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9th October 2026

A Message from Mr Brooks

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has once again highlighted how **Great Wyrley Academy continues to go from strength to strength**.

Over the last two weeks, we welcomed **a record number of prospective families through our doors** for our Open Evening and Open Morning events. The feedback from parents was wonderful, with many commenting on the calm atmosphere around the school and the special family feel created by our students and staff. Thank you to everyone who helped make these events such a success.

We also received some very exciting news this week. Great Wyrley Academy is now in the **top 10% of schools nationally for the most improved attendance**. This is a fantastic achievement and reflects the commitment of our staff, students and, most importantly, our parents. **Thank you to our parents and carers** for working with us to ensure your children attend school regularly and are ready to learn. You have risen to the challenge of relentlessly pursuing excellence by working with us to build resilience and establish the importance of attending school every day. Your support has been invaluable. It is no coincidence that improved attendance has gone hand in hand with the highest outcomes in the school's history.

Looking ahead, next week we will launch our **KS3 Assessment Preparation Programme**, including assemblies, revision materials and guidance for parents to support your child on the run up to their first assessment cycle. We are committed to unlocking every student's academic potential from the very start of their journey with us.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, and I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Mr A. Brooks
Headteacher

fft

National School Attendance Award

2025/26 Academic Year

★★★★★

Great Wyrley Academy

Top 10% Most Improved FFT Secondary Schools in England

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AI and Future Skills

Ten of our Year 10 students recently attended an inspiring AI and Future Skills event held at Molineux Stadium, gaining valuable insights into the changing world of work and technology.

The action-packed day offered a wide range of opportunities, including:

- **Industry Insights:** Engaging talks from guest speakers across various career sectors, highlighting how technology and AI are shaping modern workplaces.
- **Careers Fayre:** Direct interaction with representatives, staff, and employers from a variety of further education institutions and industries to discuss future pathways.
- **Interactive Activities:** Hands-on tasks throughout the venue, along with some great free gifts for participants!

Our students represented the school exceptionally well, demonstrating outstanding behavior, enthusiasm, and respect. Their polite conduct did not go unnoticed—several members of the Wolves Foundation team and stadium catering staff made a point to compliment their conduct throughout the day.

A special mention goes to **Noah**, who boldly stepped up in front of the entire audience—which included staff and students from 10 other participating schools—to speak about his personal highlights and takeaways from the event.

Well done to all the students involved for making the most of this fantastic opportunity!

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GCSE Geography

All GCSE students complete a synoptic thinking exam at the end of Year 11 based on a geographical issue. Today, all of the 11B group took on roles of various community groups regarding the cancellation of the northern leg of the HS2 Project. From environmentalists, to the management at Birmingham Airport, to local residents, to London based CEO's of Quaternary Industry and to the Northern Mayors of Manchester, Leeds and Liverpool, the whole class were exceptional! Even the arrival of visitors on Open Morning tours didn't put them off during their public speaking. I was very proud of them! The 11C group will have their role play next week. Well-done to everyone for speaking the views of their group to the assembled board room table!

⚽ Football Round-Up

It has been another busy week of football, with our **Year 7 and Year 9 teams** both representing GWA in some closely contested fixtures.

Our Year 7 team faced two very strong opponents this week. On Monday, they took on Codsall High School in the cup. Despite the result not going our way, the team showed fantastic resilience and determination throughout the match, with Elliot getting on the scoresheet.

On Wednesday, the team faced another tough challenge against Kingsmead School. We made a fantastic start, taking an early lead through a composed finish from Klay. The team continued to defend bravely, with Gurnoor producing an outstanding penalty save to ensure we went into halftime with a 1–0 lead.

Kingsmead fought back in the second half and, despite Roman finding the net for GWA, we were unable to hold onto our advantage and eventually came away with a defeat. However, there were plenty of positives to take from both games, with the team continuing to show great character and refusing to give up against two very strong sides.

Our Year 9 team were also in action on Tuesday evening, taking on Staffordshire University Academy. They produced a resilient performance earning a well-deserved 1-1 draw. After falling behind early, the boys showed outstanding character and work rate to turn the momentum of the game. Their persistence paid off when Vinny calmly slotted home the equaliser, capping off a spell of sustained pressure.

Well done to all of our players this week for representing GWA with pride! ⚽💪

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Year 11 Notices:

Period 6 Update:

The last Week of Targeted Period 6 this week - Keep it up Y11!

There will be Period 6 Revision Sessions happening during Mocks - Keep an eye on your Arbor for when they are!

Revision Technique of the Week: Spaced Repetition

What is it?

Our brains are designed to forget unused information. Within 24 hours of learning something, you can lose up to 70% of it unless you review it. **Spaced Repetition** means reviewing topics at increasing time intervals (e.g., Day 1, Day 3, Day 7, Day 21) to interrupt the forgetting process and push knowledge into long-term memory.

