



April 2026

Dear parent/carer/student

This half term marks the beginning of the GCSE and A Level examination period. We wish all our students the very best as they sit their external exams and encourage them to keep up their preparation and revision. Good luck to everyone.

Miss School, Miss Out

Regular school attendance is essential for your child's success and helps establish positive habits that will benefit them throughout life. Being in school consistently gives your child the chance to:

- Build friendships and develop social skills
- Learn new knowledge and strengthen key skills
- Grow in confidence and self-esteem
- Reach their potential and achieve their aspirations

If you need any help or support, please contact your child's year team in the first instance.

Run 4 Joel

Run 4 Joel will return once again to Sandwell Valley on Sunday 7th June and this promises to be bigger and better than last year, continuing with the colour blast theme. The event at Sandwell Valley Country Park is held in memory of our former student Joel Richards, his uncle Adrian Evans and Grandfather Patrick Evans.

It would once again be great to see a large number of Wood Green students and their families taking part. More details can be found here:

<https://smileforjoel.com/event-details?event=runforjoel2026>

Registrations are open now!

Two-child limit changes

Antonia Bance, our local MP for Tipton, Wednesbury and Coseley, has asked us to share information about changes to benefits.

From 6 April, the two child limit will be lifted. This means families will receive the full Child Element of Universal Credit for every child.

If you already receive Universal Credit, your claim should be updated automatically from April 2026. If this does not happen in April or May, you can send a message through your Universal Credit online journal or call the Universal Credit helpline.

Antonia and her team can help with any problems related to these changes, including the two child limit. They can also help with other issues such as benefits, housing, the local council and residency. If you need support from your MP, you can email antonia.bance.mp@parliament.uk (please include your full postal address) or call 0121 716 523.

Could you be a School Governor?

We are looking for parents and carers who would like to make a real difference to the lives of young people at Wood Green Academy.

What Do Governors Do?

Our Governing Board helps shape the long-term direction of the school. Governors don't get involved in the day-to-day running of the school, but they play an important role by:

- Helping set the school's priorities and vision
- Supporting and challenging school leaders
- Making sure school funds are used wisely
- Checking that pupils are kept safe and that standards continue to rise

In short, governors work as a team to make sure the school is the best it can be for every child.

Who Can Become a Governor?

Anyone with an interest in the school can apply—you don't need to have worked in education before. What matters most is:

- A commitment to supporting our pupils
- A positive attitude and willingness to get involved
- Some time to attend meetings and training

We welcome people from all backgrounds and walks of life. Full training is provided.

Skills We Would Particularly Welcome

We are especially interested in hearing from people with experience in:

- Finance
- Human Resources
- Legal work
- Health & Safety
- Safeguarding
- Managing building or capital projects

However, if you don't have these skills, please don't be put off—your enthusiasm and insight are just as important.

Why Join Us?

Being a school governor is a rewarding way to support your community. You'll be working with others who care deeply about providing the best possible education for our students. Governors volunteer for a four-year term, and meeting minutes are available from the school office if you'd like to know more about what we do.

What's the Time Commitment?

Governors usually volunteer around **10 days per school year**, which includes:

- Attending meetings (mostly on Mondays, some virtual at 3:30pm and some in-person at 5:30pm)
- Occasional school visits
- Training and development

If you are interested in this extremely important role or require more details, please contact Mrs Kathryn Houldey (Clerk to the Governors) on 0121 556 4131 or via email at Kathryn.Houldey@woodgreenacademy.co.uk by Wednesday 29th April 2026.

Parking and Road Safety

Once again, our local residents have raised serious concerns regarding a minority of parents that have caused issues in terms of their parking and collecting of students; this has been escalated to the local authority.

We would like to remind all parents/carers to please respect our neighbours by not parking or collecting your children from St. Paul's Rd, Sparrow Close, or the surrounding area.

Additionally, a number of concerns have been raised by members of the public regarding students being dropped off at the start of the school day. Reports of near misses when students have been getting out of the car and into oncoming traffic, we are told are a regular occurrence. Please can you also help to remind your children of the dangers of this.

Polite reminder: PE lessons

If students are unable to take part in PE lesson for a serious medical concern, can parents please provide medical evidence and a note outlining the problem and the length of time that they cannot take part in physical activity. Students should still bring PE kit and will be expected to get changed for these lessons and support in whatever way is reasonable, unless stated in the medical information.

School Rules and Behaviour

One of the reasons, aside from excellent teaching, that ensures we get excellent outcomes for our students, is the high expectations that we have at Wood Green in terms of student behaviour. Can I thank parents/carers for supporting us with this.

