Newsletter

2nd October 2026

A Message from Mr Brooks

Dear Parents and Carers,
This week has been yet another opportunity to showcase everything that makes Great Wyrley Academy such a special place. Our **Open Evening** this week was a fantastic success, with the school packed full of prospective students, families, staff and students. Once again, our community gave me every reason to feel immensely proud to be Headteacher of this fantastic school.

Our students were exceptional ambassadors for the school, confidently sharing their experiences and demonstrating the values that make Great Wyrley Academy unique. Equally, our staff went above and beyond to provide a warm welcome and showcase the outstanding opportunities available to our young people.

The continued support from our local community is reflected in the incredible demand for places at the school. **Last year, we received 346 applications for just 150 places**, highlighting the central role Great Wyrley Academy continues to play within our community. Following the **highest examination results in the school's history** this summer, we are excited about what lies ahead for our future students and the continued success of the academy.

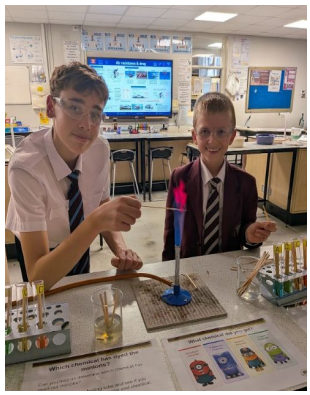
It has certainly been **a busy September**, with Ofsted, our Year 11 GCSE Information Evening, trips to Westminster, the WAT Games and Open Evening all taking place over the last few weeks. As we begin October, **our focus now turns firmly to the classroom** and ensuring that every student is focused, challenged and producing high-quality work every lesson, every day. With just two weeks to go until our **Year 11 students** sit their first GCSE mock examinations of the year, staff and students are working tirelessly to ensure they have every opportunity to be successful.

We will also be sharing information with **Key Stage 3 and Year 10 parents** next week regarding their upcoming assessment cycle in November, helping all students to feel confident, prepared and ready to demonstrate their learning and progress.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we will continue to unlock student's academic and personal potential.

Mr A Brooks

Headteacher



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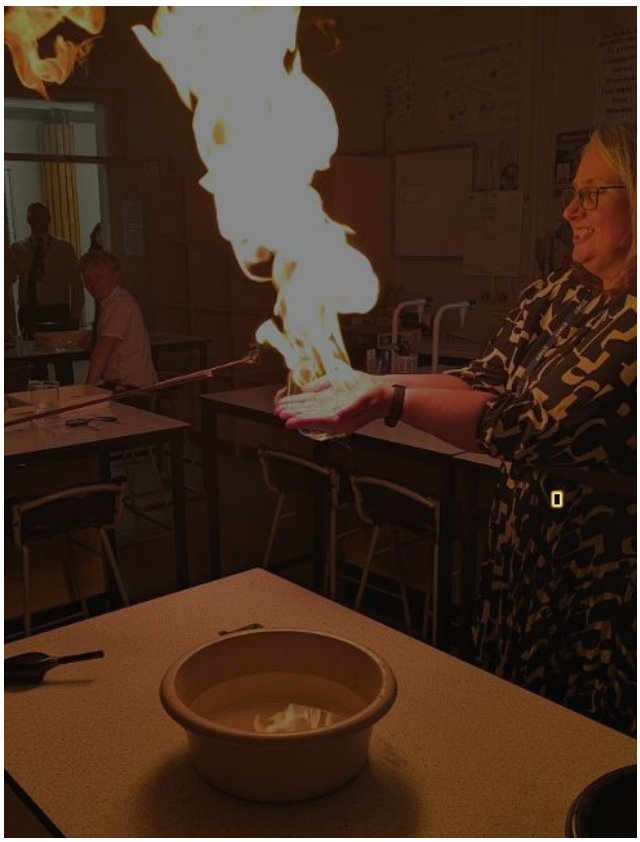
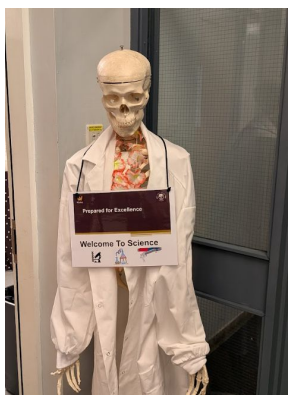
Welcoming Future Members of the GWA Family

