



January 2025

Dear parent/carer/student

Happy New Year! I hope this message finds you in good health and high spirits as we embark on a new year full of possibilities here at Wood Green Academy.

Attendance

We would like to say a big thank you for supporting your children to attend school and engage so well with their learning. We know that this reflects the value our families place on children learning in school every day. We are looking forward to continuing to work together, to support best attendance and learning.

At Wood Green Academy, we want and expect our pupils to attend school every day, unless they are not well enough to. Please see the following NHS guidance to help you with decision making: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

We believe that children who attend regularly are more likely to feel settled in school, maintain friendships, keep up with their learning and gain the greatest benefit from their education.

Attending on time every day also helps pupils form good habits which can stay with them throughout their education and on into the workplace.

UK Parliament Week

Democracy Summit

Well done to the following Rights Respecting Ambassadors who presented their manifesto to Councillor Uddin , Councillor Paul Moore , Sally Giles (Director of Children and Education) and the MP Sarah Coombes (West Bromwich) at the Democracy Summit (Sandwell Council House) during UK Parliament Week. The manifesto which promoted an awareness of UNICEF and the UNCRC was live streamed and clips seen here <https://youtu.be/dgKxIRx1ITU>

Well done : Tami Ajayi (Einstein) , Joe Bird (Shakespeare) , Chelsy Mvere (Parks) , Brooke Crumpton (Parks) , Owen Corbett (Parks) , Amy Leigh Tilley (Ali) and Mya Ruby (Shakespeare) .

Take Over Challenge

Well Done to Tami Ajayi (Einstein) and Joe Bird (Shakespeare) for delivering their Campaign 'No Ball Games' at the Takeover Challenge held at Sandwell Council House in front of an audience of highly prolific councillors and politicians. Feedback from their presentation included the comments below :

"You all worked incredibly hard to present such sensitive and pertinent issues, providing your own personal stories and challenges. The issues you have raised have enabled the senior leaders of the council to ensure actions are delivered for co-production, knife crime, green spaces, mental health, bereavement, and support for families who have a child with SEND".

The Leaders including the Leader of the Council, Cllr Kerry Carmichael and Chief Executive Shokat Lal, were very impressed and stated "let's have this 365 days a year!".

Well done Tami and Joe !!!

ClassCharts

We would like to thank all parents and carers who are using the Class Charts application for smartphones. Please be aware that from this term, and moving forward, Class Charts will be our main form of communication, replacing SMS texts and emails. This will provide you with a "one-stop" location for the following:

- Parents/carers reporting student absence.
- Receiving letters and announcements.
- After-school detention notifications.
- Accessing pupil timetables, achievement scores and attendance.

When using the Class Charts app on a smartphone, please ensure notifications are enabled. If you are having trouble accessing or using your Class Charts account, please email digihelp@woodgreenacademy.co.uk with a description of your issue, and our dedicated IT Team will reach out to support you.

Safeguarding

Just to remind you to keep up to date with Safeguarding alert which can be found on our website. These messages are sent from the authority when any incident has been reported to them which parents need to be made aware of.

You should also be seeing a weekly Flashpoint on ClassCharts which alerts you to both local and national safeguarding issues and then directs you to gain further information on the website. There is also advice on keeping your child safe online which we urge you to spend time reading.

Many thanks

Mrs Wood and Miss Donaghie

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.

Wood Green 100

Old Woden, Mr David Perry, recently donated 2 boxes of resources to add to our library of artefacts relating to our original school – Wednesbury Boys High School. The resources detail life at the school over many years. Mr Perry and our Content Creator, Mr Uppal, also went through the Old Woden's web page as the content is transferred to our school website. Once the transfer is complete students and the public will be able to access this information to get an insight into life at the school and in Wednesbury and possibly see pictures and write ups about family members.

If you would like to participate in the celebrations or support fundraising efforts, please contact Mr Baggley at Wood Green Academy or email

woodgreen100@woodgreenacademy.co.uk

We are planning on raising money to buy a new school mini-bus, secure sponsorship from local businesses and even break a world record, but we need your support.

Activities Day

Mr Baggley has delivered assemblies to students in Years 7-10 outlining the offer and arrangements for Activities Day. Final arrangements are being made regarding the cost of the activities.

Our initial focus will be on getting students signed up to off-site activities/trips so that parents and carers get as many instalments as possible to help spread the payment out.