Mobile Phones

Once again please can I thank the vast majority of parents/carers that ensure that their child does not bring their mobile phone to school, however there have been a number of incidents in the last half term that we have had to deal with, therefore for clarity, students in years 7 – 11 **MUST NOT** bring mobile phones onto the school site. If there is an emergency safeguarding reason for a student to have a mobile phone on them on the journey to and from school, that parents **MUST** request temporary permission from Mrs Wood in writing with the understanding that the phone **MUST** be handed in to YL/SSM each day for the period of time that the emergency safeguarding reason is in place.

Students should not use their mobile phone as their bus pass/ticket as mobile phones are not permitted on the school site. If a student brings a phone onto the school site and it is confiscated, parents will need to either purchase an additional bus pass/ticket or will have to make alternative arrangements for their child's transport.

If students are found to be in possession of a mobile phone it will be confiscated and placed in the school safe. Mobile phones confiscated on a Monday or Tuesday will be held in the school safe until the end of the school week where they can only be collected by parents/carers between 2.40-3.00pm (in the event of school finishing early, phones due to be collected, can be picked up between from the end of school and the following 20 minutes e.g. 12.00 and 12.20pm.). Phones confiscated on a Wednesday, Thursday or Friday will be confiscated until the end of the following school week where they can only be collected by parents/carers between 2.40-3.00pm. If, however, the return of the mobile phone falls in a school holiday, the phone can be collected on the first day back to school by parents/carers between 2.40 - 3.00pm with the exception of the summer holiday, in which case the phone can be collected by parents/carers on the first Friday of the holidays between 2.40 -3.00pm. **So, if a phone is confiscated on Wed 20th May, Thurs 21st May or Fri 22nd May, it will not be returned until Monday 1st June 2026 (between 2.40 – 3.00pm) as per our policy. EXCEPTIONS to this policy will not be made and ANY student that refuses to hand in their mobile phone when asked to, will be issued with a Permanent Exclusion. This sanction has been consistently applied where in the rare occasions this has happened in the past.**

Safeguarding News

On 21st May at 9:15 am, we will be hosting our third Safeguarding and Welfare coffee morning this year. Local Family Hubs have been invited to speak with parents about the services they offer to support families in the community. Family Hubs provide a range of services for families with children aged 0–19 (or up to 25 for those with SEND). They also offer additional support during pregnancy and throughout a baby’s early years. Family Hubs run regular sessions where families can access advice, take part in fun activities, and socialise in a friendly and welcoming environment. More information will be posted on social media and the website nearer the date.

Student Achievements

FUN FRIDAY!

Fun Friday continues to be a hit across Years 7-11 with competitions running in each year group. This half term quizzes have included: 'Which member of staff is from...?', 'Geography Trivia', 'Flags', 'Pet Detective' and 'Landmarks of the World'.

Miss Kaur’s 11D2 lead the Year 11 competition with 550 points, Mr Price’s 10P2 are leading in Year 10 with 960 points, Mr Postans/Miss Khan’s 8S2 are leading in Year 8 with 750 points, Mr Greenway’s 7S1 are ahead in Year 7 with 1080 points, whilst Mrs Norton’s 9N2 are leading overall with 1530 points!

