provide valuable experience and help students feel more prepared and confident for their upcoming GCSE and post-16 qualifications.

Our assembly this week focused on mental health and the importance of looking after our wellbeing. Taking care of our mental health is just as important as our physical health, and students engaged thoughtfully with this important message.

As we move into the final week before half term, we encourage students to continue showing resilience and focus to finish the half term strongly.

Thank you, as always, to our parents and carers for your continued support and partnership.

Have a lovely weekend.

# YEAR TEAM UPDATES

YEAR 7

Hello Year 7 families! 🙌

We've had another busy and exciting week in school and wanted to share a few important updates with you.

## 📌 Attendance Matters!

We've noticed a small dip in attendance this week, and we'd love to see those numbers climbing back up 📈. Regular attendance is so important for Year 7 as students settle into secondary school routines and build strong foundations for their future education 🎓. Every day really does count!

## 💪 Resilience is Key

We understand that minor illnesses happen 😷, but we encourage students to be as resilient as possible and attend school when they are well enough. Being in lessons helps them stay confident, connected, and on track 🌈.

## 🌙 Exciting Trip Alert!

Tomorrow, Year 7 are heading on the fantastic Moon Planetarium trip 🚀🌕! We're looking forward to an out-of-this-world experience that will bring learning to life and spark curiosity about space ✨.

## 👨👩👧👦 Parents' Evening – Save the Date!

Year 7 Parents' Evening will take place on 26th February, 4:30–7:00pm 📅.

🕒 Appointments will be available very soon, and 📧 letters will be going home shortly with full details on how to book.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support 🙏. Let's keep working together to make Year 7 a brilliant year full of progress, positivity, and success 🌟😊.

**Mr Wilson and the Year 7 Team**



Dear Year 8 Students and Families,

As we head towards the end of another busy half term, we wanted to take a moment to celebrate successes, remind everyone of expectations, and set the tone for a strong and positive finish. Let's make these final weeks count!

### **Attendance – Let's Bounce Back!**

Recently, we have seen a drop in attendance, moving from an impressive 94% on one Friday to 90% the following Friday. While we completely understand that the end of term can feel tiring, it is really important that attendance remains a priority. Every day in school matters, and being present helps students stay on track with learning, routines, and friendships.

We all have days where things feel tough – that's completely normal – but resilience is about showing up and bouncing back. Let's challenge ourselves as a year group to get attendance back up where it belongs and finish the term on a high.

### **Homework – Staying Organised and On Track**

There has been a noticeable increase in the number of students not completing homework, which has unfortunately led to a rise in one-hour after-school detentions. Homework plays an important role in reinforcing learning and building good habits, so it's vital that students complete it on time.

Please remember the Year 8 homework schedule and stick to it each week:

- **Monday:** Science
- **Tuesday:** English
- **Wednesday:** Maths

If homework is not completed on the assigned day, a one-hour detention will be issued the following day. A little organisation now can save a lot of time later – let's aim for fewer detentions and more success!

### **Student of the Month – A Huge Congratulations!**

A massive well done to Savannah AM, our Student of the Month! Savannah has consistently shown a fantastic attitude and commitment, and we are incredibly proud of her achievements. Keep up the brilliant work – you're a great role model for Year 8!

### **Looking Ahead – The Final Push Before Half Term**

In the coming weeks, our focus will be on improving attendance, reducing lateness to lessons, and enjoying a fun and positive end to the half term. There's plenty to look forward to, and we want Year 8 to finish strong, focused, and proud of their efforts.

Just a reminder that we break up for half term on Friday 13th February – not long to go!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Let's make the next few weeks a great one for Year 8.

**Mr Bowser and the Year 8 Team**



Following several strong weeks of improvement, attendance plateaued slightly last week, reminding us that this is the moment for Year 9 to refocus and get back to top form 🙌. If we want to be the best, we have to be in – no colds, no sniffles, no headaches 🤧➡️🚫. Every lesson, every day really does count, and we know Year 9 are more than capable of pushing attendance back where it belongs 🏆.

