



# Great Wyrley Performing Arts High School

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**September 2011**

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

Dear Parent/Carer,

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 **72%** of our Year 11 students achieving 5 or more A\*-C passes this was a school record. Our Year 13 Sixth Form students achieved a **95% pass rate** with an outstanding **52% achieving A\* to B grades**. They were successful in securing places on degree courses at Universities across the country. 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.

### **WELCOMES**

New staff this term include **Miss Knight, Mr Michalski and Mrs Carr (English), Mrs Parkhill (Art), Miss Boothby and Mr Brown (PE) Mrs Hind (Geography), Mrs Gardner and Dr Burrows (Science), Ms Holdcroft (Cover Supervisor), Mrs Gould (Breakfast Club Supervisor) and Mrs Peake (Lunchtime Additional Needs Supervisor)** We wish them all a happy and successful time with us here at Great Wyrley.

### **TARGET SETTING DAY**

On **Thursday 20<sup>th</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 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.

### **SCHOOL CLOSURE**

On **Thursday 6<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 2012. 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.



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## UNIFORM MATTERS

An excellent start to the new school year has been made by the vast majority of our students here at school and I am pleased to report that they are looking smart and ready to work. In a small number of cases however students are still coming to school with incorrect shoes, jumpers other than those with the school badge, non-natural hair colours, nose studs and excessive make-up/nail varnish. In the first week of term we have given students and their families some time to correct these issues but shortly anyone that is not in correct uniform may be asked to work in isolation away from their classmates.

## ROAD SAFETY

I have on a number of occasions in the past asked for your support and cooperation in keeping our young people safe and secure on site. In the early days of this new school year there have been a number of difficulties caused by cars belonging to parents or carers coming onto the school site at the start or end of the school day. Can I please ask that you do not do this and that if you are coming to collect your son or daughter that you park safely and legally somewhere close to school but not on the site itself. I hope you will understand the need to highlight safety at what is a very busy time of the day for us.

## SPECIALIST SCHOOL NEWS

Mr Stark is running a cultural visit to London for **Drama students in Yrs 9 - 11** on **9th November**, at a cost of £45. If you would like more information, ask him for a letter. All **students in Yr 7** can look forward to a Pantomime performance of "**Peter Pan**" in the school Theatre this Christmas for a few pounds each. Details to follow shortly.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

|  |            |  |
|--|------------|--|
| Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> September                      | 7.30-10.00 | Y7 & Y8 Disco  |
| Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September                    | 6.00       | Year 10 Parents Information evening                      |
| Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> October                       | 6.00       | <b>Open Evening</b> (presentations at 6.30pm and 7.30pm) |
| Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October                      |            | Target Setting Day (timetable suspended)                 |
| Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October                        |            | Non Uniform Day  |
| <b>Mon 24<sup>th</sup>-Fri 28<sup>th</sup> October</b> |            | <b>Half Term Break</b>                                   |
| Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November                      | 5.00-8.00  | Year 13 Consultation Evening                             |
| Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November                       | 7.30-10.00 | Years 7,8,9 Disco (Provisional)                          |
| Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> November                     | 5.00-8.00  | Year 11 Consultation Evening                             |
| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November                       |            | Children in Need Non Uniform Day                         |
| Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> December                      | 5.00-8.00  | Year 12 Consultation Evening                             |
| Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December                       | 7.30       | Christmas Music Festival                                 |
| Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December                       | 12.30      | End of Autumn Term                                       |
| <b>Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Dec-Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan</b>  |            | <b>Christmas Holidays</b>                                |
| Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2012                   | 8.50       | Start of Spring Term                                     |

**Chris Leach**  
Headteacher