FORM	Where am I?	Emoji	Children in Need	Guess Who?	Christmas	Logo	American States Jumbled Letters	Facts About Wednesbury	Winter Olympics	Which member of staff is from...?	Geography Trivia	Flags	Pet Detective	Landmarks of the World	Running Total
11A1	20	170	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	170	20	560
11A2				20	20										60
11D1	70	20		20	20	170	20	70			20	20	20	20	470
11D2		20		70	20	170	170		20		20	20	20	20	550*
11N1	20		20					20	70	20	20	20	20		210
11N2	20		70	20	70	170	20	20	20	170	70	20	20	70	760
11P1	20	20	20		70	170			20	20	20	170	20	70	620
11P2	20					170		70				20			300
11S1		20		20						20		170	20	20	270
11S2	20		20	20	70	20		20		20	20		20		230
10A1	20	20	20	70	20	170	170	20	70	20	20	20	20	20	680
10A2	20	20			20	170									250
10D1		20				170	20	20		70		20			320
10D2							20	70	20	20	20	20	20	20	210
10N1	20			20		170	20		20	20		70	20	20	360
10N2		20	20	70	20	170	20			20			70	20	450
10P1		20	20	20	20	20	20	70					20		190
10P2	20	170	170	20	70	170	170	20	20	20	20	20		70	960*
10S1	170	20	20	20	20	170	20	20	20	20	70	20	20	20	610
10S2	20	20	20	20	20	170	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	70	480
9A1	20	170	20	20	20	20	170	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	580
9A2		20		20											80
9D1	70				20	20	20		20	20	20		20	20	230
9D2	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	70	20	20	20	270
9N1	20	20		20		170	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	390
9N2	20	170	70	170	170	170	170	70	20	70	20	70	170	170	1530**
9P1	20	20	20	20	20	170	20	20			20	20	20	20	390
9P2		20			20	20			20	20	20		20	20	160
9S1	20	20	20	20	20	170	20	20	70	20	20	20	20	20	480
9S2		20	20	20	20	170			20	20	20	20	20		350
8A1				20	20	20									60
8A2	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20			70	290
8D1	20	70	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	70	20		340
8D2				20	70			20	20	20		20	20	20	210
8N1	20	20	20	20	20	20	170	20	20	70		20	70	20	510
8N2		20												20	40
8P1	20	20	20	20	20	20	20		20	20		20			180
8P2	20	20	20	20	20	20	170	20	20	70	70	20	20	20	530
8S1		20		70	20	20	170	20	170	70	20	20	20	20	640
8S2	70	20	170	20	20	170	20	170					20	70	750*
7A1	20	20	70	20	170	170	170	70	20	20	170	70	20	70	1080*
7A2	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	240
7D1	70	20	20	70		170	20	20	70	70	20	20	20	20	610
7D2	20		20	20		20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	240
7N1		20		20	20		20		20			20	20	20	160
7N2				20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	70	20	70	280
7P1	20	70		20	20	170	170	20	20	20	20	70	20	20	660
7P2	20	20		20		20		20							100
7S1					20			20	20	20			20		100
7S2		20			20	170	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	70	420

On Thursday 26th March the much-anticipated re-match of Year 11 Pop 1 v Pop 2 took place, with the game poised for a showdown. Year 11 raised money from the event by charging spectators £1 to view.

Gym and Dance Show

Wood Green Academy's Gym and Dance Show took place on Thursday 19th March. A huge congratulations to all participants for an incredible performance. The time, effort and

commitment that went into creating and rehearsing pieces absolutely paid off. The students were brilliant; they conducted themselves in a professional manner and did themselves and us all proud. Special congratulations to those students that performed as part of their assessments. Thank you also to our visitors Hargate Primary, Old Park Primary and Wood Green Junior for sharing their wonderful talents with us. Well done everyone!

Kelsey Nock (Ali), Leah May Owen (Ali), Scarlett Holmes (Ali), Silvia Amo-Obi (Nightingale), Maddie Forrester (Da Vinci), Lexi Oliver (Nightingale), Isobel Evans (Parks), Maddison Tandy (Ali), Ruby Worley (Nightingale), Tiah Rogers (Parks), Kelsey Hall (Ali), Lily Davies (Ali), Poppy Mitchell (Da Vinci), Ashleigh Steele (Da Vinci), Lucy Stewart (Da Vinci), Crystal Ward (Da Vinci).

Laura Beardmore (Shakespeare), Teegan-Lei Bryant (Shakespeare), Lucie Cooper (Nightingale), Dolcie Mae Dowling (Ali), Grace Duffield-Reid (Shakespeare), Maddison Hawkins (Parks), Amber Keeling-Cartwright (Nightingale), Lilly Muir (Shakespeare), Olivia Stevens (Da Vinci), Aimee Whitehouse (Parks), Ceannah Whyte (Shakespeare), Neve Addis (Ali), Madison Cassidy (Shakespeare), Brooke Crumpton (Parks), Mia Flynn (Da Vinci), Pearle Goode (Da Vinci), Lily-Mae Hill (Ali), Mia Jacques (Nightingale), Ava Purcell (Da Vinci), Millie-Jayne Russell (Shakespeare), Lilly-May Woodfield (Nightingale).

Alex Ball (Parks), Seniz Bekir (Shakespeare), Arjeevan Bath (Shakespeare), Keeley Arnold (Ali), Sienna-Lea Baker (Ali), Alesha Mateko (Ali), Aminatou Dada (Shakespeare), Mazie-Leigh Davies (Shakespeare), Jack Doughty (Nightingale), Charlie Miller (Parks), Frankie Scott (Da Vinci), Elise Simcox (Parks), Sophia Whitehouse (Parks), Evie Williams (Shakespeare), Zoya Asif (Nightingale), Hannah Brookes (Ali), Kaya Burzawa (Da Vinci), Caitlin Cliff (Shakespeare), Sky McEvoy (Ali), Alyna Sutherland (Ali), Faye Wilkes (Nightingale).