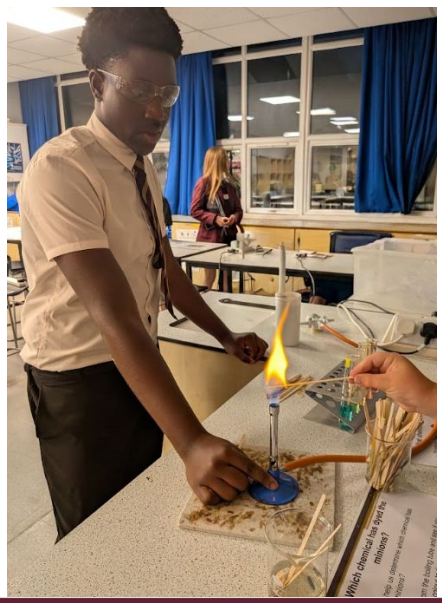
Our Open Evening was a fantastic celebration of everything that makes Great Wyrley Academy special. With **two packed Headteacher presentations** and over **200 students volunteering** to support departments and guide prospective families around the school, we were able to showcase the very best of our community.

During his presentation, Mr Brooks shared that, as both a Headteacher and a father, there are three key questions he would consider when choosing a secondary school for his own daughters: **Will they be safe and happy? Will they have the opportunity to achieve their academic potential? And will they have access to a wide range of extracurricular opportunities to help them become a well-rounded individual while having lots of fun?**

Thank you to all families for joining us. Please use the link below to **apply before the 31st October**. I look forward to welcoming you into the Great Wyrley Family.
https://www.greatwyrleyacademy.org.uk/admissions/how-to-apply







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Year 8 Football – Another Successful Week

It has been another fantastic week for our **Year 8 football team**, who played two fixtures and remained unbeaten!

On Monday, the team faced **Netherstowe** and produced a convincing **5–0 victory**. It was a very physical match, but our players showed fantastic resilience, determination and teamwork throughout. **Jack scored twice**, with **Seb, Lawi and Finley** also getting on the scoresheet.

On Thursday, we faced **Cannock Chase High School** in a closely contested fixture. We dominated the first half and deservedly took the lead through **Finley's** effort, but despite creating plenty of chances, we couldn't extend our advantage. Cannock Chase equalised in the second half, setting up a nail-biting finish. Despite both teams pushing for a winner, the game ended **1–1**.

A special shout out also goes to **Arthur and Jonny**, both Year 7 students who have stepped up to play for the Year 8 team this week. They have both shown great confidence and maturity playing up a year — well done boys! 👏

Two games, one win, one draw and plenty of positives to take forward.

ASPIRE BOYS DANCE WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITY

ASPIRE Dance Day for Boys, held at **Windsor Olympus Academy** on **Thursday 12th November**, from **10:00am to 2:15pm**.

This energizing, high-impact day is designed to explore key ASPIRE values—specifically **resilience, courage, and respect**—through dynamic dance and physical performance.

- **Expert Workshops:** Students will work directly with acclaimed male professional dance artists from the **Jaamal O'Driscoll Dance Company** and the physical theatre company **Autin Dance Theatre**
- **Target Key Stages:** Open to students across **KS2, KS3, and KS4**.
- **Age-Appropriate Grouping:** Participants will be allocated to workshop groups with peers of similar ages and will rotate through three unique high-energy workshops across the day.

This event is at no cost and your child will be transported via minibus to and from Windsor Olympus. If your child is interested please get them to complete the form on their PE google classroom.
Any issues please email kwood@greatwyrley.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

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Year 11 Notices:

Period 6 Update:

2 Weeks to go until Mock Exams.

Period 6 attendance last week was on average 80%

Dates for your Diary:

- Year 11 Mock Exams - 19th October 2026 - 06th November 2026
- SEN KS4 Parents Evening - Wednesday 25th November 2026
- YEAR 11 Parents Evening - Thursday 14th January 2027 (mock exam results)
- **Year 11 Prom - Tuesday 22nd June 2027**

Revision Technique of the Week: Interleaving (Mixing It Up)

What is it?

