

17 July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

The beginning of the last week of the school year is a timely opportunity to reflect on what has been achieved this year at Graham School. We have had a successful year which has seen continued growth and development and I would like to thank you again for your continued support.

There has been a huge focus this year on growing the opportunities offered to all students to enrich their experience of school. This has included greater involvement in sporting activities whether as clubs after school or in terms of teams competing across the region. It is wonderful to see so many students involved and enjoying developing new skills. There have also been more events enabling our students to visit colleges and universities as well as engaging in the world of work. Our Year 10 students have just completed work experience, which we were able to reintroduce this year following a gap imposed by the pandemic. This will continue in future years. Trips and visits have also flourished this year with a return of the London trip and our first visit to Paris as well as plenty of experiences a little closer to home. We have welcomed multiple visitors to school to deliver workshops, competitions, drama productions and so much more. These opportunities are a major part of our commitment to supporting all students in achieving their aspirations and becoming resilient young people. This will continue in the future.

Students and teachers have, of course, continued to work hard in the classroom in order to support great learning. This remains our core purpose and we are pleased with the progress we are making. We have enjoyed welcoming you to Parents' Evenings to reflect on your child's progress and thank you for your engagement with the school.

As you already know, next year we are making some changes to school uniform. This is in line with government guidelines and is primarily to reduce costs for parents and carers. It is important to emphasise that current students can continue to wear current items of uniform including those being phased out - full details are on our school website. We also have a suggly of good auglity preloved uniform available; our preloved shop will be open in the gym this Thursday 20 July from 3.30pm - 4.15pm. If you are unable to make it then please contact school directly for more information. Should you have any uniform items you would like to donate, please bring them to the school reception.

The end of term is always busy and this year is no exception. We have already started our end of term 'Celebration Assemblies' where each year group reflects on the year and is rewarded for achievements. On Wednesday 19 July, we have our Sports Day, which is an opportunity for all students to get involved in a range of activities and challenges. Please remember to send your child to school in suitable clothing and with a refillable water bottle, it should be a great day! On Friday, we will be having our end of term draw of 'The Hundred Club'. This is a new initiative designed to improve and reward good attendance tickets for the draw have been awarded for each week of 100% attendance. We are pleased that attendance has improved this year and look forward to the draw on Friday!

Graham School

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Next week we will be sharing our latest 'Graham Gazette' with you. It will be a true reflection of our achievements this half term and I hope you will enjoy reading it. There is a lot to celebrate! On the last day of term, Friday 21 July, I would like to invite any student who wishes to, to wear non uniform. This is by way of a thank you for everything that has been achieved this year.

The new school term will start on Tuesday 5 September at 8.30am for students entering Year 7 and Year 11 with everyone else returning at 8.30am on Wednesday 6 September.

Please enjoy some quality time with friends and family during the holiday. I know many of you will be working very hard but I hope there can be some time to relax and recharge the batteries - everyone deserves it!

Thank you again for being a key part of #TeamGraham.

With very best wishes

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Emma Robins Principal