



# Great Wyrley Academy

**A part of the Windsor Academy Trust**

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Dear Parent/Guardian

## **End of Term Reflections**

The Autumn term is always a busy one for schools. It certainly has been here at Great Wyrley Academy. When I think back to the message I gave to students in assemblies on 4 September, I talked of the importance of their attendance and punctuality, of wearing the correct uniform and of listening to their teachers. Simple things that, if coupled with belief and ambition, will bring future success. I'm really proud of how the students have 'raised their game' this term. Expectations are high here at Great Wyrley Academy now.

We have much to celebrate and reflect on this term. We have received tremendous support from Windsor Academy Trust both in terms of advice and personnel; there remains very few days when someone from the Trust isn't here supporting and guiding our staff and students.

Our Open Evening for Year 6 students was extremely busy and we had a number of popular open mornings with guided tours of the school. There was a real buzz around school and the building looked amazing. We also held a Year 7 and Year 12 Welcome Evening which helped the settling-in process for both students and parents!

Staff have been busy delivering our new curriculum in line with the other Trust secondary schools – which focuses on Mastery in Key Stage 3. We have also held and attended Standardisation and Collaboration INSET sessions with the other schools. This has helped ensure a consistent approach to teaching and learning.

All of the Trust schools now deliver the same GCSE and Post-16 courses and specifications – meaning that all the schools can help each other out when required.

I took the time this term to meet each Year 11 student 1:1. I felt that it was important to invest some of my time to find out a little about them all, and to offer my support. As a follow-up, we have begun organising careers advice interviews for all Year 11 students.

Year 11 also took part in an 'Ace your Exams' session, delivered by Elevate on PSHE day. A follow-up 'Memory Mnemonics' session is planned for February to help Year 11 prepare for the summer GCSEs.



Following on from the academisation of the school on 1 September, we arranged some important remedial work to the school building and grounds. In addition to the main quad improvements, we also have bought two brand new school minibuses to help us play fixtures with other schools and attend other events locally.

Our students continue to get involved in extra-curricular pursuits. This is incredibly beneficial to them and indeed is part of the twin trends of the Windsor Academy Trust philosophy – to educate students to fulfil their potential both academically and personally. Student leadership is beginning to flourish at Great Wyrley Academy; in November our student senate attended the WAT Summit with over 100 other senate representatives from the other trust schools. They play a huge part in shaping student services across the Trust.

The Autumn term culminated with staff attending the WAT Conference at the Birmingham ICC on 7 December with nearly 1000 staff from the Trust schools and guests in attendance, 150 students from the 9 WAT schools collaborated in 2 performances. Great Wyrley students were centre-stage! I am so proud of them. They were amazing representatives of the school and performed superbly.

From January and throughout the spring term we will be having an additional late coach running on Thursdays only. This is to allow interventions to take place for Year 11 and 13 and for the Year 7 and 8 Excellence Academy students. It is important that Year 11 in particular engage with the extra help being initiated for them to prepare them for the exams next summer.

Finally it remains for me to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope you have a relaxing and peaceful break. I look forward to working with you all in 2019. School starts back at normal time on Monday 7 January 2019.

Yours sincerely

I Moreton  
Headteacher

**Dates for your diary:**

- 16 January 2019 - Year 7 Parents' Evening
- 25 January 2019 - Inset Day – school closed to students
- 31 January 2019 - Year 11 Parents' Evening