

Gospel Oak Weekly Newsletter

w.e. 6th March 2026



UPCOMING DATES

Tuesday 10th March - Yr 9 DTP Vaccine Catch Up Session

Tuesday 10th March - CNAT Sport Orienteering, Fibbersley Park Nature Reserve

Wednesday 11th March - RSA8 Launch Event - Waseley Hills

Friday 13th March - Culture Day

Wednesday 18th March - Takeover Challenge, West Bromwich Police Station

Tuesday 24th March - Year 10 Noughts & Crosses Theatre Trip

Thursday 26th March - Year 13 Finance Talk



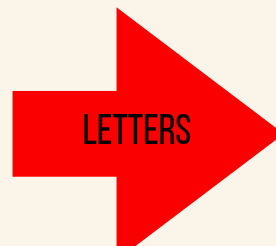
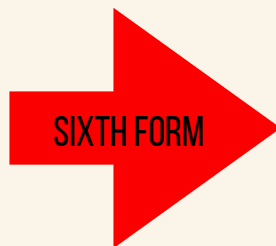
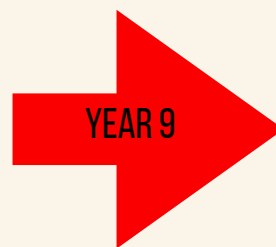
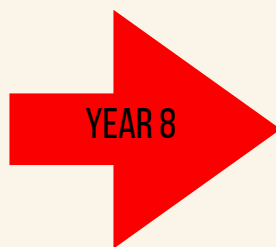
ASSEMBLY THEMES

Assembly focus this week was World Book Day

09/03 - Culture Week

16/03 - Vaping

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

We have had another positive week here at Gospel Oak, with students continuing to show great enthusiasm and commitment to their learning. It has been wonderful to see the positive energy around the school and the way students continue to support one another both inside and outside the classroom.

This week in assemblies we have been celebrating World Book Day and reflecting on the importance of reading. Reading plays a crucial role in developing vocabulary, strengthening writing skills and expanding students' understanding of the world. It helps to build imagination, critical thinking and concentration, while also supporting success across all subjects. Developing a love of reading is one of the most powerful ways students can grow in confidence and curiosity as learners.

We would also like to thank all of the Year 11 parents, carers and students who attended the recent information evening about the upcoming exams. It was fantastic to see so many families come along to support students as we enter the final push towards the exam season. The strong turnout demonstrated the commitment of our community to ensuring students feel prepared, confident and supported during this important time.

This week, 50 of our students had the exciting opportunity to take part in the Midlands Manufacturing Festival. Students explored a range of innovative industries and technologies, from digital design to robotics, gaining valuable insight into the rapidly evolving world of manufacturing and engineering. It was a fantastic experience that helped students see the wide range of career opportunities available and offered a glimpse into what the future of technology and industry may hold.

Our Year 9 students also had a powerful and thought-provoking experience this week as they learned about the life of a Holocaust survivor through the use of cutting-edge technology. This immersive experience allowed students to engage with history in a meaningful and memorable way. We were incredibly proud of the maturity, respect and reflection shown by our students throughout the session.

Thank you to our students, staff, parents and carers for helping to make this another successful week here at Gospel Oak. Your continued support and partnership are greatly appreciated.

Have a lovely weekend.

YEAR TEAM UPDATES

YEAR 7

Dear Parents & Carers,

We hope this message finds you well! 😊 As we move further into the term, we wanted to share some fantastic updates from our Year Team.

🎉 Attendance Superstars! 🎉

We are absolutely thrilled to announce that our year group has **won the school Attendance League** for the week 🏆📊 – and not just by a little... we are smashing it!!! 🙌🔥

Our students have shown **superb attendance**, excellent punctuality 🕒, and a real commitment to their learning 📚🌟. This is such a fantastic achievement and reflects the positive attitudes and determination we see every day.

Regular attendance has a huge impact on progress, confidence, and wellbeing 💡💬 – so thank you for your continued support in ensuring students are in school, on time, and ready to learn.

Let's keep the momentum going and hold on to that top spot! 🙌👑

🌟 In the Classroom 🌟

Lessons continue to be purposeful and engaging, with students showing resilience and maturity in their approach to learning 🗣️📝. Staff have been really impressed with:

- Positive attitudes in lessons 👍
- Excellent teamwork 🤝
- Respectful behaviour around school 🌈
- Determination to achieve their very best 🎯

We are so proud of the way the year group represents the school every single day.

💬 A Gentle Reminder

Please continue to:

- Encourage strong homework routines 🏠📝
- Check online platforms regularly 📱📧
- Reach out if you need support – we are always happy to help! 🤝

🙌 Thank You!

