

Friday, 24th October 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

End of Term Letter

We have enjoyed a great start to this academic year and have been very impressed by how well all the students have settled back into the school routine. Below are some of the highlights from this term.

Cultural Capital

Our students have engaged with a number of cultural capital events this term, including 'World Mental Health Day' where the students recognised the importance of considering their own wellbeing as well as that of others. For 'European Day of Languages' we recognised the many languages spoken by staff and students at Grace and students were given a "passport" with a cover designed by one of our Year 7 students. French and Spanish films were shown in the Lecture Theatre every lunchtime and students were able to sample foods from around the world. Our students were encouraged to write messages of thanks to their teachers for 'Thank a Teacher Day' which were well received. For 'Black History Month' our Ethos team and students from Sixth Form put together an array of activities such as a movie night where students were able to watch "Hidden Figures", a hair and beauty masterclass where students learnt skills such as being able to cornrow, alongside activities in tutor times and significant black figures in each subject field being recognised. We also welcomed Ex-Cathedra to Grace for the first time. Ex-Cathedra say 'we believe that singing is a special activity which increases wellbeing and brings people together'. They managed to get the whole school singing!

Our students have really embraced 'giving back' to the community and have amazed us with their donations for Harvest Festival. As a school, we like to use the opportunity of Harvest Festival to give to our local foodbank who in turn support our families throughout the year. Each year group was been tasked with a different food item to collect for donation, based on the need suggested by the local food bank and ensuring we donate a variety of foods. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you if you have sent your child in with items for our collection. We will be taking these donations to our local foodbank after half term.

On 17th September we welcomed prospective Year 7 students and their parents/carers to our Year 6 Open Evening. We had a fantastic team of volunteer Student Ambassadors and class demonstrators for the evening who were a credit to the school in demonstrating the Grace Way. The feedback from our visitors was really positive and we look forward to welcoming them into our school community next year.

We also hosted our Sixth Form Open Evening on 16th October and were delighted to see so many of our Year 11 students who have started to think about their future pathways. It was wonderful to welcome the students and their families to discuss our fantastic Sixth Form provision with them. Students from the forthcoming production of Heathers entertained the parents with a rendition of numbers from the show



Executive Principal:
Mrs N Whiles

Associate Principal:
Mrs E Wheller



and current Sixth Form students were on-hand to speak to parents and students alike regarding thoughts around their future studies after GCSEs. We look forward to welcoming many of the Year 11 students to continue their studies next year within our Sixth Form here at Grace Academy.

Our sports teams have been channelling their Intentional Excellence to earn some fantastic results this half term. The Year 10 netball team have won their league, the Year 7 Dodgeball team are through to the final and our Year 11 netball team, many of whom have been playing together since Year 7, finished the season on a high by securing joint first place in their pool. Our football teams have all played exceptionally, representing the Academy impeccably by displaying Mutual Respect and the Grace Way in all their fixtures.

Key Stage 3

Following the transition day in July, Summer School during the summer and the induction day in September, our Year 7 students have really settled into life at Grace and are enjoying attending a variety of new lessons. It was lovely to meet parents at the Meet the Tutor event and we look forward to seeing you again at our Year 7 Parents' Evening on 16th April.

We are very proud that Year 7 attendance has been the highest in the school for the majority of the term so far and the students have enjoyed being rewarded with pizza and ice cream! The whole year group took part in our drop-down Values Day, where they participated in five different sessions delivered by external guests based around our five Grace Values to embed "the Grace Way". The sessions were received well by students with positive feedback. A number of Year 7 students have also participated in a 'Be Confident' workshop which was delivered by The Grace Foundation.

It has been great to see that Year 8 and Year 9 students have returned to us eager to learn and make progress in their subjects. All Year 8 and Year 9 form tutors called home this half term to discuss goals for this year, but please do not hesitate to contact your child's tutor if there is anything else you would like to discuss. After the half term break we will begin looking at the options process with our Year 9 students in order to give them a flavour of new subjects and empower our students to make the most suitable choices for them.

We have been rewarding all Key Stage 3 students for good attendance, participation in lessons and for following the Grace Way this term and are looking forward to being able to reward more students with experiences before Christmas.

Throughout November, all Key Stage 3 students will be completing their first assessments of this academic year (their Assessment Point 1 (AP1) tests). We will not be sending out individual or group reminders of dates or revision topics as this information will be given to students in class, so please encourage your child to revise what they have learnt so far to prepare to the best of their ability and to approach these assessments with a positive attitude and "growth mindset".

We have the same standards and expectation for all year groups, and we take this opportunity to remind you that our school website contains information around the curriculum for each subject and year group; what is being studied, why, and how you can support your child in learning more and remembering more.

