

GREYFRIARS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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A Catholic School that champions every student so that they flourish individually and collectively.

Thursday 24th October 2024

END OF TERM 1 UPDATE

Dear families,

As we approach the end of Term 1, I wanted to share with you some of the highlights of our term in Sixth Form and look ahead to what is coming up in Term 2.

This term we have welcomed our new Year 12 students and they have been adapting to life in the Sixth Form. Through assemblies and form time, we have delivered a series of sessions to make this transition easier as students have learned how to study independently, how to be open to new friendships and how to be a role model and follow our Excellence Everyday code.

We have also shown our Year 12 and Year 13 students that attendance is key to being successful in KS5. These messages have been shared by Form Tutors and by the Sixth Form team daily and we have seen the impact of our work in terms of our attendance figures for the term. We would like to thank all of our families for your continued support with ensuring our Sixth Form students are in school. As a reminder, students in Y12 and Y13 should be in school for 8:45am every day of the week apart from Wednesday when the day starts at 9:15am. School finishes at 3:10pm for all students. From next term, our Y13 students with 95% attendance and above will be allowed to leave at lunchtime (1:35pm) if they do not have a P5 lesson.

We have also launched Volunteering Cards this year and we have had an overwhelming response to this from students. Many students have completed 6 hours of volunteering across the term, choosing to support with lessons, working with our librarian, showing parents around our school or being buddies for International students visiting our school. Their positivity and engagement with our school community has been inspiring.

One group of students across Year 12 and Year 13 also volunteered to lead the assemblies to the whole school across a week to celebrate Black History Month. These students delivered a powerful message about role models and were real role models themselves for our younger students.

Looking ahead to Term 2, we have a number of events and dates to share with you:

- **GCSE retake exams in English and Maths** will take place in the first week after the half-term break. The dates for these are:

English Language Paper 1: Tuesday 5 November 2024 9:00 AM



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Mathematics Paper 1: Wednesday 6 November 2024 9:00 AM
English Language Paper 2: Thursday 7 November 2024 9:00 AM
Mathematics Paper 2: Friday 8 November 2024 9:00 AM
Mathematics Paper 3: Monday 11 November 2024 9:00 AM

These exams will take place in the Dance Studio. Students should be lined up ready to enter the exam room at 8:45am.

- **PPE exams for our Y12 and Y13 A Level students** will take place between Wednesday 4th - Friday 13th December. Students will be off timetable during this week and will only be required to attend exams. More information about this, including the PPE timetables, will be sent home next term.
- **Students in Y13 will be finalising their UCAS applications next term.** Students have been using Tutor time to complete their research into courses and universities and we will be preparing to send off applications over the coming weeks. Any Y13 student who is interested in apprenticeships and wants more information should speak to one of the Sixth Form team.
- Finally, we have some opportunities for Sixth Form students to shine and really show their leadership skills next term. We have our **Anti-Bullying Week** starting on Monday 11th November. We will be sending our Sixth Form students out and about during break and lunch during this week to organise activities, be a listening ear and join in with our younger years. In addition, we will be looking for lots of enthusiastic Y12 and Y13 students to help us promote our Sixth Form to Y11 for the **Sixth Form Open Evening**. This will take place on 5th December between 6:00pm and 8:00pm.

Once again, thank you for all your support this term with helping our KS5 students get back into routines and have such a successful start to the academic year.

Kind regards,



Ms K McCabe
Head of Sixth Form & Assistant Headteacher Transition & Progression