Your ongoing partnership makes such a difference. Together, we are creating a year group that strives, achieves, and supports one another 🌟💙

Let's keep smashing it in attendance, effort, and achievement! 🚀📈

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the Year Tea.

Thank you again.

Mr Wilson and the Year 7 Team



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy and brilliant week it's been for Year 8!

🎯 Attendance – Let's Smash It!

We started the term on an absolute high with fantastic attendance – thank you for your support!
👏

We've noticed a small dip this week, so it's time to refocus and get back on track. Every single lesson makes a difference. Strong attendance means stronger progress, better friendships, and greater confidence.

And don't forget...

🎉 100% attendance by the last day of term = REWARD TIME! 🎉

Students who achieve this will be out of lessons enjoying inflatables and end-of-term treats. We want as many Year 8 students there as possible – let's do this!

📖 World Book Day Fun!

Year 8 had an absolutely fantastic World Book Day! There was a real buzz around the year group, with lots of fun activities, plenty of creativity, and of course... book vouchers!

We loved seeing students celebrating reading and can't wait to hear about the books they choose.

🌍 Culture Day – Friday 13th March

We are really excited for Culture Day! This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the rich diversity within our school community. We can't wait to see students getting involved and sharing what makes their culture special.

More updates to come next week!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support – let's make next week another great one!

Mr Bowser and the Year 8 Team



We have a busy and exciting half term ahead, with a strong focus on **attendance, consistency and high standards** across Year 9 🎯




A Short but Powerful Half Term

This half term is only **25 school days long** – and we are already **5 days in!** Every day really does matter.

Our challenge to Year 9 is clear:

100% Attendance from Now Until the End of Term!

Excellent attendance leads to:




-  Stronger academic progress
-  Greater confidence
-  Better outcomes

The Reward... An Inflatable Assault Course!

Any student who achieves **100% attendance by the end of this half term** will be rewarded with the use of our **inflatable assault course on the final day of term!** A brilliant way to celebrate commitment and resilience 🏆

MASSIVE Congratulations to 9E!

A huge well done to **9E**, who achieved the **highest attendance in the entire school last week!**

   We are incredibly proud of their effort and team spirit.

Now the big question is... 🌟 Who will be next?

World Book Day – Thursday




A reminder that **World Book Day is this Thursday**. We are looking forward to celebrating reading across the school and encouraging students to engage with books and literacy in creative ways.

Further details will be shared in school, but we are excited to see students getting involved and celebrating the joy of reading.

Homework Expectations

Homework is an essential part of preparing students for GCSE study and developing independent learning habits.

Core homework is set weekly on the following days:





-  **Maths – Tuesday**
-  **English – Thursday**
-  **Science – Friday**

Please note:

! Failure to complete homework will result in a one-hour detention the following day after the deadline.

We are applying this consistently to ensure students develop responsibility, organisation and resilience.

You can support your child by:

-  Checking homework is completed on the correct evenings
-  Encouraging regular revision
-  Providing a quiet space for study
-  Reinforcing positive routines around devices

👉 **Working Together**

If there are any concerns around attendance, homework or wellbeing, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We are here to support you.

Let's make this half term count.

25 days. High expectations. Big rewards. 🚀

Mr Johnson and the Year 9 Team



Year 10 have been very busy!

- 📖 **World Book Day Week (2nd–6th March):** A week of fun activities including Blind Books, a Book Quiz, Flash Fiction, Book Bingo and a mystery challenge, plus a Book Cover competition running all week.
- 💜 **International Women’s Day (Friday 6th March in school):** Students can wear a purple accessory with their uniform, with inspiring messages and social time activities taking place.
- 🌍 **Culture Day (Friday 13th March):** Cultural dress, tutor activities and a food sale to raise money for Birmingham Children’s Hospital.
- 🚫 **GOS Against Knife Crime:** Poster competition entries due Friday 6th March.

Upcoming Mock Timetable:

	Monday 16 th March	Tuesday 17 th March	Wednesday 18 th March	Thursday 19 th March	Friday 20 th March
Tutor (8:30am)	Tutor in the Theatre	Tutor in the Theatre	Tutor in the Theatre	Tutor in the Theatre	Tutor in the Theatre
Session 1 (9:00am)	English Language 1hr 45mins	Psychology 1hr 30mins	RE (Good and Evil, Human Rights and Relationships) 2hrs	Combined Science (Chemistry) 1hr 15mins Separate Science (Chemistry) 1hr 45mins	Maths Paper 1 (Non Calc) 1hr 30mins
Session 2 (10:00am)					
Break (11:00am)	Normal break	Normal break	Normal break	Normal break	Normal break
Session 3 (11:20am)					Music (Practical Recordings) 3hrs
Lunch (12:20pm)	Normal lunch	Normal lunch	Normal lunch	Normal lunch	Normal lunch
Session 4 (1:00pm)	Combined Science (Biology) 1hr 15mins Separate Science (Biology) 1hr 45mins	PE 1hr 15mins Drama (written paper) 1hr	Geography 1hr 30mins	Hospitality & Catering 1hr 20mins	Music (Practical Recordings) 3hrs
Session 5 (2:00pm)					