How to do it?

1. **Learn & Test (Day 1):** Study a topic using retrieval practice or flashcards.
2. **First Review (Day 3):** Briefly test yourself on the topic 2 days later. Don't re-read—use self-testing!
3. **Second Review (Day 7):** Test yourself again one week after first learning it.
4. **Third Review (Day 21):** Test yourself three weeks later.
5. **Use a Tracker:** Keep a simple spreadsheet or calendar checklist to log when each topic needs its next review.

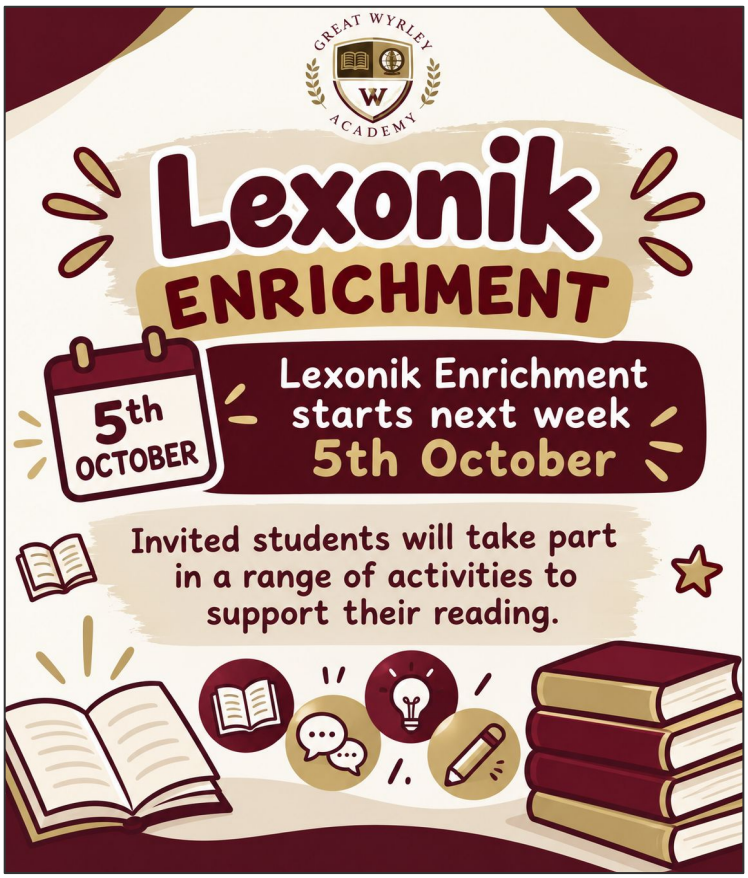
Top Tip: Studying a topic for 15 minutes four times across a month is vastly more effective than cramming it for an hour the night before an exam!

Upcoming Events:

Year 11 Received their Mock Timetables on Friday 9th October
Year 11 Mock Assessments Begin- Monday 19th October
KS4 SEND Careers Evening- Wednesday 25th November

The Importance of Reading

One of the most important factors influencing academic success is a student's ability to read confidently and fluently. Students with a stronger reading age are better equipped to access learning in every subject area. Our Lexonic intervention started back this week and is designed to provide targeted support that can have a transformative impact on a child's progress and confidence. I would therefore ask all parents to support us by ensuring their child attends every session. The investment of time now can have a lifelong impact on their achievement and future opportunities.



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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	Oliver Hawkins (Oliver the Performer)	1,380 XP
2	Isabelle Richards (Isabelle the Harmony)	1,341 XP
3	Joel Morales Montiel (Joel the Jester)	1,120 XP
4	Klay Vaughan (Klay the Lionheart)	1,106 XP
5	Eva Atkinson (Eva the Engineer)	1,001 XP
6	Harriet Beech (Harriet the Helper)	990 XP
7	Alyssa Simpson (Alyssa the Engineer)	984 XP
8	Selina-Rose Raybould (Selina-Rose the Philanthropist)	981 XP
9	Harley-James Taylor (Harley-James the Theorist)	975 XP
10	Huzaifa Usman (Huzaifa the Conqueror)	950 XP

Year 8

1	Layla Morris (Layla the Jester)	1,030 XP
2	Isaac Friedman (Isaac the Nomad)	998 XP
3	Abigail Frankham (Abigail the Rockstar)	992 XP
4	Maria Titley (Maria the Alchemist)	969 XP
5	Jacob Saunders (Jacob the Honest)	962 XP
6	Hannah King (Hannah the Writer)	952 XP
7	Olivia Devey (Olivia the Nemesis)	929 XP
8	Kodi Beever (Kodi the Jubilee)	842 XP
9	Oscar Townsend (Oscar the Icon)	840 XP
10	James Simmons (James the Artist)	830 XP

