



February 2026

Dear parent/carer/student

We now have fewer than fifty school days before the start of GCSE and A Level examinations, and this half term marks the point at which the build-up to the exam season truly intensifies. This period is undoubtedly challenging, but it also presents an important opportunity for our students to demonstrate the knowledge, understanding, and skills they have developed throughout the academic year.

I encourage all students to make full use of the additional study sessions, revision materials, and support available from teachers in the weeks ahead. Consistent preparation now will make a meaningful difference to their confidence and performance in the summer.

It is equally important to ensure that well-being remains a priority during this time. Please support your child in maintaining a healthy balance—ensuring they get sufficient rest, eat well, and engage in activities that help to reduce stress. A calm, healthy routine is essential for effective learning and exam readiness.

Attendance

You will already be aware—both from your child and from our recent communications—that we are placing an increased focus on attendance. At Wood Green Academy, we are committed to working closely with families to ensure that every student's attendance remains as high as possible, enabling all young people to thrive and achieve their potential.

If your son or daughter's attendance is not at the level it needs to be, we will contact you to ask for your support in improving the situation. Our collective aim is always to identify barriers early and work together to address them.

To help parents access the right support, we have updated the attendance section of our school website. Here, you will find a range of useful information and resources, including guidance on accessing mental health support, details of the NHS Pharmacy First initiative for quick help with common ailments, and clear NHS advice about when students should remain at home.

If you have any concerns about factors that may be affecting your child's attendance, please speak with our Attendance Team. We are here to help, and the resources on our website may also provide useful guidance:

<https://www.woodgreenacademy.co.uk/students/attendance/>

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



EXCELLENCE AS STANDARD

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- 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 4th March 2026.

Safeguarding

This term the Safeguarding and Welfare Coffee morning will be on the 26th February at 9.50am. The theme will be: **"Supporting Children During the Exam Period"**

During the session, we will explore a range of helpful topics, including:

- How to create a calm and supportive home environment during exams
- Practical revision strategies that really work
- Ways to help children manage stress and maintain wellbeing
- Healthy routines around sleep, nutrition, and screen time
- How to communicate positively and encourage confidence
- What to expect during exam week and how to prepare as a family

Please contact your child's year team if you would like to attend. All years groups are welcome.

ClassCharts

We would like to thank all parents and carers who are already using the Class Charts smartphone application. Please be aware that from this term onwards, Class Charts will become our **primary method of communication**, replacing SMS texts and emails. Using Class Charts will provide a convenient, single location for key information and services, including:

- Reporting student absences
- Receiving letters and school announcements
- Notifications regarding after-school detentions
- Access to pupil timetables, achievement points, and attendance information

To ensure you receive updates promptly, please make sure that notifications are enabled on the Class Charts app.

If you experience any difficulties accessing or using your Class Charts account, please email digihelp@woodgreenacademy.co.uk with a brief description of the issue. A member of our dedicated IT Team will be happy to support you.

Rewards Programme

We are reaching out to invite local businesses to support our secondary school's Attendance Rewards Programme. By sponsoring prizes or incentives, you can help inspire students to maintain strong attendance while contributing to a positive and encouraging learning environment.

This partnership offers mutual benefits:

- **For our students:** Your support will directly motivate them to achieve consistent attendance and academic success.
- **For your business:** You'll gain visibility in our community and showcase your commitment to education.

We would greatly appreciate your involvement in this meaningful initiative. In return, we're happy to discuss ways to acknowledge and promote your generous support.

If you're interested in sponsoring a prize or incentive, please don't hesitate to contact us at admin@woodgreenacademy.co.uk. Together, we can make a significant difference in our students' futures.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to invest in our community's success.

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 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 Miss

Donaghie in writing with the understanding that if the request is granted the phone MUST be handed in to YL/SSM each day for the period of time that the emergency safeguarding reason is in place.

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 3.00-3.30pm (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 3.00-3.30pm. 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 3.00 - 3.30pm 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 3.00 -3.30pm.