	Monday 23 rd March	Tuesday 24 th March	Wednesday 25 th March	Thursday 26 th March	Friday 27 th March
Tutor (8:30am)	Tutor in the Theatre	Tutor in the Theatre	Tutor in the Theatre	Tutor in the Theatre	Tutor in the Theatre
Session 1 (9:00am)	English Literature 1hr 45mins	Sociology (Families and Education) 1hr 45mins	Computer Systems 1hr 30mins	History (Medicine Through the Time) 55mins	Combined Science (Physics) 1hr 15mins Separate Science (Physics) 1hr 45mins
Session 2 (10:00am)					
Break (11:00am)	Normal break	Normal break	Normal break	Normal break	Normal break
Session 3 (11:20am)				Dance (Practical Recordings) 3hrs	
Lunch (12:20pm)	Normal lunch	Normal lunch	Normal lunch	Normal lunch	Normal lunch
Session 4 (1:00pm)	Spanish Listening (F 35mins, H 45mins) & Reading (F 45mins, H 60mins) (H/F)	Maths Paper 2 (Calc) 1hr 30mins	Citizenship 1hr 45min	Dance (Practical Recordings) 3hrs	Mop Ups
Session 5 (2:00pm)					



Dear Parents and Carers,

Attendance

This week I want to be very honest about **Year 11 attendance**. Our attendance has been **around 90%**, which is currently the **lowest in the school**. At this stage of Year 11, attendance is absolutely critical. Minor illnesses should not be a reason to stay off school.

We now have just **30 school days left until the first GCSE exam** once weekends and the Easter holidays are removed. This time will pass very quickly and every day in school matters. We need students in lessons so they can make the most of the support available.

Morning Intervention and Punctuality

Our **morning intervention programme continues every day** and sessions are now **based on the latest mock exam results**. Students are placed into targeted English, Maths or Science sessions depending on where they need the most support.

Because of this, **punctuality to school is essential**. If students arrive late, they miss carefully planned support designed to help them secure passes in these core subjects.

Mock Results Evening

Thank you to the many families who attended our **Mock Results Evening on Tuesday 3rd**. It was a very positive event with around **100 students and their parents/carers in attendance**.

For any families who were unable to attend, **mock results were sent out on Wednesday morning** so that everyone has access to the same information and next steps.

Homework

Homework has now restarted for Year 11. Please ensure that students are regularly checking **ClassCharts** and completing the work set by their teachers.

These tasks are designed to reinforce key knowledge and support students in preparing for their upcoming GCSE exams.

Year 11 Prom

A reminder that **Year 11 Prom will take place on 2nd July**.

We are beginning preparations for the event and would really appreciate support from our school community. If any parents or carers have **businesses that could help with items such as balloon arches, cupcakes or decorations**, please contact **Miss Davies** at ndavies@gospeloak.crst.org.uk.

Thank you for your continued support as we move into the final and most important weeks of Year 11.

Kind regards,

Miss Malkin and the Year 11 Team



As part of academic support – Year 13 students in Maths, Psychology and the Sciences have been timetabled to receive online tutoring – this is to help prepare them for their upcoming A Level examinations. This is a great opportunity for students to increase their knowledge of the subject and boost their outcomes to support them Post 18.

Last week 40 students attended the West Midlands Manufacturing festival – they were able to explore exhibits, speak to engineering firms, apprentices and manufactures. This gave students an insight into the manufacturing industry.

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

Year 12 attendance – 88.1 %

Year 13 attendance – 90.2 %

Your sincerely,

Mr Bala
Director of Post 16

Upcoming events:

6th July – 10th July – Work experience



To: All Parents/Carers

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2nd March 2026

Our Ref: JB.KH.3532

Your Ref:

Dear Parent / Carer,

Re: Culture Day

We are excited to announce that Gospel Oak School will be holding a Culture Day on Friday 13th March. The day is designed to celebrate the many different cultures within our school and community while helping students learn about the world around them.

Throughout the week, students will complete activities in tutor time and lessons linked to different parts of the world. Each year group will focus on a different region:

- Year 7 – Asia
- Year 8 – North and South America
- Year 9 – Africa
- Year 10 – Europe

Tutor groups will also take part in a tutor door decorating competition and prizes will be awarded.

