



Relentlessly Pursuing Excellence

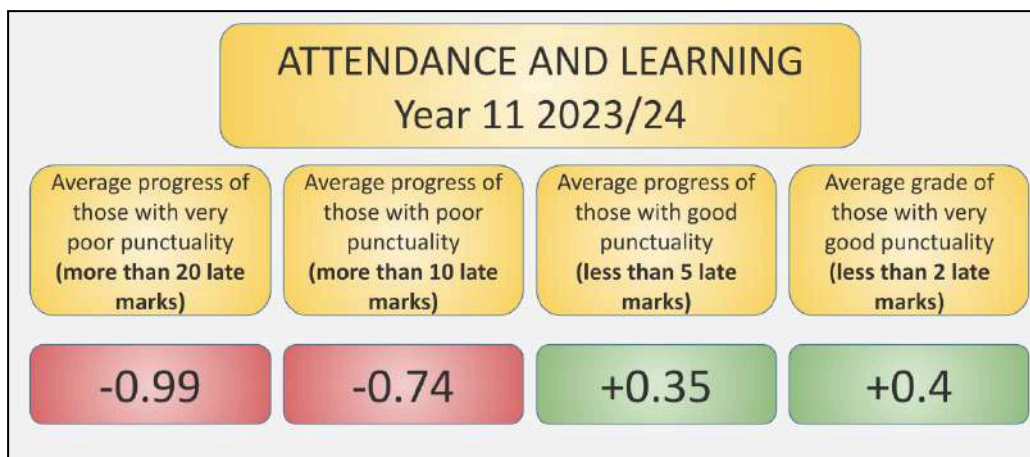
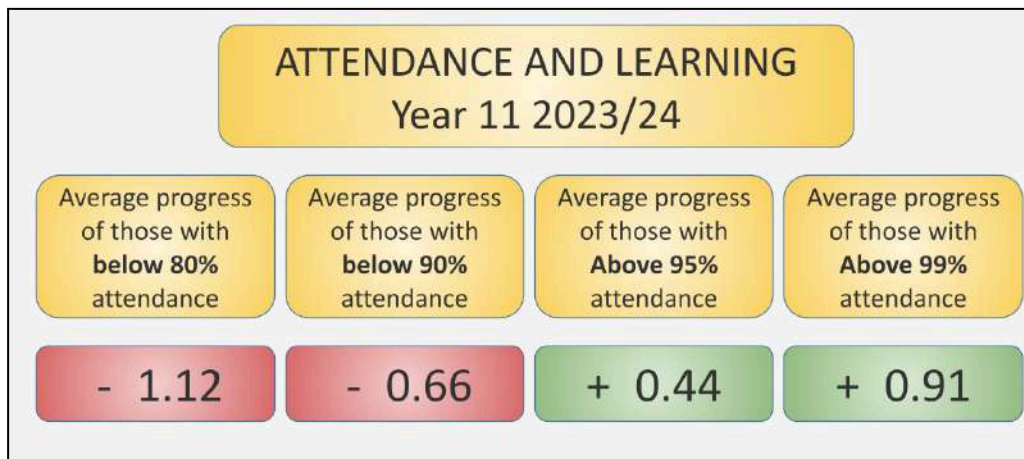
Parent Bulletin - Friday 11th October 2024

Headteacher Update:

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope you have had a lovely week. Today it certainly feels as though we are tumbling into the thick mists of winter, and so the focus of this week's bulletin is attendance at school.

As I frequently talk about, attending school consistently is one of the key factors in ensuring academic progress. Regular attendance allows your child to engage fully in learning, develop essential skills, and build a strong foundation for their future. Missing lessons frequently can create gaps in understanding, making it difficult for students to catch up, which can impact their overall progress. It also can add pressure to the children when they miss a significant amount of learning and they have to be able to find time to plug those gaps either by doing additional work at home or attending intervention sessions. There is a proven link between school attendance and progress students make as highlighted below. This diagram represents the Year 11 students who have just left GWA with the best results in 10 years. That year the group's attendance overall was in line with the national average. Simply put, those students who attended, did well.