So, if a phone is confiscated on Wed 25th March, Thurs 26th March or Fri 27th March, it will not be returned until Monday 13th April 2026 (between 3.00 – 3.30pm) 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.

Student Achievements

KS4 Leadership Academy

We have begun a new initiative to involve KS4 students in sporting life at school a little more, outside of their own PE lessons, by launching the WGA Leadership Academy. In its infancy the students have been tasked with facilitating lunchtime extra-curricular clubs for KS3 students, and we currently have 3 different clubs running throughout the week; Table Tennis, Just Dance and Dodgeball. All have been brilliantly attended by the KS3 students, over 80 came to these clubs last week and the KS4 students have been a credit to the PE department in helping run these sessions. As the academy progresses, it is anticipated that the students will complete sports coaching courses and be able to participate in Sandwell wide School Games organised events. We are excited for the students to take part in this initiative and hopefully it will continue to grow. Leadership academy students:

Oliver Corbett (Parks), Kendre Colquhorne (Nightingale), Olly Blakemore (Shakespeare), Harrison Perry (Shakespeare), Maxwell Knight (Shakespeare), Lucas Freeth (Ali)

Sandwell Referee Academy

Miss Probert has spearheaded an initiative across Sandwell to get students into refereeing. Mr Rollason/Mr Allsopp who both referee in the professional game conducted a session with students from Wood Green, Phoenix and Stuart Bathurst, aimed at equipping them with the tools to understand the role of a referee and whether they would like to pursue it outside of school, in their own time. The session consisted of practical refereeing activities, making decisions under pressure and also classroom based activities to help them understand the role of the referee and how they could apply it to a football match. The students were a credit to our school throughout and engaged with the content that was delivered. On the back of the session, 6 students will be put forward to complete a referees course with Birmingham County FA and become fully qualified referees. They will then be able to referee games locally, at school and across Sandwell as part of the School Games programme. We hope they will enjoy their courses and embrace becoming a referee in the future and you never know, you may see one of them in the professional game in the future!! Participants: Oliver Corbett (Parks), Kendre Colquhorne (Nightingale),

Harrison Perry (Shakespeare), Ronny Cooper-Griffiths (Shakespeare), Ethan Gura (Shakespeare), Charlotte Bagdi (Parks), Daisy Robinson (Ali), Shaan Daly (Da Vinci), Joshua Garmston (Ali), Muhammed Qureshi (Nightingale), Alfie Simcox (Nightingale).

Sandwell Schools 3x3 Basketball Tournaments

These students have all represented Wood Green Academy at the recent 3x3 tournaments.

Year 11 Basketball Team

Matteo Essoki Eyoum (DaVinci), KJ Morgan (Shakespeare), Ruben Williams (Parks), Travis Chung (DaVinci), Kiaan Tyagi (Parks),

Year 10 Basketball Team

Brandon Bradshaw (Shakespeare), Keishawn Brookes (Ali), Kendre Colquhoun (Nightingale), Harrison Perry (Shakespeare).

Y9 Basketball 3v3

We took 11 boys to the 3v3 Basketball at Holly Lodge on 29th January - the 'A' team played 3 fixtures in the group stage, coming up against strong teams from Holly Lodge, Q3 Tipton and Q3 Langley, they bowed out the tournament at this stage, but played with great heart and determination in their games.

A Team: Daniel Akanle (Da Vinci), Malachi Fuller (Da Vinci), Aiden Gregory (Nightingale), Hamzah Hussain (Da Vinci), Parminder Khalsi (Da Vinci), Daniel Tyas (Parks).

The 'B' team fared somewhat better in the group winning 3 out of their 3 games against Holly Lodge, Stuart Bathurst and Q3 Langley, advancing to the semi-finals. This was a hard-fought game against Bristnall Hall, it was a cagey affair and ended up going to a shootout. Jordan Ekpa (Ali) was our nominated shooter and despite his best efforts, we ended up losing 5-4 overall after the shootout

B Team: Jordan Ekpa (Ali), Jamari Languedoc-Akposheri (Shakespeare), Joel Mayne (Shakespeare), Damanvir Singh (Shakespeare), Shiloh Smalling-Spence (Parks)

House

FUN FRIDAY!

