

# Gospel Oak Weekly Newsletter

## w.e. 13th March 2026



### UPCOMING DATES

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March - Takeover Challenge,  
West Bromwich Police Station

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March - WBA Darts Charity  
Event

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March - Year 10 Noughts &  
Crosses Theatre Trip

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March - Year 13 Finance Talk



### ASSEMBLY THEMES

Assembly focus this week was Culture  
Week

16/03 - Vaping

23/03 - PRIDE British Values

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

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

This week we have been celebrating Culture Week, providing students with opportunities to explore and appreciate the wide range of cultures represented within our school community and beyond. Through assemblies and tutor time activities, students have been reflecting on the importance of cultural understanding, respect and inclusion. These sessions have encouraged thoughtful discussions about identity, traditions and the ways in which diversity strengthens our community. Students have also had the opportunity to experience new foods from a variety of cultures, which has been a highlight of the week for many and a great way to celebrate the richness of our diverse community.

Some of our Year 8 students have also begun their RSA 8 Project, which focuses on developing leadership skills while encouraging students to think about how they can positively contribute to their local community. We look forward to seeing the ideas and initiatives our students develop as they work towards bringing people together and making a meaningful difference.

In addition, a group of our Year 10 students recently took part in an orienteering trip. It was fantastic to see students demonstrate their problem-solving abilities, teamwork and resilience throughout the day as they navigated the course and supported one another.

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

Hello Parents and Carers! 🙌

We've had a fantastic few weeks with our Year 7 students and wanted to share a quick update. It's been wonderful to see so many of our youngsters arriving to school ready to learn, showing positivity, and building great habits for the future! 🌟📚

## **Attendance Looking Sharp!** 🎯

Attendance across Year 7 is looking sharp and we're really proud of the effort students and families are making to ensure young people are in school every day. Being present in lessons means students don't miss out on important learning, friendships, and experiences that help them grow both academically and personally. 🧑🏫🧑🏫

Every single day counts. Even missing just a few days can make it harder for students to keep up with their learning. When students attend regularly, they build confidence, maintain strong routines, and develop positive habits that will support them throughout their education. 🧠🌟

## **Building Resilience** 💪

We are also encouraging students to build resilience when it comes to minor illnesses. Of course, if a child is genuinely unwell they should stay at home and recover. However, small colds, mild headaches, or feeling a little tired are often things that students can push through with support.

Learning to manage these small challenges helps students build resilience and independence. These are valuable life skills that will benefit them far beyond school. 🌱

## **Why Attendance Matters for the Future** 🚀

A great education opens doors. Regular attendance helps students develop strong knowledge, skills, and attitudes that will shape their future opportunities. By showing up, working hard, and staying committed, our Year 7 students are laying the foundations for success in the years ahead. 🏠🌍

School is not just about lessons — it's about friendships, teamwork, confidence, and discovering new interests. Being here every day helps students get the very best from their school experience. 🤝🧑🏫🏆

## **Thank You for Your Support** 🙏

Thank you to all our parents and carers for continuing to support strong attendance and positive routines at home. Working together makes a huge difference for our young people.

Let's keep the momentum going and make the rest of the term a great one! 💙

**Mr Wilson and the Year 7 Team**



### **Attendance**

We had a great start to the week with our attendance, but unfortunately it dipped again towards the end. We need to stay **consistent and resilient**, Year 8 – let's keep it going! Remember, any student who achieves **100% attendance this term** will be rewarded by coming out of lessons on the last day of term to enjoy the **inflatables**.

### **RSA8**

We have started **RSA8** this week. Mr Minton and some of our wonderful students visited **Waseley Hills** to begin the project. We can't wait to update you all on what they have been getting up to over the coming weeks.

### **Homework**

Please remember that homework must be completed every week. If homework is not completed, you will receive a **1-hour detention**.

Homework is due on the following days:

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

Homework is very important as it helps to strengthen your knowledge and understanding of what you learn in lessons.

We only have **two weeks left**, Year 8 – let's make them count. Be in school every day, work hard, and you will achieve!

**Mr Bowser and the Year 8 Team**



It has been another fantastic and vibrant week for Year 9, finishing with a real highlight for our school community. Today we celebrated **Culture Day**, and what a brilliant occasion it was! 🌍🎉 The day was full of positivity, celebration and learning as students embraced the opportunity to recognise and appreciate the many cultures that make up our school community. It was wonderful to see students getting involved, showing respect for one another and taking pride in sharing traditions, food, clothing and experiences from around the world. Events like this truly reflect the inclusive and supportive environment we are so proud of within Year 9.