Year 9

1	Miyah Bate (Miyah the Wonder)	951 XP
2	Skye Runiewicz (Skye the Trailblazer)	920 XP
3	Vinny Bowen (Vinny the Wizard)	913 XP
4	Macy Bate (Macy the Mentor)	896 XP
5	Thomas Walker (Thomas the Defender)	600 XP
6	Lily Read (Lily the Peacemaker)	579 XP
7	Mya Wallett (Mya the Honest)	527 XP
8	Jacey Pritchard (Jacey the Athlete)	526 XP
9	Maisie Davies (Maisie the Conductor)	523 XP
10	Amelia Daley (Amelia the Charmer)	522 XP

Year 10

1	Caelan Bowen (Caelan the Spark)	975 XP
2	Bella Davies (Bella the Ace)	808 XP
3	Bailee Martin (Bailee the Horizon)	588 XP
4	Emily Weaver (Emily the Ace)	580 XP
5	Bryan Kayode (Bryan the Twilight)	578 XP
6	Millie Tisdell (Millie the Thinker)	553 XP
7	Evie Plummer (Evie the Storm)	544 XP
8	Evie-Mai Lloyd (Evie-Mai the Scientist)	523 XP
9	Lydia Perry (Lydia the Strategist)	520 XP
10	Riley Brooks (Riley the Sculptor)	518 XP

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Year 11

1	Jayden Element-Stretton (Jayden the Writer)	1,557 XP
2	Nicole Sykorova (Nicole the Intelligent)	1,019 XP
3	Harriet Cadman (Harriet the Bee's Knees)	984 XP
4	Oliver Norton (Oliver the Linguist)	931 XP
5	Megan Noon (Megan the Thinker)	925 XP
6	Finley Rayer (Finley the Champion)	850 XP
7	Layla Spink (Layla the Pinnacle)	816 XP
8	Chloe Headley (Chloe the Conqueror)	808 XP
9	Lily Heeley (Lily the Inspiration)	797 XP
10	Kai Boshell (Kai the Painter)	764 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: Emmaleigha Pritchard

Year 8: Sophie Farmer

Year 9: Lily Read

Year 10: Hannah Rawlins

Year 11: Reuben Hunt

Headteacher Staff Shout-Out

This week, I would like to give a shout-out to a member of staff who has persevered throughout this half term and now has some exciting times ahead of her.

Miss Wilson leaves us on Thursday next week for her maternity leave. I would like to thank Miss Wilson for all her hard work this half term and we wish her all the best over the upcoming weeks.

Thank you for everything you do and we look forward to meeting your new arrival.

Miss Wilson

October Half Term Holiday Fun

Looking for something to keep your child active and engaged over half term? The **Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme** offers a wide range of free activities for eligible families, including sports, arts and crafts, dance, outdoor adventures and much more. We encourage parents to explore the opportunities available and book early to secure a place. Further information can be found using the QR code below or by visiting the Staffordshire HAF website.

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Safeguarding

Parent Safeguarding Update: Roblox and Harmful Online Content

- 🎮 **Harmful Roblox content was accessible to very young users.** Sky News found that users as young as **five** could access or purchase avatar clothing containing references to self-harm, extortion and the Com. Roblox told Sky News that the identified content was removed. Sky News
- ⚠️ **The concern extends beyond Roblox.** Investigators found links between harmful communities operating across platforms including Roblox, Discord, TikTok and Telegram. Sky News
- 🚩 **Grooming can begin through ordinary online interactions.** Children may initially be gaming or chatting before being encouraged to move to other platforms or private conversations where adults or other users can exert greater influence. Sky News
- 👀 **Be alert to changes in behaviour.** Warning signs described by affected families included becoming increasingly withdrawn, spending significantly more time online, staying awake late at night, secrecy around devices, and becoming unusually frightened or distressed when internet/device access was removed. These signs do not necessarily mean a child is being exploited, but they can warrant a supportive conversation. Sky News
- 🔒 **Review your child's online safety settings.** Check age information, parental controls, communication/chat permissions and who your child is interacting with. Encourage children not to move conversations with strangers onto other apps.
- 💬 **Keep conversations open and non-judgemental.** Remind children that if they see something upsetting, receive threats, or someone asks them for images or to harm themselves, they should tell a trusted adult. They should know they will **not be in trouble for asking for help**.
- 📱 **Take an interest in their online world.** Regularly talking about the games they play, who they communicate with and what they encounter online can make it easier for them to disclose something that feels uncomfortable.

Message for parents: Roblox can be an enjoyable social gaming platform for children, but parental controls alone cannot remove every risk. Regular conversations, appropriate supervision and awareness of children's online relationships remain important.

https://news.sky.com/video/inside-robloxs-dark-side-sky-news-finds-self-harm-avatars-available-to-young-children-13592551

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