



# Great Wyrley Performing Arts High School

Hall Lane  
Great Wyrley  
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**September 2010**

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION-PLEASE ENSURE THAT THIS GOES HOME**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As we begin our work for another year here at school, 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 GCSE, AS and A2 levels. I am delighted to report that in a number of sectors **excellent results** were achieved. With **67%** of our Year 11 students achieving 5 or more A\*-C passes this was a school record. We are equally proud that **48%** included English & Mathematics at grade C or above. Our Year 13 Sixth Form students achieved a **98% pass rate** with **29% 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 an outstanding 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.

### **SPECIALIST SCHOOL NEWS**

I am delighted to tell you that on the strength of our excellent work in Performing Arts over the last four years we have successfully been redesignated and can continue the good work. We were judged against difficult national criteria and were deemed a centre of excellence. Please see the school website for a copy of the press release.

### **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 Norton** (Deputy Head), **Miss Fayed** (English) and **Mr Richards** (Art) all left us with tears and thanks for their service to school. **Mrs Darcy-Barron**, **Mrs Law-Jones** and **Mrs Matthews** have also left us on maternity leave, and **Mrs Alsop** joins them on the 27<sup>th</sup> September.

New staff this term include **Miss Orr** (English), **Miss Kunert** (MFL), **Mr Hawkins** (MFL), **Miss Gatherer** (Geography) **Mr Hoyle** (Geography), **Mrs Down** (Art) and **Mrs Taylor** (History). We wish them all a happy and successful time with us here at Great Wyrley.

### **TARGET SETTING DAY**

On **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October** we shall be holding our annual Target Setting Day for students. On this day the normal timetable is suspended and all students will have a scheduled appointment with their form tutor to review data, set targets and formulate an action plan that will be reviewed as we progress through the school year. Students should expect to be in school for at least an hour on that day. Once their action plan has been completed and approved they will be free to leave the school site and return home. Some



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students, typically those who need some support with coursework, will be asked to remain at school for a longer time to complete any missing or unsatisfactory work. Equally, any student, particularly those in years 7-9 who cannot or do not want to leave the school site will of course be supervised in school until the end of the normal school day. If you would like your son/daughter to remain in school all day please confirm this in writing. If you have any concerns about any aspect of this process please contact us here at school.

## GERMAN EXCHANGE MARL 2010-2011

Places are still available to host a German student for the week and to take part in a number of cultural visits, with the chance to return the visit to Germany in May 2011. This is a really exciting opportunity which I would encourage as many year 8 and 10 students as possible to participate in. On arrival, the German students bring 60 euro for the host family. If students choose to return to Germany, the cost for flights and visits should not exceed £300

## SCHOOL CLOSURE

On **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October** school will close early at **2.25p.m.** to allow time for preparations for our Open Evening for prospective parents of students entering school in September 2011. 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

We are aware that there have been some significant difficulties for families to obtain some new items of school uniform. Jumpers and sweatshirts have been in particularly short supply. Most students in Years 7-9 now seem to have purchased what they need and we are hopeful that by the end of next week the same will be true for years 10 and 11. School will contact you further as we get more information and we believe that by the beginning of October ***all*** students will be wearing correct uniform at all times. Thank you for your support and cooperation during this frustrating time.

## LUNCHTIMES

You will be aware that we have been operating a new system at lunchtime since the start of term. Students in Years 10 and 11 are only allowed off site if they have written permission from home and a photo pass that they must show when leaving and returning to our site. Students in Years 7-9 must stay on site at all times. I am happy to report that this system is working well and that our young people are cooperating in a calm and mature manner both on site and in the local community. I would like to thank them and you for supporting us in this attempt to be safe, secure and well-nourished at lunchtimes.

## GLOBAL CITIZENS

Last week our new Year 12 took part in "President for a Day" a Citizenship/Religious Education activity where they examined what it means to make decisions for a country, how government works, what they can do themselves to help people in other countries, why they are in the state that they are financially and the Christian attitudes and responses to global needs. They were a credit to themselves and our school and the day certainly generated some interesting ideas.



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## SPORTS UPDATE

Results from Summer Athletics district championships – **Charlotte Jones** y8 County Champion 100m - ranked 10 in the country. **Richard Stanley** y11 County Champion Javelin - also ranked 10 in the country. **James Kennedy** y11 County Champion High Jump. Also 30 year 10 Girls passed their Level 1 Dance leadership award.

**Claire Nixon** in Year 12 took a large step towards being selected for the 2012 Olympics by being selected for elite training with the Great Britain Water Polo team. **CONGRATULATIONS!!!**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> September	7.30-10.00	Disco (Y7 &Y8)
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	6.00	Year 10 Information Evening
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	7.00	PTFA AGM Old Wyrley Hall
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	6.00	Open Evening (presentations 6.30 & 7.15)
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> October		Target Setting Day
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October		Staff Training Day ( <b>School closed to students</b> )
<b>Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Oct-Fri 29<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>		<b>Half Term Break</b>
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	8.50	<b>Back to School</b>
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	5.00-8.00	Y13 Consultation Evening
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	5.00-8.00	Y11 Consultation Evening
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> November		Children in Need (Non-Uniform Day)
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	7.30-10.00	Disco (Y7, Y8, Y9)
Wed 24-Sat 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	7.30	Community Pantomime "Snow White"
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	5.00-8.00	Y9 Consultation Evening
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	7.30	Presentation Evening
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	6.00	Y11 into the Sixth Form Evening
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	7.30	Christmas Music Festival
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> December		Y7 Christmas Panto
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>12.30</b>	<b>End of Autumn Term</b>
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2011	8.50	<b>Start of Spring Term</b>

**Chris Leach**  
**Headteacher**