



Great Wyrley Performing Arts High School

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October 2009

IMPORTANT INFORMATION-PLEASE ENSURE THAT THIS GOES HOME

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As we have completed our first month of the school year, I would like to share the following information with you:

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

The summer saw the latest round of examination results published for students in KS3 SATs, GCSE, AS and A2 levels. I am delighted to report that in a number of sectors **excellent results** were achieved. Our Year 9 students KS3 teacher assessment scores place them close to the top 25% of students nationally and with **48%** of our Year 11 students achieving 5 or more A*-C including English & Mathematics passes at GCSE it was another good year. Our Year 13 Sixth Form students achieved a **98% pass rate** with **42% achieving A or B grades**. They were successful in securing places on degree courses at Universities across the country and the Year 12s produced AS grades that promise another good crop of results next summer. Results like this only happen when families who trust us send us youngsters who work hard and they are taught well by skilled professionals. So big **CONGRATULATIONS** to all concerned and here's to continuing the success story this year.

HELLO/GOODBYE

At the end of the summer term we said "au revoir" to a number of staff who served our school with great distinction over a long period of time. **Mr Featherstone** (Assistant Head), **Mrs Atkins** (Mathematics), **Mrs Tyler** (Social Sciences), **Mrs Middleton** (Child Care), **Mrs Claxton** (MFL) and **Miss Kelly** (DT), **Ms Guyler** (Business Manager), **Mr Archbold** (Community Manager), **Mrs Degg** (TA), **Mr Rademacher** (Cover Supervisor), **Mr Chambers** (Cover Supervisor) and **Ms Simmonds** (Science Tech) all left us with tears and thanked for their service to school

New staff this term include **Miss Hackett** (English), **Mrs D'Arcy-Barron** (MFL), **Mrs Mathews** (MFL/Soc Sci), **Miss Parkes** (Business/ICT), **Miss Smith** (DT) **Ms Marston** (Science), **Mrs Magee** (History), **Mr Roberts** (Maths), **Mrs Bradford** (Cover Supervisor) and **Miss Wall** (T.A.). We wish them all a long and successful career with us here at Great Wyrley.

MODERN LANGUAGES NEWS

The last places are in the process of being filled for the **Aachen Christmas Market trip 4-6 Dec 2009**. The Parents meeting for those on the visit list will be on **Monday evening 16 November** in room 27, details will be out to parents by letter in the next few days.

Also a group of 10 pupils in year 11 will be attending the Languages in Action Masterclass on 11 November at the University of Birmingham. Good luck and enjoy to those pupils who have been invited to take part. This visit forms part of the Aim Higher and Gifted & Talented programme.

SCHOOL CLOSURE

On **Thursday 8th October** school will close early at **2.25p.m.** to allow time for



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preparations for our Open Evening for prospective parents of students entering school in September 2010. A large number of students will be coming back to help departments on Open evening itself but in order to cope with the large numbers of visitors anyone else should avoid coming onto the school site that evening.

UNIFORM MATTERS

I wrote to you at the end of last term to remind everyone about our uniform code. I am really pleased to say that the vast majority of our students have returned after the summer break with perfect appearance. There remains a small number who are either wearing incorrect trousers (jean type material, too tight or too baggy), pullovers of the wrong colour (should be **exactly** the same colour as the sweatshirts), unsuitable shoes or with hair that is not a **natural** colour (red, purple, green) or makeup which is not allowed at all until Year 10 and then only discretely. I trust you will support us in our efforts to be smart and professional in our appearance as well as our performance and that any problems will be remedied urgently.

SCHOOL SAFETY

Could I please repeat a request I made on several times last year that parents and carers coming to drop off or collect students at the beginning or end of the school day do **NOT** use the entrance drive or its approaches to park or turn around in. There have been a number of occasions where safety has been compromised and we are anxious not to cause accidents or injuries to anyone in our community. Also as the darker afternoons approach our Road Safety partners would like us to remind everyone about the Be Bright Be Seen initiative.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 8 th October	6.00	Open Evening (presentations 6.30 & 8.00)
Thursday 22 nd October	6.00	Y11 into the Sixth Form Evening
Friday 23 rd October		Staff Training Day School Closed
Mon 26th Oct-Fri 30th Oct		Half Term Break
Monday 2nd November	8.50	Back to School
Thurs 26 th , Fri 27 th Nov	7.30pm	Mother Goose (Wyrley Pretenders)
Saturday 28 th Nov	2.30pm	Matinee Mother Goose
Saturday 28 th Nov	7.30pm	Evening performance Mother Goose
Friday 4 th December		Aachen Trip (MFL)
Saturday 5 th December		Chester Trip
Tuesday 15 th December	7.30	Christmas Music Festival
Friday 18th December	12.30	End of Autumn Term
Monday 4 th January 2010	8.50	Start of Spring Term

Chris Leach
Headteacher