

26th January 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope you are well and have enjoyed some family time over the festive period. It was lovely to welcome back Year 10 students as they continue their GCSE journey through KS4.

I have been impressed by their excellent start to Year 10. We have had guided workshops and information shared through assemblies. Recently, we had a Career's Fair and Colleges, Sixth Forms, and the Army came into school to promote their curriculum and activities. The atmosphere within the fair was amazing. As a follow up, the BBC Bitesize team came into school to raise awareness of career aspirations and discussed various and diverse job roles, relevant qualifications, experience and the skills needed for the workplace.

Just before the Christmas break, we had our Year 10 Celebration assembly. Students were rewarded for effort and attainment in all subjects, attendance and progress. Their form tutors and I recognized their hard work. The assembly was wonderful. I was particularly proud of how genuine Year 10 students were in celebrating their classmates' achievements, even if they had not won an award. It really demonstrated our great value of together and how we are proud of our GAA family.

In Year 10 assemblies we will be focussing on Historical events which started this week with an assembly on the Holocaust. In future assemblies we will hear about Environmental issues, Mental Health and then towards the end of the term the focus returns to Careers and advice on effective revision techniques.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the many extra-curricular activities that we have to offer our students. There are many sporting opportunities, debate club, STEM club, philosophy club, Warhammer club, meditation club, choir, homework club, charity club, to name a few.

I truly believe in empowering our young people and offering them opportunities to engage in leadership roles across the Academy. Involvement in leadership activities can improve students' learning as well as help them to develop the skills and traits needed for success outside of the classroom. Please continue to encourage your child to engage in some if not all of these activities.

Here at Great Academy, we are proud of our GREAT values of Genuine, Respect, Excellence, Achieve, Together. We hope you will continue to support us in allowing our students to demonstrate our GREAT values on a daily basis, they really are at the heart of what we do. Thank you for your continued support in making sure your child arrives to school on time, and in correct uniform, as we know this is vital to their success.

Finally, as ever, please feel free to contact any member of the Year 10 pastoral team if you have any concerns or questions. Our email is greenpastoral@gaa.org.uk

Yours Faithfully,
J. Ellis
Mrs J. Ellis
Head of Year 10