School Games

It has been another fantastic term of participation and achievement across the Sandwell School Games, with a wide range of events engaging pupils and staff from across the borough. Secondary schools have been busy competing in boys and girls 3x3 basketball, alongside exciting KS3 and KS4 handball competitions, showcasing skill, teamwork, and determination. Inclusive opportunities have also been a highlight, with a KS3 and KS4 Boccia event providing meaningful and competitive experiences for all participants.

At primary level, the offer has been equally impressive. Staff have benefited from high quality CPD opportunities, including gymnastics training and Active Skills for Life workshops, helping to support the delivery of engaging PE lessons in schools. Pupils have taken part in a variety of festivals and competitions, including Yr4 & 5 basketball, Yr5 & 6 netball, and the Biggest Ever Football Session, which saw a record number of young people enjoying the game. The PMLD SEND Festival provided a fantastic inclusive environment for pupils with additional needs, while the Eid Celebration event brought schools together to recognise and celebrate cultural diversity through physical activity.

Boys Football

The Year 11 football team have progressed through to the semi-final of the West Midlands County Cup following victory over Handsworth Grammar School. They are now due to play Pool Hayes in the semi final and hopefully a final a few days later.

Squad:

Caden Doody (Ali), Ruaan Joe (Parks), Codey Smith (Einstein), Aden Foster (Ali), Harry Simms (Da Vinci), Charlie Element (Parks), Mason Foster (Einstein), Isaiah Goodall (Einstein), Ethan Bunce (Da Vinci), Matteo Essoki Eyoum (Da Vinci), Sameer Miah (Shakespeare), Finley Batchelor (Da Vinci), Alfie Jones (Ali), Malakya Meeson (Da Vinci).

Leadership Academy

As part of our ongoing commitment to enhancing KS4 Physical Education and providing clear pathways into KS5, we are delighted to introduce the new Yr10 Leadership Academy. This exciting initiative is designed to develop students' leadership skills, employability, and practical sporting knowledge, while also offering valuable experiences that will support them both in school and in their future pathways.

Students who take part will have the opportunity to complete four Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity accredited qualifications: the Youth Sports Leaders Award, Safeguarding Awareness, First Aid in Sport, and the Multisport Award. These courses will be delivered by Black Country Coaches Club across two full training days at University of Wolverhampton, providing students with a fantastic opportunity to learn in a professional and inspiring environment.

Kyle Arnold (Ali), Charlotte Bagdi (Parks), Charlie Blackhall (Ali), Olly Blakemore (Shakespeare), Khloe Chang (Parks), Kendre Colquhoun (Nightingale), Oliver Corbett (Parks), Micah Ejizu (Nightingale), Lucas Freeth (Ali), Phoebe Grew (Parks), Josiah McLeary (Ali), Harrison Perry (Shakespeare), Caitlin Skeldon (Parks), Harry Slater (Nightingale)

Referee Academy

Four students from Wood Green Academy recently took part in the The Football Association official referee course, marking an exciting step into the world of officiating. This course provided them with the opportunity to referee competitive football matches across a range of formats, including 3v3, 7v7, and 11v11 games.

All students demonstrated great commitment and enthusiasm throughout the programme and have worked incredibly hard to develop their skills and knowledge. They are now in the process of completing their qualification, and we look forward to seeing them progress and succeed as future referees. Well done!

Kendre Colquhoun (Nightingale) Joshua Garmston (Ali), Oliver Corbett (Parks), Harrison Perry (Shakespeare).

Handball

Silver medal for Boys yr 7 & 8 handball, who missed out on gold by 1 point.

George Belcher (Ali), Harry Grainger (Parks), Kacper Konowalik (Ali), Harry Richards (Parks), Oliver Shermer (Nightingale), Aryan Sehmar (Shakespeare), Mason Shields (Nightingale), Gurfateh Singh (Parks), Mohammed Tunkara (Parks).

Past Student

Congratulations to Ashton Pearce who represented The Midlands in a 4-way 3-day English Schools' FA tournament which served as the final trials for England U18 Schoolboys. He played against the North, the South East and the South West and performed very well against other trialists who are already gaining the attention of top professional football teams. 70 boys were in attendance and the level of performance over the weekend was exceptionally high. Pictured here with Mr Baggley (Midlands Co-Team Manager) following the medal ceremony.



School Calendar

Just a reminder that the school calendar is on the school website and has all the Academy's key dates and activities listed: <https://www.woodgreenacademy.co.uk/school-calendar/>

Many thanks

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Topham', with a small flourish at the end.

Mr J Topham
Headteacher