Each school day is filled with new learning experiences, both in and out of the classroom. When students attend regularly, they benefit from a steady flow of information, guidance, and support from teachers. This continuity helps them develop their knowledge, enhance their problem-solving skills, and gain the confidence to tackle new challenges. The research and our own data shows that students who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve better grades and are more prepared for future education and employment opportunities.

In addition to academic benefits, school attendance is crucial for developing important social skills. School provides a safe environment for students to form friendships, collaborate with peers, and learn how to communicate effectively. These experiences are essential for their emotional well-being and help them develop the interpersonal skills they will need throughout life. By being present at school, your child is better able to build relationships, resolve conflicts, and learn from diverse perspectives.

Of course, we understand that sometimes children fall ill, and that they simply will not be well enough to come to school. If your child is unwell and you're unsure whether they should attend school, we encourage you to refer to the [NHS guidance](#) on common childhood illnesses. It offers practical advice on when to keep your child at home and when it's safe for them to return to school.

There may also be times that social, emotional and mental health concerns may be affecting your child from attending school. We will do everything we can to remove any barriers that mean that your child is anxious or worrying about attending school. We have a very experienced pastoral team who will help to support you and your child. Please get in contact with your child's Head of Year if you have any concerns or worries

I really want to thank you for your support with school attendance. As a school community our efforts have meant that at this point in the academic year our whole school attendance year to date is 1% higher than it was at this point last year. Cumulatively this equates to 1000 days of learning across the school year.

I will leave you now to read through the rest of the bulletin. I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards



Mrs K Moore
Headteacher

School Events / News for this week:

Dance club:

Dance club is every Tuesday after school - 4pm open to all year groups. We are currently working on a piece to perform at **The Autumn Community Dance Festival, Walsall Arena on 18th November.**

English:

Year 7 and 8 students had the opportunity today within their English lessons to visit the brand new library here at GWA. They were thoroughly impressed with the new resources and loved having the opportunity to read independently.



RE:

In RE Year 8's have been working hard looking at creation accounts from different religions and cultures, we are now moving on and looking at what might happen when we die? We are exploring religious and non religious attitudes to death, near death experience, reincarnation and ghosts. They have demonstrated some amazing communication skills when debating the above topics.

English:

A student Miss Styche would like to praise and acknowledge this week is: Kanar Ahmed!
Kanar works extremely hard in English and she has been an amazing new addition to 8JUL.
Last week, she designed a beautiful mask to attend a masquerade party in the play 'Much Ado About Nothing'.



Boys Football:

On Tuesday night the year 9 boys football team won their first game of the season away at Staffordshire University Academy. It was a very wet and miserable evening, however the effort shown by the lads was fantastic. After showing great creativity and communication to go 2-0 up we found ourselves at 2-2 with the lads needing to show real resilience in the second

half to bring the result home. They did just that with a hat trick from Jayden and 2 goals from Dainton we won the game 5-2. A great way to start our season here at Great Wyrley. We have 4 more fixtures between now and half term with games for the 8s, 10s and 11s. Let's hope for more of the same.



Cross-country:

On Wednesday we participated in the first cross-county event of the year at Chase Terrace Academy. There was a large turnout from the schools from Cannock, Lichfield & Burntwood and in the Y8/9 boy race there were in excess of 50 participants.

All the students put in a cracking effort over the course which ranged from 2.5 km for the younger students up to 4 km for the older students. A shout out to Freddie Rogers who came second in the Y10/11 race and was so close to first, he was just pipped on the line after a tough 4 kilometres.

Our next race is in two weeks time at King Edwards in Lichfield and we will hopefully take more students. If you are interested in running, **please come to S6 at the end of the school day with your PE kit or speak to Mr Tindall. Book your slot on Arbor.**



PGL Residential Trip July:

Please remember that the deadline for £50 deposit to attend the residential trip during activity week in July was set for Monday 14th October.

