



WESTON FAVELL ACADEMY

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 WestonFavellGAT

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Dear Parents/Carers,

A letter from me today which will replace the weekly newsletter but watch this space – after half-term you will see a new, improved newsletter – the first edition will be published on Friday 8th November.

As we end the half-term, I want to say a huge thank you to our WFA community; our pupils, our parents/carers and every adult that works in the building or supports us in some way. It has been an amazing term, my very first as Head of School, and we have achieved so much in 7.5 weeks.

Every single day, our pupils attend ready to learn; they are smart, they are polite, and they have ambition. In lessons, they respond well to teacher instruction and demonstrate a willingness to learn in both their listening skills and their work ethic. I have had the pleasure of visiting hundreds of lessons, across every subject and every year group – always the best part of my job! Our pupils want to tell me what they are learning about and are proud to show off their books which they take great pride in, and so they should they are presented beautifully.

Outside of lessons, I am again privileged to have been involved in all of the additional events that we put on to enrich our curriculum; so far that has included sports events, a Macmillan bake sale (which raised £404), English screening for 'Macbeth' and 'A Christmas Carol', parent/carer forums, a Year 11 'Steps to Success' evening, Mental Health forums, presentation of the Music Mark award, Sixth Form leadership interviews and the finale - a music showcase event 'Emerald Crown' performed by over 200 pupils in KS3!

In addition, we hosted year group or key stage events that we are really proud of:

- Open Evening Over 600 families attended
- Y13 Parents' Evening Over 80% attendance
- Emerald Crown Showcase 255 tickets sold

Without this support, our work would not be as purposeful. So, to every adult that has attended – we thank you for your support and look forward to welcoming you again.

Coming up we have:

- Year 7 Meet the Tutor Evening Thursday 7th November
- Year 11 PPE's w/c 11th November (French WB 4/11)
- Armistice Day Ceremony Monday 11th November
- Children in Need Non-Uniform Event Friday 15th November
- Community Engagement Event Thursday 28th November
- Year 9 Parents' Evening Thursday 5th December (Online)
- Christmas Jumper Day Thursday 12th December
- Sixth Form Open Evening Thursday 12th December

'Be Inspired'

- GAT Sports Hall Athletics Friday 13th December
- Carol Service 1 – St Peter's Church Tuesday 17th December
- Carol Service 2 – St Gregory's Church Wednesday 18th December
- Year 11 Parents' Evening Thursday 19th December (in person)

We have also welcomed a high number of visitors into the Academy; external providers, touring parents/carers, Trust leaders, recruitment candidates and our peers within the profession. I can say, without reservation, that every single person has been blown away by the climate we have created and the conduct of our pupil body.

Here are a few examples of the feedback we have received:

"What a lovely place to work! Your school environment is fantastic, and I will advertise it without hesitation to anyone seeking employment."

Professional Visitor

"Tonight, has blown us away! The welcome our whole family received, your staff and your amazing pupils have made our decision really easy. Can you also say well done to your two student speakers – they were fantastic ambassadors for your school."

Prospective Parent

"I was absolutely devastated when my son did not get his first-choice school and that, despite an appeal he was awarded a place at WFA. We had not visited the school and Mr Patel, at short notice, gave us the opportunity to visit at the end of term in July. Since September, we have been amazed at X's experience – he is absolutely loving life at WFA, we cannot thank you enough. We are now telling other parents just how wonderful you all are."

Parent of a Year 7 Pupil

And we have received these comments from our own pupils:

"This was very good! I loved it, it was incredibly influential and motivational, it made me realise I actually have to work for myself, and I can't let other people do it for me, I'm my own person and my grades are mine; I need to do my best to get to where I need to be."

Year 11 Pupil – Steps to Success Event

"I like this school because teachers embrace every pupil. In my old school (School X), we weren't allowed to be ourselves and we just had to write in silence. Here, it is more interactive, and we can get excited about our learning."

New Starter - Year 9 Pupil

So finally, I want to say that I am incredibly proud to lead the pupils, the staff body and the community of Weston Favell Academy and wish you all a pleasant and safe half term break.

We look forward to welcoming all pupils and staff back on **Monday 4th November**.

Best wishes,



Mr K Beeby
Head of School

'Be Inspired'