On Friday 13th March, tutors will lead an activity about cultural drums and identity during tutor time. Students will also attend a special drums assembly with an external visitor and there will be themed lunches available during the week. At lunchtime, on Friday 13th March, there will be music in the restaurant, cultural food stalls and henna activities for students to experience.

Charity food sale

We would like students to bring in food from their culture to sell at lunchtime on Friday 13th March. All money raised will go to Birmingham Children's Hospital.

Students will be able to bring money to school on the day to buy snacks and food from different continents at break and lunchtime on top of their original meals they would have in the school day.

Important safety information

- All food brought into school must be labelled with the ingredients used
- This is especially important for students with allergies
- No nut products are allowed on site under any circumstances

If food is homemade and not labelled, it will not be able to be sold.

Dress code

We would also like students to celebrate their heritage by wearing cultural clothing on the day if they wish. National team football shirts are allowed. However, club football shirts are not permitted. Students who do not wish to take part should attend in normal school uniform.

Students must still wear suitable footwear and clothing appropriate for a school day.

Culture Day is a great opportunity for students to learn about different traditions, show pride in who they are and raise money for an important local charity. We hope it will be an enjoyable and memorable experience for everyone involved.

If you have any questions, please contact the school.

Yours faithfully,



Mr J Bowser
Associate Assistant Principal



To: All Parents/Carers

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6th March 2026

Our Ref: SBr.KH.3534

Your Ref:

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: SEND White Paper

We want to reassure all parents and carers across Central Regions Schools Trust following the release of the SEND White Paper.

Moments of national policy change can naturally prompt questions, but our commitment remains steady: every child in our care deserves the right support, at the right time, delivered with dignity and ambition.

Across CRST, our distinctive culture is built on inclusion, collaboration, and the belief that every learner can thrive. This culture will continue to guide our response as we review the proposals in detail. We welcome the White Paper's focus on consistency and early intervention, and we will work closely with families to understand what the changes may mean in practice.

Parents and carers are essential partners in shaping the best possible provision for children with SEND. Your insight, advocacy, and lived experience help us make thoughtful decisions, and we will continue to involve you openly as the national picture becomes clearer. Our schools will maintain regular communication and ensure that any developments are shared promptly and transparently. All governors will also be provided with this information to ensure a consistent and informed approach across our Trust.

Thank you for your continued trust in us.

Together, we will ensure that every child in our community feels known, supported, and able to flourish.

Yours sincerely,

Mr I Mellor
Director of Education



To: All Parent/Carers

Gospel Oak School

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6th March 2026

Our Ref: RQ.KH.3536

Your Ref:

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Parent/Carer Survey

I am writing to invite you to take part in a survey, which will help us to evaluate and further improve the quality of education we provide for our students at Gospel Oak School.

Your feedback is incredibly valuable. It helps us understand what is working well from a parent/carer perspective, and where we may need to sharpen our practice to ensure every student receives the best possible teaching and support.

The survey includes questions about teaching and learning across the school, including aspects of everyday classroom practice such as how students are supported to improve their work, and how staff check students' understanding during lessons.

You may remember a similar survey last year, which focussed on behaviour. The information we received was extremely helpful and contributed directly to the changes and improvements we made, resulting in our successful Ofsted inspection earlier this academic year. We are keen to continue working in partnership with families, and your views remain an important part of that process.

The survey should take no more than 3 minutes to complete. All responses will be reviewed carefully and used to inform next steps in our school improvement planning. Please complete the survey using this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/8eFtkGhU3u> The survey will close on: 20th March 2026.

Thank you in advance for your time and support.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs R Quirk
Vice Principal

COMMUNITY

UPCOMING





YEAR 10

MOCK EXAMS

16TH - 27TH MARCH

BE PREPARED & DO YOUR BEST!

EXPECTATIONS:

-  **ARRIVE ON TIME**
-  **BRING ALL EQUIPMENT**
-  **SILENCE DURING EXAMS**
-  **REVISE & STAY FOCUSED**

GOOD LUCK!
YOU CAN DO IT!


WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Real exam conditions
- ★ Silent exam halls with invigilators
- ★ Timed assessments in all subjects
- ★ A full exam timetable

EXPECTATIONS:

- Be punctual – arrive at least 10 minutes early
- Bring correct equipment (black pens, pencils, calculator, ruler)
- Wear full school uniform
- Follow all instructions carefully
- Try your absolute best in every exam

IMPORTANT RULES:

-  No mobile phones or smart devices
-  Bags must be left in designated areas
-  Clear water bottles only (no labels)
-  No talking in the exam hall

GOOD LUCK!
YOU CAN DO IT!