We are still getting payments coming in and students asking about more information. We will extend the deadline for deposits to Thursday 17th October as PGL needs to know numbers on the 18th October. Again, if you have paid a deposit from last year your child will automatically have a place, however if you require a refund due to change in dates and price, please contact reception before Thursday 17th October.



Krakow Trip:

The History department are very excited about launching the ASPIRE week visit to Krakow in Poland. This will also involve a visit to the Nazi concentration camp of Auschwitz Birkenau with a dedicated tour guide for the day. A visit to this most important historical site is a very special and significant experience for any that are able to attend it. Krakow itself is an extremely beautiful city and there are a variety of other experiences planned for the excursion. Information has been sent via Arbor mail and deposits of £150 must be paid by October 25th to secure a place on the trip.

Hospitality and Catering

Students have been working on food presentation skills this week. Year 9 with their fab fakeaways - chicken tenders and Year 11 tried out some piping on cottage pie...



World Mental Health day:

We celebrated World Mental health day with assemblies in all Year groups and form time activities.

We have focused on trying to get students to talk about their feelings and recognise if their friends or family members are struggling. There are strategies attached to the Safeguarding Parent bulletin this week. We will continue to discuss mental health as part of our PSHE programme this year.



Sparx Maths Champions for the year so far:

Student Leaderboards ⓘ

This year

Yearly Leaderboard This academic year

1	Maisie Davies (Maisie the Philonoist)	3,391 XP
2	Lexi-Jane Hilditch (Lexi-Jane the Successor)	3,086 XP
3	Samuel Johnson (Samuel the Testator)	3,010 XP
4	Max Yewer (Max the Ensurer)	2,822 XP
5	Evie West (Evie the Heart)	2,554 XP
6	Ayvah Duncan (Ayvah the Advantage)	2,249 XP
6	Ronnie Dummelow (Ronnie the Fireball)	2,249 XP
8	Dylan Moore (Dylan the Trainer)	2,179 XP
9	Ollie King (Ollie the Executive)	2,074 XP
10	Lana Brotherton (Lana the Maven)	2,049 XP

Harvest Festival / Food bank plea:

After our successful collections of food last academic year we are looking to do a further collection. The impact that our donations have on the local community is huge and so we feel that as part of our civic duty it is important that we continue to support whenever and wherever we can. Today is our first plea for donations. If you have any non-perishable food items that you would like to donate please ask your child to bring them into school and hand into reception. We will be launching this with the children on Monday during GWA expectations in form time.



Carve your best
pumpkin.







Upload your photo on the
slide with your full name
and house.

Start date: 14th October
End date: 1st November

Curriculum Updates for this week:

Homework

Based on feedback from students and parents, we've updated our Arbor platform. Now, students can easily mark their homework as complete within the app, and parents can see their progress as well. This new feature encourages students to take ownership of their learning and become more independent. While positive points will still be awarded for completed homework and negative points for non-completion, we hope this simplified process will make managing homework a breeze for everyone.

 Homework set		 Homework Due
Thursday 26 September 2024 		Thursday 10 October 2024
Friday 11 October 2024 		Thursday 24 October 2024
Friday 25 October 2024 		Thursday 14 November 2024

Subject Rotations for Cycle 1

We're excited to announce that starting next week, Year 7, 8, and 9 students will be rotating some of their subjects. This change will allow each student to have dedicated focus time on each subject every week, instead of just once every two weeks. We believe this will lead to improved learning outcomes and a more enriching educational experience.

The subjects affected are **Art, Drama, ICT and Music**.

- **Those who have done Drama in Cycle 1a will be moving to Music in Cycle 1b**
- **Those who have done Music in Cycle 1a will be moving to Drama in Cycle 1b**
- **Those who have done Art in Cycle 1a will be moving to ICT in Cycle 1b**
- **Those who have done ICT in Cycle 1a will be moving to Art in Cycle 1b**

Students will be given their new timetable in form on Monday. It is also available to view prior to this using Arbor.