Quizzes continue to be very popular and the challenge is great to see. Forms come together to try and answer the questions put to them each week. The most popular recent quiz was Guess Who? Where students had to identify staff from their younger years. Since then there have been quizzes on Logos, American states (jumbled letters), Facts About Wednesbury and the Winter Olympics. An additional quiz on Women in Science has also been sent out, which will raise the profile of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science.

All entrants received 20 points

Year winners received an extra 50 points

Overall winners received an extra 100 points

(Joint winners each received the full amount, not a share of the winnings).

The current standings in the FUN FRIDAY! Quizzes are as follows:

11D1 are ahead in the Year 11 competition on 470 points – Miss Kaur

10P2 are leading in the Year 10 competition on 830 points – Mr Price

9N2 are ahead in the Year 9 competition on 1030 points – they are also leading the whole school competition! – Mrs Norton

8S2 are leading in the Year 8 competition on 660 points – Mr Postans/Miss Khan

7A1 are leading in the Year 7 competition on 730 points – Mr Greenway

FORM	Where am I?	Emoji	Children in Need	Guess Who?	Christmas	Logo	American States Jumbled Letters	Facts About Wednesbury	Winter Olympics	Running Total
11A1	20	170	20	20	20	20	20	20		310
11A2				20	20			20		60
11D1	70	20		20	20	170	20	70		390
11D2		20		70	20	170	170		20	470*
11N1	20		20					20	70	130
11N2	20		70	20	70	170	20	20	20	410
11P1	20	20	20		70	170			20	320
11P2	20					170		70		260
11S1		20		20						40
11S2	20		20	20	70	20		20		170
10A1		20	20	70	20	170	170	20	70	560
10A2	20	20			20	170				230
10D1		20				170	20	20		230
10D2							20	70	20	110
10N1	20			20		170	20			230
10 N2		20	20	70	20	170	20			320
10P1		20	20	20	20		20	70		170
10P2	20	170	170	20	70	170	170	20	20	830*
10S1	170	20	20		20	170	20	20	20	460
10S2	20	20	20	20	20	170	20	20	20	330
9A1	20	170	20	20	20	20	170	20	20	480
9A2		20		20						40
9D1	70				20	20	20		20	150
9D2	20	20	20	20		20	20			120
9N1	20	20		20		170	20	20	20	290
9N2	20	170	70	170	170	170	170	70	20	1030**
9P1	20	20	20	20	20	170	20	20		310
9P2		20			20	20			20	80
9S1	20	20	20	20	20	170	20	20	70	380
9S2		20	20	20	20	170			20	270
8A1				20	20	20				60
8A2	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	180
8D1	20	70	20	20	20		20	20	20	210
8D2				20	70			20	20	130
8N1	20	20	20	20	20	20	170	20	20	330
8N2		20								20
8P1	20	20	20	20	20		20		20	140
8P2	20	20	20	20	20	170	20	20	20	330
8S1		20		70	20	20	170	20	170	490
8S2	70	20	170	20	20	170	20	170		660*
7A1	20	20	70	20	170	170	170	70	20	730*
7A2		20	20	20	20	20	20	20		140
7D1	70	20	20	70		170	20	20	70	460
7D2	20		20	20		20	20	20	20	140
7N1		20		20	20		20		20	100
7N2				20		20	20	20	20	100
7P1	20	70		20	20	170	170	20	20	510
7P2	20	20		20		20		20		100
7S1					20			20	20	60
7S2		20			20	170	20	20	20	270

Girls Football

Congratulations to our Yr7 & 8 and Yr9 & 10 girls' football teams on an excellent and successful term of fixtures. Both teams have shown outstanding commitment, teamwork, and sportsmanship, representing the school with pride throughout the season.