### 🏆 Attendance Tutor League – It's Time to Fight Back! 🏆

The Attendance Tutor League remains highly competitive, and while many Year 9 tutor groups continue to attend really well, the first trophy went to Year 7. That only adds fuel to the fire 🔥. Year 9 know what's needed – if we want to win, we've got to be in. This week is a fresh chance to reclaim the trophy and bring it back where it belongs 🏆👏.

### 📌 Update: Signing Out During the School Day

Please remember that if a student needs to leave school during the day and this has been pre-arranged, they must collect a green slip from the Year Team (Mr Johnson or Mr Marrs). This should be shown to the class teacher before heading to Attendance to sign out correctly, ensuring all students remain safe and accounted for throughout the day.

In PE this week, Year 9 tutor groups went head-to-head in friendly competition as they battled to earn valuable points for their tutor groups ahead of Sports Day 🏆. The atmosphere was fantastic, with students showing teamwork, determination, and healthy competitiveness throughout. There were some excellent performances on display, and the year group impressed their PE teachers greatly with their effort, attitude, and sportsmanship 🌟⚽🏃♂️🏆.

### Mr Johnson and the Year 9 Team



## Attendance, Punctuality & Key Reminders ★

We would like to share a few important updates for our year group 😊

### Attendance

Attendance is currently **below expectations**, with too many students taking days off unnecessarily. Today's attendance stood at **88.5%**, meaning valuable learning time is being missed 📅

We want to remind families that **we can best support students, their progress, and their future goals when they are in school every day**. Being in school allows us to provide guidance, intervention, and encouragement at the right time ★

### Punctuality

Punctuality is also an area for improvement. Too many **students are arriving late to school**, resulting in missed learning at the start of the day 🕒

### Morning Line-Up Reminder 🕒

Line-up starts promptly at **8:25am**. Students must be **on the MUGA** by this time to ensure a calm and punctual start to the school day.

We would like to say a **huge thank** you to the many students who attend every day and arrive on time 🙌 Your commitment makes a real difference and gives you the best chance to succeed.

With **GCSEs approaching**, regular attendance and punctuality are more important than ever 📚 Missed learning can impact results and future opportunities.

### Work Experience Reminder 📁

Students have now received their **work experience letters**. Work experience is a vital opportunity to develop confidence, workplace skills, and an understanding of expectations beyond school. It also supports future pathways such as college, apprenticeships, and employment.

Please ensure letters are **read, completed, and returned** as soon as possible.

### Home Learning Support 📖

To further support students, **home learning can be completed after school in the Sixth Form area**, providing a quiet space and access to support if needed.

Please ensure your child attends school **every day and on time**, unless they are genuinely unwell or there is an emergency. In some cases, **medical evidence may be requested** 🏥

Please also remember that parents and carers should be available to answer the phone if a member of staff calls to check a child's whereabouts 📞

If you need support with attendance, punctuality, home learning, or work experience, please contact the school – we are here to help 🙌

Thank you for your continued support ★

**Miss Dunn and the Year 10 Team**



YEAR 11

Dear Year 11,

Firstly, well done for your excellent attendance and conduct during mock exams this week. The exam entry process ran smoothly, and this allowed us to maximise valuable revision time. This is exactly the attitude we need going forward!

Your attendance has been fantastic – let's keep this up as we move into the final stretch. **There are now just 12 weeks to go until your real GCSE exams. Every lesson, every intervention and every revision session counts.**

#### **Important Change – No More Line Ups**

From Monday 9th February, there will be no line ups on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. We WILL still line up for morning meeting and assemblies.

You should go straight to your intervention sessions each morning. Please arrive promptly and ready to learn.

#### **Homework**

Homework will restart after half term.

This will be set to support your revision and exam preparation, so it is vital that it is completed on time and to a good standard.

#### **Prom & Bake Sale**

Prom tickets are now LIVE on ArborPay – don't miss out!

We will also be hosting a bake sale on Thursday 12th February to help support prom costs.

If you are able to help by baking, please email Miss Davies at:

 [ndavies@gospeloak.crst.org.uk](mailto:ndavies@gospeloak.crst.org.uk)

#### **Final Message**

You have shown this week that you can rise to the challenge. Your effort, maturity and focus have been impressive and should make you proud.