We understand that changing timetables can sometimes be disruptive, but we believe the benefits of this rotation outweighs any inconvenience. By providing students with more consistent focus time on each subject, we aim to help them develop a deeper understanding and appreciation for the arts and creative subjects.

Extra-curricular Clubs Schedule

All clubs can be signed up for using the Arbor Parent Portal

Day	Which club?	Year group	Teacher	Where	Time of club
Monday	Year 7 Football	7	Mr Phillips	MUGA	3:10-4
Monday	Netball	7-11	Mrs McCarthy	Redgra/Field	3:10-4
Monday	UK maths Challenge	7 and 8	Mr Frankham	Q24	3:10-3.45
Monday	Darts Club	7-11	Ms Salter	Hall	3:10-4
Monday	Chess Club	7-11	Mr Nisar	Q22	3:10-4
Monday	Homework club	7-11	Mrs Moore	Library	3:10-4
Tuesday	Dance	7-11	Mrs Wood	Dance Studio	3:10-4
Tuesday	Fashion Club	7- 9	Mrs Chapman	D8	3:10-4
Tuesday	Year 8/9 Football	8/9	Mr Phillips	MUGA	3:10-4
Tuesday	Choir	7-10	Miss Condrey	M2	3:10-4
Tuesday	Knit & Natter	7-11	Mrs Crabb	D5	3:15-4:15
Tuesday	Homework Club	7-11	Mrs Moore	Library	3:10-4
Thursday	Table Tennis	7-10	Mr Mcfarlane	DT Foyer	3:10-4
Thursday	Drama - Shrek the Musical rehearsals	7-11	Miss Wilson	Theatre	3:10-5
Thursday	Warhammer Club	7-10	Mr Moore	Science	3:15-4:30
Thursday	Bench Ball	7-8	Mrs John	Gym	3:15-4

Thursday	Mindfulness Colouring	7-10	Miss Friel, Miss Himminsley & Mrs Haddaway	B block	3:10-4
Thursday	Homework Club	7-11	Mrs Moore	Library	3:10-4
Friday	Girls Football	7-11	Mrs Fielder	MUGA	3:10-4
Friday	Art Club	7-11	Mrs Down	D7	3:10-4
Friday	Running Club	7-11	Mr Tindall	S6	3.10 - 4.10
Friday	Homework Club	7-11	Mrs Moore	Library	3:10-4

Student Services Updates for this week:

Great Wyrley Academy students have received over 8600 aspire points this week. The top 3 character virtues and learner skills demonstrated this week are **being collaborative, communicating clearly and being organised**.



Be organised	507
Communicate clearly	447
Be collaborative	420
Become unstuck	213
Resilient	142
Creative	123
Respectful	81
Responsible	67
Courageous	19
Self-quiz	6

Top 10 Aspire Points (@ 2 pm Fri 11 October)

Year 7				Year 8				Year 9			
Isabelle	Heathcock	7 Lions	41	Holly	Shotton	8 Lions	38	Jayden	Elmore	9 Raptors	27
Kaila	Richards	7 Lions	41	Megan	Williams	8 Lions	38	Olly	Delaney	9 Wolves	26
Amelia	Critch	7 Lions	39	Ashton	Lloyd	8 Wolves	37	Harry	Jones	9 Warriors	26
Connie	Flynn	7 Raptors	38	Oliver	Gorman	8 Wolves	35	Eloane	Boyi	9 Warriors	25
Jenson	Law	7 Lions	38	Libby	Taylor	8 Wolves	34	Joshua	Niles	9 Wolves	24
Samuel	Johnson	7 Lions	36	Méabh	Fitzsimons	8 Wolves	33	Leah	Cartwright	9 Wolves	23
Joseph	Cox	7 Raptors	35	Freddie	Skelton	8 Wolves	33	Lydia	Dutton	9 Lions	23
Lexi-Jane	Hilditch	7 Raptors	35	Cameron	Farrell	8 Wolves	32	Elliot	Lunt	9 Lions	23
Tyler	Jordan-Lees	7 Lions	34	Beau	Telford	8 Wolves	30	Megan	Carter	9 Lions	22
Sammie	Robertson	7 Wolves	34	Paige	Williams	8 Lions	30	Indiya	Edwards	9 Wolves	22

