

# Gospel Oak Weekly Newsletter

## w.e. 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026



### UPCOMING DATES

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May - Year 8 Future Thinking Programme Campus Visit

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May - Year 9 Horizons Trip, Wolverhampton Art Gallery



### ASSEMBLY THEMES

Assembly focus this week was Teaching and Learning - Mini Whiteboards

04/05 - Healthy Eating

11/05 - Managing Finances

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, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

We have had another wonderful week here at Gospel Oak, with students continuing to engage positively in their learning and school life.

In assembly this week, we focused on the use of mini whiteboards in lessons and how important they are in supporting learning. Mini whiteboards allowed teachers to quickly check for understanding, adapt their teaching where needed, and ensure that all students were actively participating throughout the lesson.

We were also delighted to celebrate our new student leaders in Year 10. Following a strong field of applicants, these students were selected to take on key roles within the student body. We are confident they will represent the school with pride and make a valuable contribution to our community.

This Friday provided an excellent opportunity for our Year 10 students, who took part in mock interviews. This was a fantastic experience to help prepare them for the world of work, building confidence and developing important communication skills.

We hope everyone has a wonderful bank holiday weekend.

# YEAR TEAM UPDATES



YEAR 7

Dear parents/carers,

As we move further into the academic year, we would like to take this opportunity to share an important update regarding Year 7.

## **Attendance**

Attendance across the year group is currently a significant concern. We are seeing too many absences for minor illnesses, holidays taken during term time, and avoidable circumstances. Good attendance is essential for academic success and social development. We ask for your full support in ensuring that your child attends school every day unless unavoidable. Where attendance does not improve, further action may be required.

## **Behaviour**

We have also observed a decline in behaviour standards among some students. It is vital that all pupils consistently meet our school expectations, demonstrating respect, responsibility, and readiness to always learn. We will continue to address any concerns robustly and expect full cooperation from both students and families.

## **Homework**

All homework must be completed to the expected standard and submitted on time. This is a key part of reinforcing learning and developing independence. Failure to complete homework will result in sanctions.

## **Detentions**

Detentions are not optional. If a detention is issued, it must be attended. Any unavoidable issues must be communicated in advance by parents or carers directly with the Year Team. Failure to attend detentions will result in further consequences.

We are committed to supporting every student in achieving their full potential, but this requires a strong partnership between home and school. We appreciate your continued support in reinforcing these expectations.

**Mr Wilson and the Year 7 Team**



It has been a positive week for Year 8, and I'd like to start by highlighting our attendance. On Tuesday, we achieved an excellent 96%, which is a fantastic effort and shows what we can accomplish when everyone is committed to being in school and ready to learn. However, we saw a drop to 93% on Wednesday. While this is still solid, it shows how quickly momentum can slip. Let's keep pushing forward and aim for consistent high attendance every day.

Good attendance makes a real difference. Being in school means you don't miss out on important learning, discussions, and opportunities to succeed. Every lesson counts, and small improvements each day build into big achievements over time.

A reminder about the **end-of-year trip**: all letters must be returned by the end of this week. Please make sure this is completed promptly so no one misses out.

We also need to address **homework**. Recently, there has been a noticeable decline in homework completion, which has led to an increase in detentions. Homework is essential—it reinforces what you've learned in class, helps build independence, and prepares you for assessments. Completing it regularly will make your schoolwork feel much more manageable and improve your overall progress.

Don't forget our **attendance award**: students who achieve 100% attendance this term will be rewarded with free ice cream—a well-deserved treat for consistent effort and commitment.

Finally, here is our **Quote of the Week**:

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out." – Robert Collier

Let's take that message into the week ahead—stay focused, keep working hard, and aim high.

Have a great week!

**Mr Bowser and the Year 8 Team**



What another fantastic week it has been for Year 9! Once again, attendance has remained strong at 93% this week, showing the continued commitment and resilience of our students.