Key Stage 4

Year 10 students have made a positive start to their GCSE courses this term. The students have settled well into Key Stage 4 expectations, with the majority demonstrating a mature attitude towards their studies and increased engagement in lessons. September has seen the launch of the Year 10 Careers and Work Experience Programme, an important milestone in students' personal development. The Work Experience Week is scheduled for the week commencing 29th June 2026, and students have begun researching

placements with support from the Careers Team. We held an initial parent information evening in October to guide families through the placement process and how they can support their child in seeking placements and another is planned for Thursday 6th November for those who were unable to come along to that evening.

Year 11 have made a focused and determined start to their final GCSE year. They have benefited from a range of curriculum enrichment experiences this term, designed to enhance their understanding beyond the classroom: our GCSE Hospitality and Catering students went on a trip to the Birmingham Street Food Market to explore global street food from different cultures, sourcing, and sustainability. Students were able to engage with diverse cuisines and ingredient sourcing. The Geography department took students on a field trip to Carding Mill Valley, providing students with hands-on experience in data collection and geographical enquiry, strengthening students' understanding of river studies and physical geography and directly supporting their upcoming exam units.

To further support academic progress and to enable our students to maximise their Limitless Potential, the Year 11 Period 6 Programme has begun with all core subjects and option subjects conducting after-school sessions focused on revision, exam skills, and coursework support. All Year 11 students have been invited to the Prom and it will be their positive attitudes, pride in achievement and maintaining high standards until the end which will earn their Prom ticket.

Sixth Form

It has been a great start to Sixth Form at Grace Academy as we welcomed our biggest cohort in the last five years! Year 12 students and Year 13 students have begun collaborating with each other in our shared common room and we currently have a team of four tutors led by our Head of Sixth Form.

Year 13 have been busy settling back into life in Sixth Form and students have picked up where they left off before the summer. We have had some great attendance to our Period 6 sessions for Psychology as students are eager to ensure they are doing everything to be prepared for their upcoming examinations. Year 12 students have started their search for work experience in their dedicated time for work related learning and there have been some brilliant conversations ongoing regarding the fields they wish to pursue.

Students have received safeguarding and peer mentoring training from our DSL and Ethos team to help support in their Friday tutor sessions. Our Sixth Form students have been flourishing in this environment as they help support younger students in the Academy with either reading, peer mentoring or numeracy intervention. This has, once again, been beautiful to see and allows our Sixth Form students to really make a difference day to day.

Year 13 are working hard preparing for their first set of mock exams and also working on their UCAS applications as we work towards their submission. Students interested in the medical field started working on their applications before the summer and these applications have now been submitted.

We have completed the recruitment of our new Student Leadership team. We received some brilliant applications and the students excelled in their interviews. The calibre of applicants has led to us creating a wider Sixth Form Leadership Team headed up by two Head Students and two Deputy Head Students.

Safeguarding and Family Support

As a school, the safety and wellbeing of our pupils and members of the school community is most important to us.

As we break for the week, if you have any immediate concerns for the safety or welfare of a child please contact MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) on 024 7678 8555.

If you need support for yourself over the next week, please contact your local family hub: The Moat Family Hub at <https://www.coventry.gov.uk/themoatfamilyhub>. Family Hub aim to reach children, young people and families when the need first emerges; and to help and support when we can have the greatest impact.

- Early Help: telephone 0800 8870545 or email earlyhelp@coventry.gov.uk
- Emergency Duty Team: telephone 024 7683 2222 between 5pm–8.30am and during weekends
- Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH): telephone 024 7678 8555

We recognise some of our students may be struggling after a bereavement and we would like to draw your attention to Winston's Wish which is a charity that provides bereavement support for children: [Winston's Wish - Bereavement Support for Children](#) There are lots of free resources on this site and details of different ways that pupils can contact them for round the clock support.

To keep your families safe, the police have sent an information sheet about safety in the community and safety around fireworks which we have attached with this letter for your information.

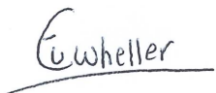
We would like to remind you to look at our social media and website for the latest school information. Our policies have now been reviewed by the Governing Board and can be seen on our website, in particular the Student Behaviour Policy, Attendance Policy and Relationships, Sex and Health Education Policy. Please use this link to see our policies: [Grace Academy Student Policies](#)

A date for your diaries is our Christmas Fayre on Friday 12th December! This is a free event for our local community and will have a variety of stalls including gift ideas, tombola and some fun competitions, as well as a visit from Santa and some of his reindeer! We hope you will be able to come along with your families.

Please note that the Academy office will be closed from Friday 24th October and during the half term week.

We hope you enjoy the half term break and look forward to welcoming our students back to the Academy on Monday 3rd November.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs E Wheller
Associate Principal



Mrs N Whiles
Executive Principal