Year 7

Option 1: West Midlands Safari Park

Option 2: Go Ape

Year 8

Option 1: Drayton Manor Park

Option 2: Ten Pin Bowling

Year 9

Option 1: Thorpe Park

Option 2: Escape Rooms

Option 3: Fishing

Year 10

Option 1: Alton Towers

Option 2: Paintballing/Quad Biking

Option 3: Fishing

Year 12

Oxford/Weston-Super-Mare/other

There will also be an independent **SEND** trip – students may still choose to go on their respective year group trips.

Students/parents/carers should keep a look out for announcements and further information in via ClassCharts/email/website and other social media/Form Tutor/Head of Year.

Students will not need to make choices this year - an initial deposit via Parent Pay, for the activity of your child's choice, will reserve them a spot. There will be instalment dates to help spread the overall payment out.

Enrichment

Students have now moved onto their third unit in enrichment. They continue to develop a range of skills and I Can I Will characteristics.

Please note that enrichment is a compulsory activity that is identified in Period 6 on your child's timetable. Please avoid requesting medical appointments during this period wherever possible.

I Can I Will Loyalty Cards – Years 7 and 8 only

Loyalty cards will return in the New Year. Year 7 and 8 students will get the chance to work hard to get their 'I Can I Will' Loyalty Cards signed as they demonstrate the 7 'I Can I Will' Characters in their work:

Resilience, Drive, Curiosity, Initiative, Risk Taking, Reflectiveness and Flexibility of Mind.

The card will take on a different guise this year with a 100 Year special card available for the children to complete.

Please ask to look at your child's card and ask them what they have done to achieve the respective signatures.

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 12th Feb, Thurs 13th Feb or Fri 14th Feb, it will not be returned until Monday 24th February 2025 (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

House System - House captains

House captain applications were submitted, and the successful candidates chosen: Inaaya Ahmed (Da Vinci), Tayef Ahmed (Ali), Oluwasemilore Ajayi (Einstein), Aamira Begum (Shakespeare), Nadirah Begum (Ali), Ammie-Louise Blunn (Shakespeare), Cody Bytheway (Einstein), Cassey Clews (Parks), Maisie-Dee Hunter (Ali), Zunairah-Emaan Imran (Nightingale), Tahmid Islam (Shakespeare), Bradley Nicholls (Shakespeare), Alaana Smith (Parks), Lucy Stewart (Da Vinci), Ezme Tromans (Parks), Hanif Uzzaman (Ali).

House captains now have badges so they can be identified around school.

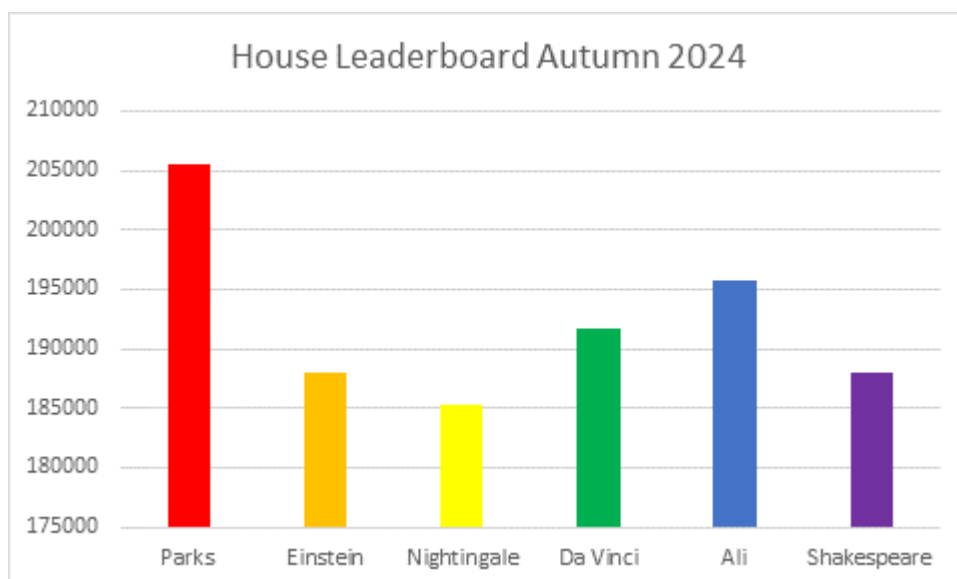
The Terrifically Tough Ten Quiz

This is a new challenging quiz which also contributes to the leaderboard.