Year 10				Year 11			
Freya	Lane	10 Warriors	36	Maddison	Procter	11 Lions	42
Jessie	Robinson	10 Warriors	28	Tye	Daley	11 Lions	38
Sophie	Pearson	10 Warriors	27	Conor	Follett	11 Lions	37
Paige	Mills	10 Raptors	20	Grace	Wiggin	11 Lions	37
Kirsty	Walters	10 Wolves	20	Freya	Widdowson	11 Wolves	33
Nathan	Buckley	10 Lions	18	Leisal	Collett	11 Lions	32
Rhoda	Obakpe	10 Wolves	18	Olivia	Sirrett	11 Lions	30
Noah	Cantello	10 Lions	17	Georgia	Dolman	11 Wolves	27
Chloë	Salter	10 Lions	17	Ellie	Shotton	11 Lions	27
Megan	Asbury	10 Raptors	16	Leah	Kelley	11 Warriors	25

Well done to MADDISON PROCTOR (11 LIONS) for getting the most Aspire Points this week and being BEST IN SCHOOL

**100% Attendance for this Week - Roll of Honour
(To get on next week's roll of honour you need to make sure you are in EVERYDAY)**

YEAR 7			
LIONS	RAPTORS	WARRIORS	WOLVES
Adey, Oliver	Ashmore, Dylan	Adkins, Stanley	Allcutt, Harry
Bingham, Daniel	Bate, Macy	Ashley, Amira	Bradbury, Evie
Critch, Amelia	Bate, Miyah	Beddow, Drew	Brookes, Clara
Hadley, Elijah	Bird, Florence	Bevan, Phoebe	Brookhouse, Blake
Heathcock, Isabelle	Blakeway, Tate	Capewell, Sophie	Carter, Elliemae
Hems, Emilie	Bowen, Vinny	Cartridge, Ella	Daley, Amelia
Hinsley, Zane	Briers, Eve	Cook, Oscar	Davies, Maisie
Holmes, Harry	Cooper, Daisy	Donnelly, Keris	Elmore, Riley
Johnson, Samuel	Cooper, Ellis	Dummelow, Ronnie	Farkas, Lili
Jordan-Lees, Tyler	Corfield, Haydn	Evans, Paige	Fletcher, Layton
Law, Jenson	Cox, Joseph	Harrison, James	Haste, Jamie
Mulliss-Blewitt, Kylan	Duncan, Ayvah	Haywood, Kylan	Hogarth, Hattie
Muthuhewa, Christian	Edwards, Morgan	Hill, Penny	Peel, Jack
Poole, Darcey	Flynn, Connie	Jennings, Olivia	Rafiu, Oyedele
Raybould, Martha	Hilditch, Lexi-Jane	King, Ollie	Read, Lily
Redmond, Ayva	Hill, Riley	Looker, Layton	Robertson, Sammie
Richards, Kaila	Hooks, Daniel	Parcell, Max	Stratfull, Tyler
Rose, Izaak	Jennings, Vincent	Preston, George	Walker, Luvarna
Russell, Alice	Kayode, Nicole	Pritchard, Jacey	Walker, Thomas
Wakelam, Betsy	Knight, Charlie	Robinson, Emily	West, Evie
Wesley, Jaylon	Mansell, Lailah	Runiewicz, Skye	White, Luke
Whitehouse, Ava	Nunn, Joey	Turner, Charlie	Yates, Oliver
Winter, Jenson	Powell, Emily	Walleth, Mya	Yewer, Max
Wright, Kai	Rennocks, Evie	Wood, Harry	Yates, Oliver
Winter, Jenson	Shawa, Mal	Wood, Harry	Yewer, Max
Wright, Kai	Stanley, Poppy		
	Taylor, Luke		

