



1 May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this message finds you well. It has been another positive and productive few weeks at school and I would like to thank you as always for your continued support of the school community.

It was wonderful to welcome so many families to our recent Year 7 Subject Evening, I hope you found it useful to meet and speak with teaching staff. These events are invaluable in supporting students as they move through their educational journey.

As always, we continue to celebrate the many achievements of our students, both in and beyond the classroom. Congratulations to those students who have recently completed practical and speaking examinations in subjects including Modern Foreign Languages, Fine Art, Dance, Photography and Textiles. We are proud of the maturity and commitment students have shown throughout these assessments. We are now into main exam season with the first Year 11 core exam on 11 May. I wish all students sitting terminal assessments the best of luck – the vast majority of them have worked really hard and I have no doubt they will be well rewarded in the summer.

There have also been many successes in enrichment and extra-curricular activities. Well done to our students who represented the school Football and Netball teams and their respective achievements and to the students who successfully completed their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award practice expedition. Recent educational visits, including Whitemoor Lakes, the Ski Trip and the Year 10 visit to the WWI Battlefields in Belgium and France have provided students with memorable and valuable experiences that support learning beyond the classroom. A special mention to Esme Blake who last weekend received her first England Women's Football cap playing against the USA, a truly amazing achievement – well done!

A continued reminder regarding punctuality and attendance. Being in school, on time and ready to learn, remains essential to students' success and wellbeing. Period 1 begins promptly at 8:45am, with classrooms open to students from 8:40am. School gates open from 8:00am and a range of facilities, including the Library, Canteen, pastoral areas and outdoor spaces are available before school to support students arriving early. We appreciate your ongoing support in ensuring students arrive punctually each day. Attendance and punctuality information, including late marks, can be viewed via G4Schools.

A sad note to share unfortunately is the death of a much loved and valued colleague here at NLS – Mr Clayton who had worked as part of our site maintenance team here at for the past 11 years, passed away and our thoughts are with his friends and family. Whilst his day-to-day activities mostly went unseen by students, the school they study in and the facilities our community use are fantastic and that is testament to the hard work of our site staff.

I hope you and your families enjoy the long weekend ahead. Finally, a reminder that school will be closed on Monday 4 May 2026 for the Early May Bank Holiday.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mike Lowdell
Headteacher