Charity Work - Christmas box parcel appeal was added into a 'Fun Friday' and announced as a House competition earlier in December:



Leaderboard



Announcements

Winners of competitions will be announced through the following:

Student hub, emails, Head Teacher Newsletter, building relationships bulletin in form times.

House competitions will be announced via ClassCharts, emails, Fun Fridays and Building Relationships Bulletin.

B4L and ClassCharts are also considered to win House Points.

Elite Performers

Khiyan Morkar (Parks) recently took part in a Karate grading for his Black Belt. He trains with Zenshin Karate-Do for 3 - 5 hours in the Dojo (formal training place) and practices at home. It has taken Khiyan 10 years to get to this point – a true reward for his drive and resilience! The grading took place in Wolverhampton at Colton Hills Community School. His next steps are to continue to stay dedicated and work hard to achieve his 1st Dan and be able to help at classes more, teaching and training other students. The embroidery on his Black Belt spells out his name! Congratulation Khiyan – well done!



Mr Taylor continues to make his way around Premier League football grounds in his 'other' job as an Assistant Referee. As well as racing up and down the touchline in pursuit of flying wingers and lightning strikers, Mr Taylor has also been behind the screen as Video Assistant Referee and educates staff and students on the decision-making process.

Mr Rollason is now refereeing football league games having made a much-publicised introduction to the match Wimbledon v Dagenham and Redbridge recently. Mr Rollason was 4th official at the Football league Two fixture, when the referee pulled up with an injury after only 12 minutes. The television cameras captured Mr Rollason entering the field of play to a massive round of applause. He has since been the 4th official in the Football League Championship and his next game will be MK Dons v Crewe Alexandra where he will be the referee from the kick off.

School Games Organisers

Primary Sports Hall Athletics

On Thursday 5th December our School Games Organisers, Miss Parker and Miss Fisher, hosted the Primary schools sports hall athletics competition at Tipton Sports Academy. 14 Primary schools attended. It was a lively, fun and energetic events with three schools progressing to the Black Country Finals. Wood Green Academy supported the event with our young leaders to score and time events throughout the day:

Mya Ruby (Einstein), Micah Ejizu (Da Vinci), Malik sterling (Da Vinci), Mohammed Muhyiddin (Shakespeare), Aimee Whitehouse (Einstein), Hamisah Hussain (Einstein), Inaaya Ahmed (Da Vinci), Khloe Chang (Parks), Sophie Cockayne (Ali), Alfie Simcox (Nightingale), Chaiden Hennefer (Da Vinci),

Peyton Birch (Da Vinci), Riley Lister (Shakespeare), Ronny Copper Griffiths (Shakespeare), Daniel Hall (Parks), Hayden Adams (Parks), Lilly Rose Thomas (Ali), Olly Blakemore (Shakespeare).

Wood Green Academy School Sports Partnership

We are delighted to announce we have 20 partner schools who are now part of our school sport partnership.

Dance Show

On Monday 25th November Miss Harbinson (Dance Teacher) held a 'Movie Night Dance Show' with an audience of nearly 300 people! The students shone and were absolutely amazing. From solos, duos and group performances in their Dance groups. We had external visitors from Park Wrekin Gymnastics Club, West Bromwich Gymnastics club, Wood Green Junior Primary School and Grace Mary Primary School. It was a night to remember!

A huge thank you to the following student ambassadors who helped on the night: Oluwadademimu Abimbola (Einstein), Osanherumwen Imagbenikaro (Ali), Tasmia Zannat (Einstein), Simra Kasam (Parks), Angel Chen (Einstein), Fiza Akram (Ali) and Tazeen Qureshi (Einstein).

Miss Harbinson said:

"I am extremely proud of each and every single one of them, you wouldn't believe their commitment to this show, turning up every lunch time, staying after school and even meeting up outside of school to rehearse! They are truly amazing, and their effort showed on the night! A huge congratulations on putting on such a remarkable performance! 😊 "

The following students performed in the show:

Year 7:

Hannah Brookes (Ali), Holly Caddick (Ali), Brooklyn-Mia Caville (Da Vinci), Holly Chruchill (Da Vinci), Ashleigh Drew (Parks), Layla Gittings-Broughton (Shakespeare), Lacie-Mae Jackson (Nightingale), Aoife Langley (Da Vinci), Olivia Langley (Parks), Taylor Mellor (Nightingale), Macey Nelson (Ali), Carly Phillips (Nightingale), Stephanie-Kate Reay (Nightingale), Evelyn Richardson (Da Vinci), Olivia Stevens (Einstein), Lydia Thompson (Shakespeare), Faye Wilkes (Nightingale), Evie Williams (Shakespeare)