YEAR 8

LIONS	RAPTORS	WARRIORS	WOLVES
Bowen, Caelan	Ahmed, Kanar	Benton, Oliver	Bayliss, Logan
Crump, Edward	Andrews, Frankie	Birkett, Peyton	Davis, Archie
Evans, Harry	Bacon-Jones, Tyler	Bowes, Taliah	Farrell, Cameron
Flynn, Grace	Brooks, Jaquan	Bowyer, Mini	Fitzsimons, Méabh
Ford, Reuben	Copeland, Evie	Brooks, Riley	Gorman, Oliver
Hooper, Jensen	Dawes, Jake	Burke, Paije	Hall, Laila-Faith
Howell, Oscar	Dicken, Logan	Burton, Logan	Halmo, Noemi
Jackson, Nicole-Lea	Downes, Brandon	Colley, Elsie-May	Harris, Millie
Jakes, Evie-Mae	Edwards, Preston	Delaney, Brodi	Kerr, Lewis
Landers, Katherine	Gradev, Ventsislav	Fisher, Alex	Kus, Harry
Law-Edwards, Ellis	Graham, Ky	Fletcher, Avary-Lea	Lloyd, Ashton
Lloyd, Evie-Mai	Heath, Isabella	Friel, Flynn	Manley, Jade
Marshall, Miley	Heath, Olivia	Hayward, James	Parker, Frankie
Morgan, Rosie	Johnston, Lewis	Kayode, Bryan	Porton-Beaman, Grace
Morris, Charlie	Moseley, Isabella	Kerr, Riley	Potter, Ollie
Nock, Sonia	Rawlins, Hannah	Lines, Cole	Rafiu, Yetunde
Noon, Paige	Russell, Louie	Mills, Daniel	Randell, Bradley
Perry, Lydia	Smith, Brodie	O'Hare, India	Skelton, Freddie
Sanders, Sienna	Taylor, William	Pattihis, Leonidas	Taylor, Libby
Shotton, Holly	Turner, Alice	Peakman, Eden	Telford, Beau
Simkiss, Mazie-Lou		Plummer, Evie	Wall, Jorge
Walker, Jacob		Raybould, Amber	Walsh, Daniel
Weaver, Emily		Reynolds, George	
Williams, Megan		Rushton, William	
Williams, Paige		Sedgwick, Eli	
Wootton, Darcey		Stokes, Jack	
Williams, Paige		Tisdell, Millie	
Wootton, Darcey			

YEAR 9			
LIONS	RAPTORS	WARRIORS	WOLVES
Billett, Olivia	Boshell, Kai	Abdelhadi, Omaimah	Arrowsmith, Isabella
Carter, Megan	Clark, Ellie-Mae	Boyi, Eloane	Bacon-Jones, Tia
Challinor, Lily-Rose	Dawkins, Hollie	Chen, Kelly	Bingham, Taylor
Davis, Lucas	Elmore, Jayden	Clarke, Vinnie	Cadman, Harriet
Dutton, Lily	Elson, Grace	Ellis, Grace	Cartwright, Leah
Dutton, Lydia	Foster, Phoebe	Gillion, Xander	Cowell, Lacie
Grant, Gracie	Harrison, Daniel	Gray-Davis, Amelia	Delaney, Olly
Hunt, Reuben	Hulett, Owen	Harman, Faith	Devey, Jacob
Lloyd, Grace	Jenkins, Poppy	Hems, Dainton	Element-Stretton, Jayden
Loverock, Alfie	Joshua, Kelvin	Hodgkiss, Lucy-May	Everall, Sophie
Lunt, Elliot	Kendrick, Thomas	Horton, Dom	French, Charlie
Mansell, Gracie	Kneller, Isaac	Hutchinson, Xavier	Hannon, Violet-May
Marston, Olivia	Noon, Megan	Jackanowska, Chanel	Harley, Archie
Orme, Leo	Rhodes, Lexie-Mae	Jones, Harry	Headley, Chloe
Palmer, Joshua	Richards, Grace	Kallon, Idrissa	Heeley, Lily
Ridgway, Harry	Severn, Beau	Mellor, Kian	Niles, Joshua
Seedhouse, Jayden	Spink, Layla	Norton, Oliver	Poole, Noah
Taylor, Isobella	Stanton, Saffron	Nye, Elliott	Robbins, Ellie-May
Trow, Olivia		Preston, Freya	
Wootton, Poppy		Read, Daisie	
Yates, Isabelle		Skelton, Ava	
Wootton, Poppy		Ward, Olivia	
Yates, Isabelle			

