



November 2025

Dear parent/carers/student

Remembrance Day 2025

As a school, we wish to commemorate Remembrance Day and remember those lost in all wars and acknowledge the work of our armed services.

To this end we would like to invite students who are in any uniformed services, whether it be the Cadets, Scouts, Guides or Explorers to attend school in their uniforms on Tuesday 11th November 2025. All other students MUST attend school in the correct school uniform.

Due to our break being up until 11:00am, we will undertake the 2 minutes silence at 11.10am - the Last Post will be played, and a student will recite a poem as we lay our wreath to commemorate all that have lost their lives.

Students wishing to attend in uniform and take part in the commemoration should email Mr Baggley by 9:00am on Thursday 6th November.

Safeguarding Parent Coffee

Our 2nd Safeguarding Parent Coffee morning will be the 13th November at 9.15am

The theme this term is **'Talking Online safety with your child'**

This will include:

AI- friend or foe?

Phones and mental health

Phones and friendship groups

Practical support to manage your child's phone use

Please call your year team to book your slot.



'Speak Out' button

If you are worried or anxious about anything or anyone, in or out of school, and you wish to speak to someone please use the 'Speak Out' button on the website.

The website has a large section on Safeguarding for you and your family with useful links to support for mental health and on-line safety.

Please contact Miss Donaghie, Assistant Head and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Mrs Smith, Deputy Head and Deputy DSL if you have any concerns, questions or in need of any support

Parents on school site

Please can I ask parents to ensure that they only attend the school site if they have a booked appointment with a member of staff. This can be done by calling the school on 0121 556 4131. Parents with appointments must enter the site via the visitors' car park and report to reception straight away. Parents without appointments must not enter the school site in order to safeguard the students and staff.

School Drop off and collection - St Paul's Road – Health and Safety

Please do not drive onto St Paul's Road in the morning or afternoon to drop or collect your child. There is no turning head on St Paul's Road by the school gate and use of the visitor car park as such has increased the risk to students.

Instead, please drop your child off on Axletree way, by the school sports hall.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Artificial Intelligence: Well-being, Safety and Homework

We would like to remind all parents and carers that artificial intelligence (AI) is an area of safeguarding concern both at school and home. Please remember that all AI platforms, within their terms and conditions will specify the age-appropriate level for use. Almost every AI platform is designed for those 18 and above, or in some cases, such as Chat GPT, have a lower age limit of 13, when parental consent is given. Please also consider that AI can generate bias, inaccurate or inappropriate content not suitable for children. Additionally, all parents and carers need to be aware that there is a growing trend for young people to rely on AI platforms when seeking support and information related to both physical and mental health. We would encourage you to talk with your child about their use of AI and the ways they use it, to ensure that important conversations like these remain in the real world, where we can all advise and support appropriately.

Lastly, we would also like to remind all parents and carers that artificial intelligence (AI) platforms should not be used to support homework tasks, unless specifically advised to in the homework description on Class Charts. Although AI can be a useful tool, the purpose of homework is to promote every pupil's independence, resilience and critical thinking.

Rights Respecting Schools

We are pleased to announce that Wood Green Academy has been awarded Gold by UNICEF UK's Rights Respecting School programme.

UNICEF is the world's leading organisation working for children and their rights. The Rights Respecting Schools Award is granted to schools that show commitment to promoting and realising children's rights and encouraging adults, children and young people to respect the rights of others in school. Gold is the highest accolade given by UNICEF UK and shows a deep and thorough commitment to children's rights at all levels of school life. There are over 600 schools across England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales that have received Gold. We are the first secondary school in Sandwell to receive this accolade.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all our students, whose passion and dedication have been truly inspiring, and to our staff, whose hard work and unwavering support made this achievement possible. Together, we have created a school culture built on respect, equality and a shared belief in the power of rights for every child.

This award not only celebrates what we have achieved so far, but also marks the beginning of an ongoing journey. At Wood Green Academy, we remain committed to ensuring that children's rights shape our learning, teaching and everyday school life. By working together, we are helping to build a safe, supportive and inclusive environment where every young person can thrive, feel valued and have their voice heard.

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 17th Dec, Thurs 18th Dec or Fri 19th Dec, it will not be returned until Tuesday 6th January 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

Fun Fridays this ½ term

- 24th October – Full Hour Friday
- 7th November – Where am I?
- 14th November – Guess the Logo
- 21st November – Emoji Quiz
- 28th November – Who am I?
- 5th December – Bingo... with prizes
- 12th December – Christmas Classroom Decoration

U14 Netball Tournament and League

A huge well done to our U14 netball team who have been playing in tournaments and the Sandwell League and establishing themselves as a very strong team. We have lots of year 7's stepping up and playing against years older than them – and they ought to be very proud of themselves.

The girls involved are

Zoya Asif (Nightingale), Amelia Brazier (Parks), Holly Churchill (Da Vinci), Eva Hall (Parks), Willow-Rae Hunter (Ali), Betsy Mae Lloyd (Da Vinci), Emily Modrak (Nightingale), Nirvana Rai (Ali), Tilly-Grace Stone (Da Vinci), Neriah Fuller (Parks)

Reminder – Netball is after school on a Thursday for U14 – all welcome.

Mrs Thomas

U16s Sandwell Netball Tournament

The U16s Netball team attending the Sandwell School Netball Tournament on Tuesday 23rd September 2025. Wood Green Academy took two teams due to a huge influx in U16 girls wanting to play netball this year, which is fantastic to see. It was a great evening for everyone involved and both teams battled extremely hard through the group stages. For the B team this is where the tournament ended however the A team flew through their group and were undefeated going into the quarter finals. We met a very strong Shirelands Academy who took the win and went through to the final. We were then due to play Sandwell Academy however as we had already played and beat Sandwell Academy in the group stages we were awarded with a 3rd place. The girls were a credit to the school, and we look forward to seeing what they can do in the Winter League.