We also want to celebrate an **excellent week of attendance** 🌞. Year 9 absolutely smashed their attendance figures this week, with some days reaching as high as **95%**. We are incredibly proud of the year group for showing real **grit and resilience** in getting themselves into school each day and continuing to raise the bar for attendance. Every day in school truly matters, and the effort from students and families is making a real difference.

Earlier this week, some of our students also represented the year group in the **darts tournament** organised through the West Bromwich Albion Foundation. Accompanied by Mr Mason, students had the chance to take part in a competitive and enjoyable event, showing excellent sportsmanship throughout. We look forward to sharing more updates and results from the tournament once they are confirmed. 🎯

As always, we continue to emphasise the importance of strong learning habits, particularly when it comes to **homework and organisation** as students continue preparing for their GCSE journey.

#### 📌 Homework Reminder

If students are unsure of their ClassCharts login or experience difficulties accessing homework at home, they should speak to their tutor, Mr Johnson, or visit the IT team during break or lunchtime. Support is always available. 🖥️

Please remember that **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 continues every **Wednesday after school in the LRC**, offering students a calm and supportive environment to complete their work or receive help if needed.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It has been a week full of celebration, opportunity and pride for Year 9, and we look forward to carrying this positive momentum into next week.

Once again, thank you for your continued support.

**Mr Johnson and the Year 9 Team**



Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Re: Year 10 Spring Mock Examinations**

We will be holding a mock examination period between **Monday 16th March** and **Friday 27th March** 2026. Our aim as a school is to ensure that students are fully prepared for their examinations next summer so that it is a positive experience for them.

To support this, the mock exams help students become familiar with the expectations of sitting a formal examination and the experience of working under exam conditions. This can potentially be an emotional and stressful time for both students and parents/carers, and we will endeavour to provide as much support as possible.

### **Attendance and Punctuality**

It is extremely important that students **attend school every day during the mock examination period and arrive on time**. These mock exams are an important opportunity for students to practise the exam experience and demonstrate the knowledge and skills they have developed so far.

### **Morning Exams – From 08:25 AM**

- Students line up on the **MUGA** where registers will be taken.
- Students enter the theatre in **silence**.
- Students sit in their **allocated seats**. They will sit in the same seat each day, arranged in **alphabetical order by tutor group**.
- During this time students must:
  - Remove all **lanyards**
  - Remove **labels from water bottles**
  - Ensure **pockets are empty**
  - Place all belongings, including **mobile phones and watches**, in their bags and ensure they are **switched off**.

### **Afternoon Exams – From 13:00 PM**

#### **From 12:50 PM**

- Students should enter the theatre through the **back door** and sit in their **allocated form tutor seats**, as they do in the morning.
- **Period 4 staff** will arrive at 12:50 PM to take the register.
- Students must:
  - Remove **lanyards**
  - Remove **labels from bottles**
  - Ensure pockets are empty
  - Place all belongings, including **mobile phones and watches**, in their bags and ensure they are **switched off**.

#### **From 13:00 PM**

- Students will be called row by row and should know their allocated exam seat.

### **Exam Etiquette Students Must Follow**

- Check **seating plans** before going to the theatre to line up.
- Leave **bags and coats** in the theatre.
- Enter the exam hall **in silence** and sit in the correct seat quickly, ready to begin.

**Miss Dunn and the Year 10 Team**



### **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.

### **GCSE Information 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 have been given to the students and the video of the information evening is available to catch up with on the website.

### **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. Tickets are available on Arbor Pay.

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

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

**Miss Malkin and the Year 11 Team**



Year 12 will be sitting their mocks next week – these give students an experience of sitting their A Level exams and how they are getting on with their subject knowledge. These exams give the students an insight in to the examination paper and the way they are structured.

On Thursday 26th March – There will be a finance talk for any year 13 student that is looking to go to university next year – this will be a chance to gain knowledge on the different loans available.

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

Year 12 attendance – 97.7%%

Year 13 attendance – 91.3%%

Your sincerely,

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

Upcoming events:

6th July – 10th July – Work experience



To: All Parent/Carers

**Gospel Oak School**

Bilston Road  
Gospel Oak  
Tipton  
West Midlands DY4 0BZ

T 0121 556 1351

F 0121 506 7833

W [www.gospeloakschool.co.uk](http://www.gospeloakschool.co.uk)

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:

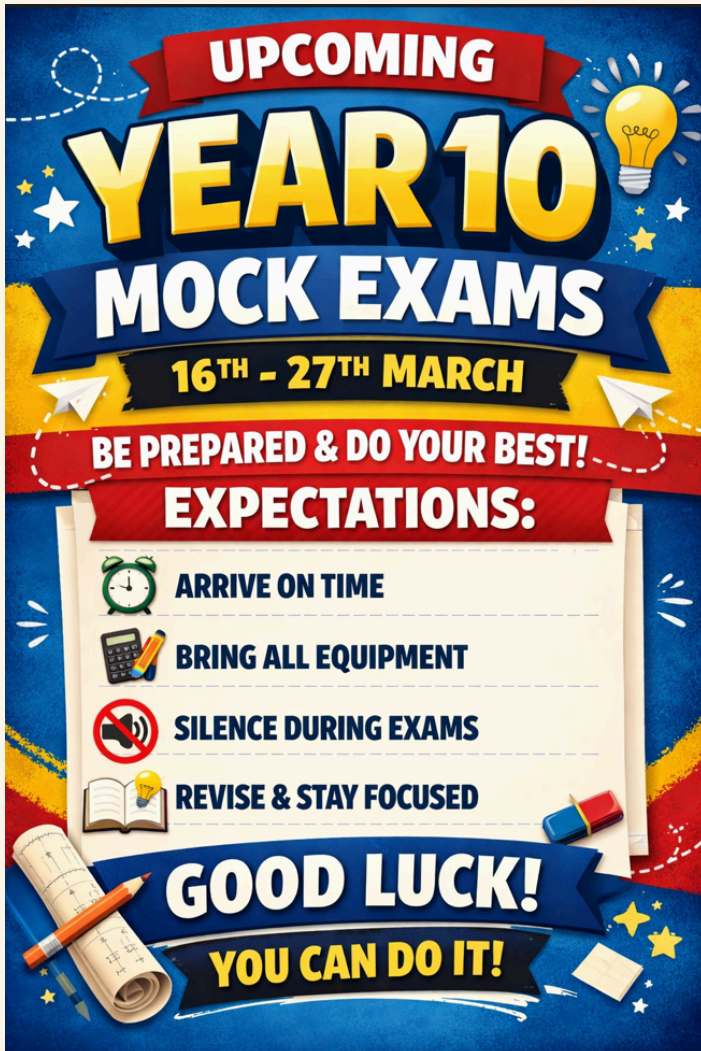
<https://forms.office.com/e/8eFtkGhU3u> The survey will close on: 20th March 2026.

Thank you in advance for your time and support.

Yours faithfully,

**Mrs R Quirk  
Vice Principal**





# COMMUNITY



**UPCOMING**  
**YEAR 10**  
**MOCK EXAMS**  
**16<sup>TH</sup> - 27<sup>TH</sup> 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

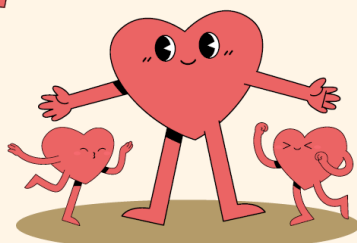
**GOOD LUCK!**  
**YOU CAN DO IT!**

THE BELONGING DOJO  
CIC PRESENTS



The Belonging Club

Starts  
16th  
March



Please see our community website for further information:

[Community Website](#)

**FREE Gambling Awareness Training** is taking place on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March from 10am – 12pm at Murray Hall Community Trust, St Marks Road, Tipton, DY4 0SL.

**Booking Link:** <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/free-gambling-awareness-training-tickets-1983522482139?aff=oddtcreator>

**Overview** - Join us in person for FREE fun and easy Gambling Awareness Training to boost your knowledge and gain insight to different forms of gambling

**FREE Gambling Awareness Training** - Join us **in person** for an eye-opening session all about **gambling awareness**. Whether you're curious, concerned, or just want to learn more, this training is a great chance to get the facts straight and pick up some handy tips. Don't miss out on this **free**, friendly event designed to help you understand and navigate the world of gambling with confidence!

**Please share across your networks.**

Kind regards,

**Irandeep Mann**

Public Health Development Officer - Tipton



[irandeep\\_mann@sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:irandeep_mann@sandwell.gov.uk)

07442 811455

[www.sandwell.gov.uk](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk)

Sandwell Council House, Freeth Street, Oldbury, B69 3DE

**HEALTHY SANDWELL**  
WE FIND THE SUPPORT YOU NEED

[www.healthysandwell.co.uk](http://www.healthysandwell.co.uk)  
0800 011 4656 or 0121 569 5100

Follow us @HealthySandwell

The banner features a green background with a grid of icons representing various health and support services: a person with a heart, a person with a cane, a person with a bicycle, a person with a shopping bag, a person with a head, a person with a hand, a person with a foot, and a person with a wheelchair.

**We Are Sandwell**  
Guided by our values  
It's who we are and who we aspire to be  
[www.celebratesandwell.com](http://www.celebratesandwell.com)

**Sandwell**  
Metropolitan Borough Council

The banner features a colorful geometric background with a white line-art illustration of a town skyline at the bottom. The Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council logo is in the top right corner.