YEAR 10			
LIONS	RAPTORS	WARRIORS	WOLVES
Buckley, Nathan	Asbury, Megan	Abdelhadi, Ahmed	Bailey, Katie
Cantello, Noah	Barker, Leah	Brown, Kayla	Bingham, Angel
Gryska, Aurelia	Bulai, Cristian	Chen, Jessica	Blaymires, Charlie
Hamilton-Morris, Amari	Collins, Brandon	Clarke, Scarlett	Devey, Millie-May
Harley, Olly	Dudley-Mowe, Louisa	Daley, A-Jay	Evans, Lola
Heminsley, Chloe	Forrester, Libby	Homer, Jonathan	Hickman, Joshua
Phillips, Freddie	Jones, Maisie	Lane, Freya	Hopps, Tegan
Standing, Callum	Kayode, Samuel	Munemo, Adonai	Kerr, Sophie
Stanton, Dominic	Lane, Jake	Parker, James	Merrick, Teagan
Street, Phoebe	Leek, Harvey	Pearson, Sophie	Mohammadi, Ricardo
Thompson, Kyle	McDonald, Joseph	Robinson, Jessie	Nutting, Abigail
Watkiss, Khyran	Mills, Paige	Sanders, Lexie	Obakpe, Rhoda
	Rowley, Kielan-Leigh	Sephton, Milly-Grace	Pearce, Keeley
	Turner-Wilkes, Aiden	Turner, James	Shaw, Courtney
	Walker, Henry	Walker, Ava	Stanton, Ocean
	Willets, Frankie	Westwood, Alfie	Walters, Kirsty

YEAR 11			
LIONS	RAPTORS	WARRIORS	WOLVES
Brendel, Sonnie	Bayliss, Brooklyn	Burke, Connor	Bateman, Lauren
Collett, Leisal	Bingham, Roman	Burton, Regan	Brittle, William
Daley, Tye	Bradley, Solomon	Copeland, Katie	Brown, Lola-Louise
Davis, Zac	Brotherton, Amelia	Crone, Max	Clarke, Alfie
Fardon, Carl	Despotaki, Georgia	Dawney, Lyndon	Dawkins, Ashley
Follett, Conor	Ebbans, Kasey	Geddes, Robyn	Dolman, Georgia
Opoku, Henry	Firkin, Owen Junior	Hickman, Warren	Haste, Lewis
Procter, Maddison	Hardaker, Owen	Kanyayi, Aisha	Parker, Christian
Woolley, Jack	Lavender, William	Kelley, Leah	Price, Olivia
Wray, Freddie	Lee-Clarke, Akyla	Lewis, Chloe	Reynolds, Isaac
	Pearson, Thomas	Murphy, Joe	Spooner, Benjamin
	Robins, Bethany	Robinson, Billy	Stanton, Tyler
	Rogers, Freddie	Stokes, Amelia	Weeks, Lily
	Seedhouse, Lewis	Turner-March, Bladen	Williams, Autumn
	Sutcliffe, Eve	Wilding, Owen	
	Taylor, Kenzie-Jay		
	Wise-Hughes, Austin		
	Wise-Hughes, Austin		