

Gospel Oak Weekly Newsletter

w.e. 24th April 2026



UPCOMING DATES

Friday 1st May - Year 10 and Year 12 Mock Interview Day

Tuesday 12th May - Year 8 Future Thinking Programme Campus Visit

Friday 15th May - Year 9 Horizons Trip, Wolverhampton Art Gallery



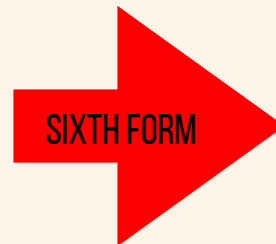
ASSEMBLY THEMES

Assembly focus this week was Sextortion

27/04 - Teaching and Learning - Mini Whiteboards

04/05 - Healthy Eating

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



MESSAGE FROM MISS LANE, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

It has been another successful week here at Gospel Oak, with our students continuing to work hard and demonstrate a positive attitude towards their learning.

This week's assembly focused on the important topic of sextortion and how students can keep themselves safe online. Students engaged thoughtfully with the message, and it was an important opportunity to reinforce how to stay safe and seek support if needed.

We have also been celebrating some fantastic sporting success. Our wonderful girls' athletics team finished 2nd overall and have qualified for the Black Country Games – a fantastic achievement that we are very proud of.

As April is recognised as Stress Awareness Month, we held an exam stress workshop on Tuesday for our Year 11 and 13 students. The session focused on strategies to manage stress and support wellbeing as they continue working hard towards their upcoming exams.

Homework remains a key part of students' success. Completing homework regularly helps to reinforce learning from lessons, build independent study habits and improve long-term understanding, all of which contribute to higher attainment. We encourage all students to take pride in their homework and for parents and carers to continue supporting them in establishing strong routines at home.

We look forward to another successful week next week.

YEAR TEAM UPDATES



YEAR 7

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this message finds you well. As we move further into the academic year, we would like to take a moment to share a few important reminders and updates to support your child's success in Year 7.

Attendance Matters

Regular school attendance is essential for both academic progress and social development. Every lesson builds on prior learning, and frequent absences can make it difficult for students to keep up. We kindly ask that you continue to prioritise your child's attendance wherever possible.

Coping with Minor Illnesses

We understand that children may occasionally feel under the weather. However, if your child has a minor illness (such as a mild cold), we encourage attendance where appropriate. Being in school helps maintain routine and continuity in learning. Of course, if your child is genuinely unwell, please follow school absence procedures.

Homework Expectations

Homework plays a vital role in reinforcing classroom learning and developing independent study habits. Please encourage your child to complete all homework tasks on time and to the best of their ability. Establishing a consistent routine at home can make a significant difference.

Communication and Enquiries

Our Year 7 enquiries email remains open and is the best way to contact the team. We aim to respond to all queries within 48 hours, although we do strive to reply as promptly as possible. Your patience and understanding are appreciated.

Uniform Reminder

A quick reminder about our school uniform expectations:

- Full school uniform must be worn at all times
- No trainers are permitted
- Jewellery should be minimal (no excessive items)
- False nails are not allowed

We appreciate your continued support in ensuring all students meet these expectations and represent the school with pride.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Mr Wilson and the Year 7 Team



Attendance Matters

Year 8, we need to talk about attendance.

Before half term, we were achieving an excellent 94–95%. That is something to be proud of. However, since returning, attendance has dropped significantly to 90%. This is a major decline and not the standard we expect from this year group.

Every day in school counts. We understand that mild illness happens, but building resilience is part of growing and succeeding. If you are well enough, you should be in school, learning, and pushing forward. Bringing appropriate medication and speaking to staff when needed is always an option.

Being present in school is one of the biggest factors in success. We know Year 8 can do better — and it's time to prove it.

Homework Expectations

There has also been a noticeable drop in homework completion this week.

Homework is not optional — it is a vital part of your learning. It reinforces what you've been taught in lessons and can make the difference between one grade and the next. Missing homework means missing opportunities to improve.

Year 8, we need to get back on track immediately. Let's return to completing homework on time and to the best of our ability.

Let's Aim Higher

We know what this year group is capable of. We have seen it already. Now it's time to reset, refocus, and rise back up.

Let's aim to:

- Improve our attendance back to 95% and beyond
- Complete all homework consistently
- Show the rest of the school what Year 8 can achieve

Keep working hard, stay focused, and support each other.

Year 8 — we've got this.

Mr Bowser and the Year 8 Team



It has been another fantastic and productive week for Year 9, with lots of positives to celebrate and reflect on.

PASS Surveys – A Brilliant Reflection of Year 9

This week, students have been completing their **PASS surveys**, and the responses we have received really highlight just how **truly magnificent this year group is**.

It has been fantastic to see how much our students **care about their education, their wellbeing, and each other**. The feedback shows a real sense of maturity, ambition and community – Year 9 should be very proud of this.