#### **Now is the time to stay consistent:**

- Turn up every day
- Take every intervention seriously
- Ask for help when you need it
- Believe in what you can achieve

These next 12 weeks can make a huge difference to your future. Keep pushing, stay positive, and remember – we are all here to support you.

Let's finish strong!

**Miss Malkin and the Year 11 Team**



Students in both year 12 and 13 have continued to work hard this week.  
Year 13 students have started to complete their mock exams.

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

Year 12 attendance – 95.7%  
Year 13 attendance –90%

Your sincerely,

**Mr Bala**  
**Director of Post 16**

Upcoming events:

6th July – 10th July – Work experience



To: Yr 11 Parents/Carers

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**Our Ref:** SBO.KH.350

6th February 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Re: GCSE Information Evening**

As you will be aware, during the week commencing 2 February 2026, our Year 11 students sat their second round of mock examinations. We are feeling increasingly confident about the outcomes this summer and the positive life chances these results will provide for our students.

As we move closer to the GCSE examinations, it is vitally important that we all work together to support our students — both academically and in terms of their wellbeing. One of the most important ways we can do this is through effective preparation.

All GCSE content has now been fully covered across every subject area, and our focus for the remainder of the year will be revision. Research shows that only a small number of revision strategies have a significant impact on outcomes, and it is essential that students are supported to use these methods effectively, both in school and at home.

To support you in this, we would like to invite you to our GCSE Information Evening. During the evening, subject leaders from English, Maths and Science will:

- Explain what the GCSE exam papers will look like
- Highlight the high-frequency topics students must know
- Model effective revision strategies so you can better support your son/daughter at home

I cannot stress enough how important it is for your son/daughters next steps that they achieve at least a Grade 4 in their core subjects.

The event will take place on Tuesday 4 March 2026, from 5.30pm, in our theatre. At the end of the presentations, there will be an opportunity to ask questions and speak with our experienced staff.

Please complete the Microsoft Form to indicate whether you will be attending. [Gospel Oak School GCSE](#)

[ParentInformationEvening - Tuesday3rdMarch2026-Fillinform](#)

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I look forward to seeing you on 4 March.

Kind regards,

**Miss S Bott**  
**Head of School**

# 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

DRAYTON  
MANOR  
Resort

ALL  
NEW

FEBRUARY HALF TERM

K-POP  
TAKE OVER

한국 14<sup>TH</sup> - 22<sup>ND</sup>

£18  
TICKETS\*

## Student Offer | £18 Tickets 14th - 22nd February

We're pleased to share a special February Half Term ticket offer that can be passed on to your students and their families.

This February Half Term enjoy a full day of fun with Thomas Land rides open for little conductors, explore amazing animals in our 15-acre Zoo, and soak up the electrifying K-Pop vibes throughout the park. Whether you're here for the rides, the vibes or the beats, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

This offer can be shared directly with students and parents, but please note that tickets must be purchased by 13th February to take advantage of the £18 price using the link below.

[BOOK NOW](#)

## Epic family fun



This email was sent to [sandwell@gospelvaccination.co.uk](mailto:sandwell@gospelvaccination.co.uk), if you no longer wish to receive updates and offers from Drayton Manor Resort, you can [unsubscribe here](#)

Drayton Manor Resort, Drayton Manor Drive Fazeley, Tamworth, B78 3TW,  
United Kingdom



**FREE HOLIDAY CAMP**  
TIPTON SPORTS ACADEMY, DY4 OBS  
SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY  
19TH FEB 2026 9am to 20TH FEB 2026 1pm  
FOR ENQUIRIES CONTACT [michelle.jones2@korewellness.co.uk](mailto:michelle.jones2@korewellness.co.uk)  
WIDE RANGE OF SPORTING ACTIVITIES  
HEALTHY SNACKS INCLUDED  
FREE TO ALL SANDWELL RESIDENTS  
**Kore SANDWELL**  
WELLBEING STARTS AT THE CENTRE