Team A	Team B
Jessica Dale (Nightingale) Maxine Banda (Da Vinci) Sofia Gheorghe (Ali) Harkiran Batth (Shakespeare) Gabriella Katemauswa (Da Vinci) Alaana Smith (Parks) Shantel Tshuma (Shakespeare)	Athena Mhlophe (Ali) Oyinkansola Ajileye (Nightingale) Caitlin Cliff (Shakespeare) Maddison Burns (Parks) Phoebe Russell (Da Vinci) Phoebe Grew (Parks) Nicole Moyo (Parks) Blayze Dimkpa (Da Vinci)

Girls Football

I'm incredibly proud to share the amazing achievements of our girls football team, who have made a fantastic start to this year's Sandwell Girls Football League. Girls from Yr7,8,9,10 and 11 have shown incredible teamwork, determination and passion during their first few games of the season. Their commitment to attending the after school club and matches have resulted in strong performances, they should all be very proud of themselves.

Yr7&8 Girls Football Team Results

Wood Green	0	2	Wodensborough
Q3 Tipton	0	4	Wood Green
Wood Green	2	1	Phoenix
Wood Green			Sandwell

Yr9&10 Girls Football Team Results

Q3 Tipton	0	2	Wood Green
Wood Green	7	0	Phoenix

Yr9&11 Girls Football Team

Fixture to be played on 23rd October

Wood Green			Summerhill
------------	--	--	------------

Teams

Yr7&8	Yr9&10	Yr10&11
Nancie Grace Eivors (Da Vinci)	Diana Banas (Ali)	Sigourney-Rai Aston (Parks)
Lola Bingham (Nightingale)	Eboni Timmins (Parks)	Charlotte Bagdi (Parks)
Lillie-May Sadler (Shakespeare)	Brooke Crumpton (Parks)	Shaan Daly (Da Vinci)
Emily Modrak (Nightingale)	Layla-Tia Bradshaw (Shakespeare)	Daisy Robinson (Ali)
Alexia Wise (Ali)	Evie Grainger (Shakespeare)	Evie Grainger (Shakespeare)
Jayla Cooper (Da Vinci)	Sigourney-Rai Aston (Parks)	Poppy Davies (Da Vinci)
Sienna Davies (Parks)	Charlotte Bagdi (Parks)	Paigan Follows (Parks)
Renee Day (Ali)	Poppy Davies (Da Vinci)	Lily-May Breckell (Shakespeare)
Aoife Langley (Da Vinci)	Shaan Daly (Da Vinci)	Taylor Nock (Shakespeare)
Betsy-Mae Lloyd (Einstein)	Daisy Robinson (Ali)	
Gracie Sheppard (Parks)		
Lucia Williams (Parks)		
Evie Williams (Shakespeare)		
Tiffany-Rose Taylor (Parks)		
Faye Wilkes (Nightingale)		
Lexie-Lei Styles (Nightingale)		
Tavleena Takhar (Shakespeare)		
Millie Hickman (Nightingale)		
Brooklyn Caville (Da Vinci)		

Year 7 Football Team

The Year 7 football team have started their season strongly, playing away at Q3 Great Barr, they put in a very solid performance in their first game together, coming out 2-1 winners. They should be commended for their effort and endeavour during the game. They should be proud of their efforts and we hope it continues. They are also smashing their attendance at extra-curricular football club as a year group as a whole - well done!

Team:

Archie Eades (Shakespeare) , Jack Edwards (Da Vinci) , Niall Cooper (Parks) , Sam Ferguson (Shakespeare) , Tobyn Maycock (Nightingale) , Jenson Arnold (Ali) Grant Nicholls (Nightingale) , Ashton Ibbs (Ali) , Noah Kirk (Ali) , Archie Robbins (Nightingale) , Jacob Patel (Parks) , Ethan Hall (Nightingale)

Elite Performers

The following players continue to develop their footballing talent at professional football clubs: Paigan Follows (Parks) at Wolves, Charlie Kelsey-Beasmore (Shakespeare) at Port Vale, Diego Bragoli (Da Vinci) at Walsall and Andrew Asante-Afoakwa (Nightingale) at Wolves.

We also have players who have been selected to play for West Midlands Metropolitan County Schools' FA representative teams: U14 - Ryan Hall (Parks), U15 - Harrison Perry (Shakespeare), U16 (captain) - Aden Foster (Ali).

Year 7 student Georgia Brannigan (Shakespeare) has been selected to represent the United Kingdom at the **Xpirit Dance World Cup** in Cancun, Mexico.

Georgia is a dedicated member of Ingram Academy, training approximately 10–15 hours per week. She regularly competes nationally in both solo and group categories and has also represented England internationally at the Dance World Cup for the past three years - including winning a bronze medal in Spain in 2022. She is also actively working towards qualifications in various forms of theatre dance and participates in several associate programmes to further develop her skills.

Georgia goes away in December, and we wish her the very best of luck!

MFL Challenge - European Day of Languages

- 25 entries overall:
 - 6 from Ali
 - 7 from Da Vinci
 - 2 from Nightingale
 - 7 from Parks
 - 3 from Shakespeare... *who will all receive participation points!*

Then, most importantly, the 4 joint winners were:

Da Vinci x2 teams; Parks x 2 teams!

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