Friday 6 November 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome Back – Settling into the Second Half Term
I hope you all enjoyed a restful half-term break. It has been lovely to welcome our Year 10 students back to school for the second half of the autumn term. They have settled back into routines well and continue to demonstrate the growing maturity and responsibility we would expect as they progress through Year 10.

It is particularly pleasing to see so many students developing the key skills, attitudes and learning habits that will be essential to their success in their GCSE examinations and, ultimately, their future pathways. Year 10 is an important stage in their educational journey. The foundations they establish now, through hard work, resilience, organisation and a positive approach to learning, will have a significant impact on the opportunities available to them in the future.

As a year group, we want students to recognise the importance of taking ownership of their learning, embracing challenges and consistently striving to be the very best version of themselves. We are incredibly proud of the progress many are making and look forward to seeing them continue to flourish.

Uniform – Maintaining Our High Standards
I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/carers of the importance of maintaining our high standards of uniform in line with the North Leamington School 'World Class Basics' policy.

The vast majority of our Year 10 students wear their uniform impeccably and represent the school with pride. This is something we are incredibly pleased with. However, I would appreciate your continued support in ensuring that all students consistently meet our expectations.

In particular, please can I remind you of the following:

- Blazers: All students, unless formally exempt, are expected to wear their blazer when arriving at, moving around and leaving school.
- Ties: School ties must be worn at all times and correctly.
- Nose piercings: Nose piercings are not permitted under the school uniform policy. Students will be asked to remove any nose piercings that do not comply with the policy, and parents/carers may be contacted and asked to collect them.

Our uniform expectations are not simply about appearance; they reflect our shared values, pride in our school and the high standards we expect of all our students. Thank you for supporting us in ensuring these expectations are consistently maintained.

Attendance – Every Day Counts
As students move further into their GCSE journey, excellent attendance becomes increasingly important. Every lesson matters, and regular attendance provides students with the best possible opportunity to access high-quality teaching, develop their understanding and build the knowledge and skills required to achieve their potential.

Year 10 is a particularly important year for establishing positive habits ahead of the demands of Year 11. Missing lessons can mean missing important explanations, opportunities to practise examination techniques, feedback from teachers and essential learning that can be difficult to replicate independently.

We therefore encourage all parents/carers to continue reinforcing the importance of attending school every day and arriving punctually to every lesson. Whilst we recognise that there will inevitably be occasions when absence is unavoidable due to illness or other exceptional circumstances, we must work together to ensure that attendance remains a priority.

Our collective ambition is to ensure that every student is given the very best opportunity to succeed. Good attendance is one of the most important foundations for achieving this.

Religious Education – GCSE Mock Examination Results
I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the students who committed to sitting their Religious Education mock examination. We are incredibly proud of the way they prepared themselves and approached this important milestone with determination and focus.

Some students performed exceptionally well, and their results reflect the hard work and effort they have put into their studies. For those who have not yet achieved the grades they were hoping for, we are fortunate to have gained valuable insights from the mock examination, enabling us to identify areas where additional support and intervention can be provided.

It is important to remember that mock examinations are not simply an assessment of knowledge at a particular point in time. They serve as a valuable opportunity to highlight strengths and identify gaps in understanding well before the actual GCSE examination. By tailoring support to meet students' individual needs, we can ensure they are fully equipped to achieve their very best when it matters most.

Thank you for your continued encouragement and support. If you have any questions about your child's performance or the next steps in their learning, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs McGwinn, our RE Subject Lead. The RE mock examination results will soon be available for parents/carers to access via G4S.

A Message from our SLT Link – Mr Atkins
Our Year 10 students sat a two-hour mock examination paper for Religious Education on Wednesday 21 October. The examination papers and grades have now been shared with students.

A mock examination provides a valuable opportunity to identify what has been understood and where gaps in knowledge still exist, so that these can be addressed in preparation for the next mock examination in February. We are delighted with the achievements of our students at this stage. There is still plenty of time to refine examination technique and develop the knowledge and understanding required for all students to achieve their target grades and beyond.

Learning is a journey, and nothing is decided until the final GCSE examination in June 2027.

Now is the time to start preparing for February and ensuring that students are fully aware of what will be expected of them. I would encourage parents/carers to discuss the upcoming examination with their child and encourage them to speak with their RE teachers about how best to prepare.

Mr Royle and I will continue to share useful revision strategies and examination tips during assemblies. In addition, there will be a dedicated revision programme during tutor time in February and March. Students will have the opportunity to develop their revision techniques, learn how to manage periods of examination pressure and understand the importance of maintaining a healthy balance through positive lifestyle choices, including eating well and exercising regularly.

We wish all our students every success in their continued journey with Religious Education throughout this academic year.
Mr Atkins

Tutor Curriculum – Developing Skills for Life
Throughout this half term, Year 10 students will continue to engage with a varied and purposeful tutor curriculum, designed to develop the knowledge, skills and personal attributes they need to succeed both in school and beyond.

Students will build on their Digital Literacy and Numeracy and Finance learning, developing important skills to help them navigate an increasingly digital world and make informed financial decisions. Our PSHE programme will also focus on Anti-Bullying Week, providing opportunities to explore the importance of respect, kindness, inclusion and positive relationships within our school community.

Alongside this, students will continue their International Schools Project, explore future opportunities through the Careers Curriculum and consider their personal progress through structured Student Self-Reflection activities. Dedicated literacy sessions will also support the development of reading, communication and vocabulary skills.

These sessions play an important role in ensuring that our students develop into confident, responsible and well-rounded young people, equipped with the skills and understanding to make positive choices about their future.

Looking Ahead

- 11 November: Remembrance Day Service
- 16–20 November: College Assemblies
- 20 November: Odd Socks Day, supporting Anti-Bullying Week
- 2 December: Winter Music Concert
- 11 December: Christmas Jumper Day
- 18 December: Celebration Assembly

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. The relationship between home and school is incredibly important, and by working together, we can ensure that our Year 10 students continue to develop the knowledge, confidence and resilience they need to succeed, both academically and personally.

I look forward to sharing further updates with you as the term progresses.

Yours faithfully

Mr Royle
Year 10 Lead