After a small blip at the start of the week, where attendance dipped to **91.1% on Monday**, Year 9 responded brilliantly and bounced straight back, reaching an impressive **95% on Tuesday**. It was fantastic to see the year group quickly rise back to the **top of the attendance charts** the very next day. We are incredibly proud of the way students responded and showed real determination.

### **End of Year Trip Reminder**

Please can all **trip letters and reply slips be returned by the end of this week**. If students need another copy of their trip letter, they can visit G1 and speak to our lovely admin team, who will be happy to provide the letter they need.

### **Assembly Update**

For this weeks assembly, Year 9 were absolutely fantastic in the way they entered the hall, settled quickly, and listened respectfully throughout. Their maturity and positive attitude continue to shine.

### **Homework Reminder**

If students are unsure of their ClassCharts login or have any difficulties accessing homework at home, please encourage them to 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**, providing a calm and supportive space for students to complete their work or receive extra help if needed.

### **Attendance Reward Reminder**

A reminder that all students who achieve **100% attendance** by the final week of term will be rewarded with **ice cream, fun and games on the field** – a fantastic way to celebrate excellent commitment!

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Year 9 continue to make us proud each week, and we look forward to seeing this positive momentum continue into next week.

**Mr Johnson and the Year 9 Team**



### **How you can support your child at home**

You can help your child by encouraging them to:

- Stay organised with schoolwork and deadlines
- Prepare for upcoming assessments
- Take time to discuss their progress and goals

### **Important reminders**

- **Work Experience:** The final extended deadline for submitting placements is **18th May**.
- **Alton Towers Trip:** Please ensure **consent letters and forms are returned as soon as possible** to secure your child's place.

### **Careers Update**

We are pleased to share that the recent **mock interview afternoon with employers was a great success**. Students gained valuable experience in interview skills and received helpful feedback to support their future applications.

### **Attendance Matters**

Good attendance is essential for your child's success. Missing school can make it harder to keep up with learning, coursework, and key information.

Please note that **without 100% attendance, students may not be eligible for certain trips and enrichment opportunities**.

If your child is experiencing any difficulties attending school, please contact us so we can offer support.

### **Looking ahead**

Next term, students will:

- Continue preparing for their GCSES
- Take part in further enrichment opportunities
- Continue developing key skills for Year 11

### **Final note**

Year 10 is an important stage in your child's education as they begin preparing for their final GCSE year. Your support at home plays a key role in helping them succeed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

**Miss Dunn and the Year 10 Team**



## Headline of the Week

This is the point where your habits now directly impact your results. What you do over the next few weeks matters.

## What's Happening in Lessons

- **English:** Timed responses and exam technique
- **Maths:** Past papers and targeted revision
- **Science:** Required practicals and exam-style questions
- **Options Subjects:** Final content and coursework deadlines

## Key Updates (Read Carefully)

- **Revision Timetables start Friday**  
You will receive a weekly revision timetable that you are expected to follow. These are not optional.
- These are **paper copies**  
Take a photo as soon as you receive it.  
Keep it safe. Losing it is not an acceptable excuse.
- **Be in school by 8:25am every day**  
You will be given **essential exam information and updates** each morning.  
If you are late, you will miss information that directly affects you.

## Revision Tip of the Week – Quizzing

Reading notes is not enough. You need to actively test yourself.

- Use flashcards or online tools
- Cover your notes and write out what you remember
- Get someone to quiz you

If you cannot recall it, you do not know it yet.

## Key Dates

- **Leavers' Assembly:** 15th June  
Get your shirts ready.
- **Prom:** 2nd July  
Tickets are available until 1st June. Do not leave this until the last minute.

## Reminder

- Bring the correct equipment every day
- Check your exam timetable carefully
- Ask for help now, not the night before the exam

## Wellbeing

You are expected to work hard, but you also need to be sensible:

- Sleep properly
- Take short, structured breaks
- Stay organised

## Final Thought

There is no shortcut from here. Effort, consistency, and focus will decide your outcome.

**Miss Smith and the Year 11 Team**



As the exam season approaches, we would like to remind students and parents the importance of attending each day. Students in year 13 will be attending masterclasses for each of their subjects. These masterclasses are crucial to student's exam success.