A special mention goes to the Yr9 & 10 girls, who are currently top of the Sandwell Schools' Football League, a fantastic achievement. With several important fixtures still to come after the February half term, the team will be looking to maintain their strong form and finish the season on a high.

Well done to all players involved and thank you to the staff who continue to support and develop girls' football in our school. Keep up the great work!

Yr7&8 Girls Football Team:

Renee Day (Ali), Aoife Langley (Da Vinci), Betsy-Mae Lloyd (Da Vinci), Gracie Sheppard (Parks), Lucia Williams (Parks), Evie Williams (Shakespeare), Faye Wilkes (Nightingale), Lexie-Lei Styles (Nightingale), Tavleena Takhar (Shakespeare), Millie Hickman (Nightingale), Brooklyn-Mia Caville (Da Vinci), Tiffany-Rose Taylor (Parks), Lola Bingham (Nightingale), Nancie Grace Eivors (Da Vinci), Lillie-May Sadler (Shakespeare), Emily Modrak (Nightingale), Alexia Wise (Ali), Sienna Davies (Parks), Jayla Cooper (Da Vinci)

Yr7&8 Girls Football Team:

Eboni Timmins (Da Vinci) Diana Banas (Ali) Brooke Crumpton (Parks) Layle-Tia Bradshaw (Shakespeare) Sigourney-Rai Aston (Parks) Poppy Davies (Da Vinci) Charlotte Bagdi (Parks) Shaan Daly (Da Vinci) Daisy Robinson (Ali) Evie Grainger (Shakespeare)

Elite Performers

Congratulations - Athletics Success

Huge congratulations to Eliza Kerr (Parks) who has been really impressing on the track in her athletics career.

Eliza has progressed to get to the 300m National England Competition – which is a super achievement in itself.

Keep going Eliza – we are all behind you and wish you great success.



Football

Year 7 Ezekiel Ayoola (Ali) has now joined the Aston Villa Academy and joins fellow Wood Green Academy students who engage in their respective club's release programme.

Cheer and Dance

Year 7 student Georgia Brannigan (Shakespeare) currently trains approximately 12 hours per week in her regular classes at Ingram Academy, where she started when she was 5 years old. She trains technique in various styles such as ballet, contemporary, lyrical, tap, modern jazz, commercial, character and acro - and takes graded exams each year. She is also a member of the inter age festival team, competing in solos, duets, trios and small & large groups at various competitions nationally, throughout the year. She has also represented England with Ingram Academy, at the Dance World Cup for 4 years running (Spain/Portugal/Prague/Spain) & winning bronze medal back in 2022.

In addition to her normal training, Georgia also takes part in monthly associate programmes with Nicholson's Ballet, Perform Like A Pro, and Phoenix Company - which give her new opportunities and the chance to work with a range of choreographers in different environments.

Last year when Georgia auditioned to be part of Phoenix Company - she was selected to be part of their team to represent Team UK in the Xpirit World Cup in Cancun, Mexico - which is a prestigious world competition for Cheer and Dance. As part of this Georgia performed a solo, a duet and was in two group dances - in contemporary/lyrical/jazz sections. team won 6 sections/trophies overall, and the group Georgia was in were crowned World Champions winning a gold medal and also runner up silver medal - plus a 'celebration' ring, for highest score in the competition. Georgia was awarded one of the team trophies to keep, from the team manager - for her performance/professionalism (she was one of the youngest and also the first soloist to perform in the competition).



Sporting Aptitude

Sporting Aptitude Trip

Some of our sporting aptitude pupils enjoyed a great day out in Birmingham watching the best teams in the UK battle it out to become British Champions.

It was super to watch the warmups, match play, and learn more game – as we got to see both the men’s and women’s live finals. Another highlight was watching a slam dunk battle – where there were all kinds of crazy ways to dunk a basketball.

We will now take some of the pupils to play in a Sandwell Basketball Competition – hopefully feeling inspired by the professionals!

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

Mr J Topham
Headteacher