Attendance Continues to Improve!

Once again, **attendance has continued to grow**, and we are now over **2% above the national average for the week** – a brilliant achievement!

Our aim by the end of the academic year is to reach a year-to-date attendance figure of 93%.

Can we get there?

With your continued support... we absolutely can.

Assembly This Week

This week's assembly was on Online Safety and was delivered by Mrs Kaur.

Year 9 demonstrated **great maturity, respect and engagement throughout**, and it was fantastic to see such positive interaction.

Senior Leadership Team members also noted **how much progress the year group are making**, which is excellent recognition for our students.

Morning Meeting – St George's Day

Mr Johnson also delivered a morning meeting on the topic of St George's Day, and once again Year 9 were outstanding.

Students entered calmly, listened attentively and showed real respect throughout – a great example of the standards we are continuing to build every day.

Homework Expectations

Homework remains a key part of developing strong habits as students move closer to GCSE study.

Core homework is set weekly on:

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

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

We appreciate your support in ensuring homework is completed on time and to a high standard.

Working Together

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. It is clear that Year 9 are growing into a **focused, respectful and ambitious year group**, and we are excited to see this continue.

Let's keep pushing towards that **93% attendance target** and finish the year strongly.

Mr Johnson and the Year 9 Team



This term has been a busy and important one, with students continuing to build momentum in their GCSE courses.

Academic Progress

Students have now covered a substantial amount of GCSE content and have completed mock assessments in several subjects. These have provided valuable insight into current performance and areas for improvement. We are pleased with the effort shown and encourage students to continue building strong revision habits.

Attendance Update

We have recently seen a dip in attendance across Year 10, and this is something that needs to change. At this stage, every lesson is important. Absence can quickly lead to gaps in knowledge and impact progress. We ask for the support of parents and carers in ensuring students attend every day and arrive on time.

Work Experience – Final Push

As we approach the deadline, this is the final push for students to secure their work experience placements. This is a key opportunity to gain real-world experience and develop employability skills. Students who have not yet arranged a placement should take immediate action and seek support from the school if needed.

Alton Towers Trip – Letters and Payment

Letters have been distributed for the upcoming trip to Alton Towers. These include important details about the visit. Please ensure forms are completed and payment is made by the stated deadline to secure a place.

Looking Ahead

As we move towards the end of the year, students will begin preparing for their end-of-year assessments. These are an important step in getting ready for Year 11, and we encourage consistent revision and organisation at home.

Final Message

Thank you for your continued support. By working together, we can ensure all Year 10 students stay on track and make the most of the opportunities ahead.

Miss Dunn and the Year 10 Team



This Week at a Glance

- Key focus: Final preparation for exams
- Highlight: Revision timetable begins soon

Academic Updates

- All subjects are now focused on **exam preparation, consolidation, and practice papers**
- Students should be actively revising at home alongside in-school work

Important Dates

- **1st May** – Revision timetable begins
- **5th May** – First GCSE exam
- Ongoing – Targeted intervention sessions in school

Revision Tip of the Week

Try the “**blurting**” method:

1. Write everything you remember about a topic
2. Check against notes
3. Fill gaps in a different colour

Messy work is often the most effective.

Key Notices

Attendance Matters Now More Than Ever

With the first exam on **May 5th**, every lesson counts. We are seeing attendance dip for some students, and this needs to improve immediately.

Being in school means access to **specialist teaching, targeted support, and structured revision**, all of which make a real difference at this stage.

Revision Timetable – Starting May 1st

From May 1st, students will follow a **revision timetable** and be placed into **targeted sessions with subject specialists**.

These sessions are designed to focus on gaps and maximise performance. Attendance is essential.

Uniform Reminder – Hoodies

Only **official leavers’ hoodies** are permitted.

No other hoodies should be worn in school.

Wellbeing Corner

- Small habits matter: 7–8 hours sleep, short breaks, and staying hydrated improve memory and focus.
- If things feel overwhelming, speak to your tutor or pastoral team.

Looking Ahead

We are now entering the final stretch before exams begin.

Stay consistent, attend every session, and make the most of the support available.

Miss Malkin and the Year 11 Team



On Friday 6 Year 12 students attended a visit to see the future of our regions transport. They explored how new metro lines are connecting towns and opening up new opportunities. This was an excellent opportunity for students who were able to visit an established organisation and ask relevant questions to enhance their future choices.

Students this week took part in a finance talk with a representative from Wolverhampton University. Where they learnt about finance at university, loans and grants. It was insightful for the students, and the speaker was positive about student engagement.

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

Year 12 attendance – 87%

Year 13 attendance – 90%

Your sincerely,

Mr Bala
Director of Post 16

Upcoming events:

6th July – 10th July – Work experience