Interleaving is the strategy of mixing up different topics or subjects within a single study session, rather than spending hours "blocked" on just one thing. Switching between related topics forces your brain to continually reset and categorise information, which sharply improves problem-solving and long-term memory.

How to do it?

1. Break Up Your Session: Divide your study time into 30–45 minute blocks.
2. Rotate Topics: Do 45 minutes of Algebra, 45 minutes of Biology, and 45 minutes of English Literature.
3. Mix Problem Types: In subjects like Maths or Physics, don't just practice one type of question 20 times in a row. Shuffle different question types together so you have to identify which formula to use each time.

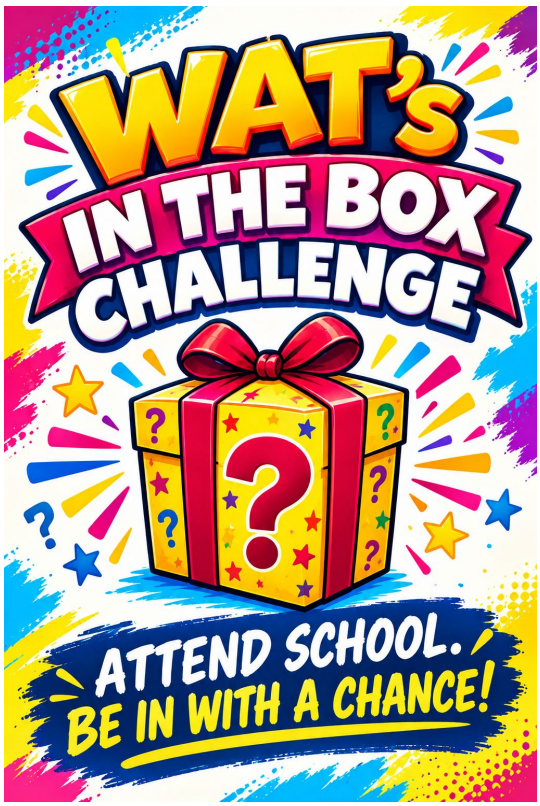
Top Tip: Interleaving can feel harder at first than sticking to one subject because your brain is working harder. That extra effort is exactly what makes the knowledge stick for your summer exams!

Our **WAT's in the Box Attendance Challenge** is well underway!

We're encouraging all our pupils to make every day count and see if they can complete the challenge before the **end of term**.

Every day of good attendance brings us one step closer to reaching our goal — so let's keep up the fantastic effort and see who can complete the challenge to receive a reward**!** ⭐

A big well done to everyone who has been taking part so far. Keep coming in, keep learning and keep those attendance figures climbing!



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Sparx Maths Homework Leaderboards

Sparx Maths Homework Leaderboards for each year group can be seen below. These are the students that have scored the highest in the homework this week. Congratulations! For a chance to be featured on this leaderboard next week, please make sure you complete SPARX Maths Homework.

The top 3 students in each year group each week will be entered for a raffle to receive a prize at the end of term!!!

Year 7

1	Jonny Parker (Jonny the Shadow)	1,139 XP
2	Jastin Mirga (Jastin the Scholar)	1,124 XP
3	Isabelle Richards (Isabelle the Harmony)	1,079 XP
4	Logan Daley (Logan the Triumph)	1,026 XP
5	Amber Reid (Amber the Fortune)	996 XP
6	Lacey-Mae Palmer (Lacey-Mae the Adventurer)	993 XP
7	Phoebe Webster Randle (Phoebe the Seeker)	973 XP
8	Luca Lawrence (Luca the Ace)	972 XP
9	Daisy Cox (Daisy the Velocity)	969 XP
10	Isabelle Rennocks (Isabelle the Lionheart)	961 XP

Year 8

1	Amalie Jones (Amalie the Biologist)	1,216 XP
2	Josie Lewis (Josie the Wordsmith)	1,053 XP
3	Natalia Kosiorek (Natalia the Biologist)	996 XP
4	Jake Crowsley (Jake the All-Star)	990 XP
5	Callum Farmer (Callum the Magician)	964 XP
6	Tayah Haywood (Tayah the Innovator)	912 XP
7	Tomisin Ogunremi (Tomisin the Catalyst)	726 XP
8	Isaac Broome (Isaac the Superhero)	679 XP
9	Willow Cadman (Willow the Storyteller)	598 XP
10	Andy Turza (Andy the Navigator)	553 XP