Olivia Stevens co-coached and choreographed the Y7/8 dances and the older dancers in that group, Taylor and Carly helped to guide the younger girls in what was their first show! Special mention to Hannah Brookes, Ashleigh Drew and Brooklyn-Mia Carpenter who helped with choreography and helped others learn the dances in a leadership role in that group also.

Year 8:

Mia Livesey (Parks), Lola Carpenter (Einstein), Khushi Patel (Parks)

Year 9:

Maxine Banda (Einstein), Laura Beardmore (Shakespeare), Teegan Lei-Bryant (Shakespeare), Lucie Cooper (Nightingale), Dolcie Mae Dowling (Ali), Ella Richards (Parks), Daisy Robinson (Ali), Alice Smith (Ali), Jessica Woodhouse (Parks), Ceannah Whyte (Shakespeare), Grace Duffield-Reid (Shakespeare), Phoebe Grew (Einstein), Maddison Hawkins (Einstein), Amber Keeling- Cartwright (Parks), Lilly Muir (Shakespeare), Aimee Whitehouse (Einstein), Olivia Stevens (Einstein).

Year 10:

Silivia Amo-Obi (Nightingale), Bryonie Lea- Brazier (Einstein), Isobel Evans (Shakespeare), Maddie Forrester (Da Vinci), Kelsey Hall (Einstein), Scarlett Holmes (Ali), Poppy Mitchell (Shakespeare), Lexi Oliver (Nightingale), Leah -May Owen (Einstein), Tiah Rogers (Shakespeare), Ashleigh Steele (Da Vinci), Lucy Stewart (Da Vinci), Maddison Tandy (Ali), Crystal Ward (Da Vinci), Ruby Worley (Nightingale).

Year 11:

Harley Walters (Ali), Carly Phillips (Nightingale), Taylor Mellor (Nightingale), Amy Tilley (Ali), Alessa Chung (Shakespeare), Tai'Jah Dixon (Ali), Macey Williams (Parks), Hiqmot Quadri (Nightingale), Mollie Wilkes (Parks), Lillie Higham (Nightingale), Grace Cox (Nightingale).

Basketball

Year 11

Sandwell North 3x3 tournament at Phoenix Academy. We entered 2 teams both making it through the group stages, one team finished in 4th and the other won it all!!!

Sandwell North Champions

- Owen Nwiwu (Shakespeare)
- Ahyan Chaudhry (Ali)
- Mateo Essoki Eyoum, Year 10 (Da Vinci)

Sandwell North 4th place

- Tishy Blake (Einstein)
- Nathaniel Scrutton (Shakespeare)
- KJ Morgan, Year 10 (Shakespeare)

Year 10

Sandwell North 3x3 tournament at Phoenix Academy. We made it through the group stages and finished in 4th place.

Sandwell North 4th place

- Mateo Essoki Eyoum (Da Vinci)
- KJ Morgan (Shakespeare)
- D'Quan Farrell (Parks)
- Makiah Laidley (Nightingale)
- Kiaan Tyagi (Parks)

Year 8

Junior NBA team this year representing the Oklahoma City Thunder.

The team currently has a 1-2 record after the first 2 rounds.

Our next action is in January.

- Ibraheem Butt (Shakespeare)
- Kolby-Jay Danks (Einstein)
- Jordan Ekpa (Ali)
- Kacper Konowalik (Ali)
- Jamari Languedoc-Akposheri (Shakespeare)
- Tommy McEvoy (Einstein)
- Jared Pobee (Da Vinci)
- Mohammed Shahzad (Shakespeare)
- Mason Shields (Nightingale)
- Damanvir Singh (Einstein)
- Hayden Tranter (Da Vinci)
- Daniel Tyas (Parks)

Netball

The netball teams are off to a flying start in the Sandwell school's netball league . The U14's have beaten Stuart Bathurst, Gospel Oak, Wodensborough and WBCA so far this year. The U16's have won all their games this year too.

Well Done to the girls who come week in and week out and play for the team.

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 stylized flourish at the end.

Mr J Topham
Headteacher