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

Year 12 attendance –95.2 %

Year 13 attendance – 88%

Your sincerely,

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

Upcoming events

21st May – Year 12 Parents' Evening

6th July – 10th July – Work experience



To: Yr 11 Parents/Carers

**Gospel Oak School**

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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)

20<sup>th</sup> April 2026

**Our Ref:** SD.KH.3571

**Your Ref:**

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Re: Year 11 Study Leave**

I hope this letter finds you well.

As we approach the examination period for our Year 11 students, we would like to take this opportunity to outline the support we will be providing to ensure all students are fully prepared for their exams.

We will be providing a comprehensive programme of structured revision masterclasses in school. These sessions are designed to reinforce key knowledge, address common misconceptions and provide targeted exam practice under the guidance of subject specialists. Our aim is to give students a meaningful boost in confidence and attainment immediately prior to their examinations.

In addition, where students have completed their option subjects, this time will be used productively by allocating them to additional lessons in core subjects—namely Mathematics, English, and Science. These sessions will focus on consolidating essential skills and ensuring students are as well-prepared as possible across these key areas.

We are confident that this structured approach will offer students both academic support and a focused environment in which to prepare effectively.

We appreciate your continued support in encouraging your son/daughter to attend all sessions and to engage fully with the opportunities provided.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours sincerely,

**Mrs S Davies**  
**Assistant Principal**

# COMMUNITY



## SUMMER EVENT!

Shaping Brighter Futures Tipton.

What We're Looking For

If you're a...

Dance company – bring your dancers and wow the crowd with a performance!

Martial arts club – show off your skills with a mini-demonstration.

Youth group or Guides/Brownies – display your projects or run a fun activity stall.

Choir, band, or drama group – we'll give you a performance slot to showcase your talent.

Sports club – run a taster session, skills drill, or display your trophies.

Art, craft, or creative club – set up a table and exhibit your amazing work.

Community groups - share what support is on hand

...and much more! If you have something that represents the spirit and pride of Tipton, we'd love to have you there.

### Table-Top Sale – Support Local Makers

We're also hosting a table-top sale for anyone with a small cottage industry, side hustle, handmade craft business, or micro-enterprise. This is a great opportunity to promote your products and meet new customers.

Tables are just £10 each, making it a great, low-cost opportunity to showcase and sell your products.

Please email [sbft@gospeloak.crst.org.uk](mailto:sbft@gospeloak.crst.org.uk) for further details.



Have your say in our Black Country Physical Activity Survey - and WIN a prize!

The charity Active Black Country, in partnership with local councils, is carrying out a survey to find out what stops children, young people and adults from moving more, being active and playing sport.

It wants to hear from you to understand how it can help to break down barriers and create more physical activity opportunities for everyone.

By completing the short survey, you will be entered into a prize draw, with the chance to win one of 10 prizes including Amazon, supermarket, and energy vouchers.

Link: <https://form.typeform.com/to/s9zXO7wj>

Survey in other languages if required:

URDU - <https://form.typeform.com/to/u9WGgCdo>

PUNJABI - <https://form.typeform.com/to/n93nlecO>

BENGALI - <https://form.typeform.com/to/OgbC3cFc>

Contact details

For more information on the Black Country Physical Activity Survey and to receive a copy of the key findings when available, contact Strategic Lead for Active Communities at Active Black Country, Jodi Adams.

Email: [jodi.adams@activeblackcountry.co.uk](mailto:jodi.adams@activeblackcountry.co.uk).

# Parent Carer SEND Co-production Workshop

- Understand what Co-production and Participation is
- Find out how to get your voice heard
- Help to shape SEND services and support in Sandwell
- Find out about parent carer forums
- Help us to create our Sandwell Parent Carer SEND Co-production charter



May 6th 26  
10:00-12:30



Online  
Workshop

To join the workshop send an email to :  
[amanda\\_tickle@sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:amanda_tickle@sandwell.gov.uk)