Year 9

1	Macy Bate (Macy the Mentor)	2,313 XP
2	Daisy Cooper (Daisy the Falcon)	982 XP
3	Martha Raybould (Martha the Sentinel)	920 XP
4	Keris Donnelly (Keris the Winner)	915 XP
5	Connie Flynn (Connie the Optimist)	751 XP
6	Hattie Hogarth (Hattie the Witty)	611 XP
7	Emily Powell (Emily the Creator)	603 XP
8	Amelia Daley (Amelia the Charmer)	530 XP
8	Drew Hulse (Drew the Star)	530 XP
10	Max Parcell (Max the Performer)	526 XP

Year 10

1	Amber Raybould (Amber the VIP)	893 XP
2	Noah Abbott (Noah the Viper)	534 XP
3	Poppy Cook (Poppy the Ambassador)	525 XP
4	Riley Brooks (Riley the Sculptor)	522 XP
5	Grace Flynn (Grace the All-Star)	521 XP
6	Cole Lines (Cole the One and only)	515 XP
7	Evie-Mai Lloyd (Evie-Mai the Scientist)	514 XP
7	Millie Tisdell (Millie the Thinker)	514 XP
9	Ryley Poston (Ryley the Winner)	513 XP
10	Holly Shotton (Holly the Joker)	512 XP

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Year 11

1	Judah de Castro (Judah the Wonder)	1,385 XP
2	Faith Harman (Faith the Lion)	1,040 XP
3	Freya Preston (Freya the Philosopher)	940 XP
4	Jayden Seedhouse (Jayden the Spirit)	832 XP
5	Lydia Dutton (Lydia the Original)	799 XP
6	Esatu Jalloh (Esatu the Intelligent)	693 XP
7	Davontae Philbert (Davontae the Illusion)	590 XP
8	Joshua Niles (Joshua the Orator)	550 XP
9	Grace Lloyd (Grace the Wizard)	537 XP
10	Grace Elson (Grace the Infinity)	529 XP

Tea with Mr B!

Congratulations to our students who were rewarded for demonstrating the values of The Wyrley Way — Respect and Responsibility:

Year 7: Zachary Norris

Year 8: Deano Evans

Year 9: Drew Hulse

Year 10: Daniel Walsh

Year 11: Leah Cartwright

Headteacher Staff Shout-Out

This week, I would like to give a shout-out to a member of staff who has built exceptionally strong and positive relationships with our students. Students know that if they need support, they can turn to Miss Anderson because they know how much she genuinely cares about them as individuals.

As a teacher early in her career, Miss Anderson has shown tremendous potential, professionalism and dedication. I am excited to see how her career develops and the positive impact she will continue to have on our students and school in the years ahead.

Thank you for everything you do and for caring so much about our young people.

Miss I Anderson

Newsletter

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Initial Teacher Training at Windsor Academy Trust

As part of Windsor Academy Trust's (WAT) partnership with the National Institute of Teaching (NIoT) as an Associate College, applications for our Initial Teacher Training programme are open from 6th October 2026 for our September 2027 intake.

We are delighted to share with you that NIoT was judged **'Exceptional'** across all five evaluation areas for its Initial Teacher Education (ITE) provision in primary and secondary phases.

Our Initial Teacher Training is a fully immersive school-centred programme, with school placements available in one of our 15 schools. Applicants will be able to choose their main placement school when applying and we will endeavour to do our best to place applicants in their first choice school. Our trainees are mentored by expert WAT colleagues and have central training once a week.

All of our teacher training courses lead to QTS (Qualified Teacher Status), a PGCE (Post Graduate Certificate in Education) and 60 Master's Level credits. Interested applicants can find out more via our Initial Teacher Training webpage and can apply via the DfE Apply website. You can find us using our provider code 2HE or search for NIoT@WindsorAcademyTrust.

To find out more, please email us at teachertraining@windsoracademytrust.org.uk

We have breakfast available for students every morning from 7:45am.

Please go through main reception.

Dates for your Diary

October

14th October - KS3 SEND Parent's Evening
19th October - Y11 mock assessments begin
23rd October - End of half term

Parent Calendar for 2026-2027

Great Wyrley Academy

@wyrleyacademy