



11 September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Year 11! The first weekly letter of the 2026–27 academic year! I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and managed to enjoy some well-deserved rest. I certainly made the most of mine; I was very busy with my friend's hen do, my annual girls' trip with Miss Cheeseman, Mrs Haycock and Ms Dunn, followed by a wedding in Kent and then another wedding in Dublin! In amongst all of that, I managed plenty of walks with Benji and, perhaps most excitingly, welcomed a new addition to the family... my kitten, Reggie!

Although the summer already feels like a distant memory, I was very excited to get back into school, get back into the swing of things and hit the ground running with Year 11. I have lots of plans for the year ahead and I am genuinely looking forward to everything we are going to achieve together.

Attendance This Week

- Year 11: 95%

What a fantastic start! A huge well done to everyone who has made the effort to be in school every day and ready to learn. I cannot stress enough how important attendance is this year. With just **145 days until the first GCSE examination**, every lesson counts. Students need to make the most of every opportunity, every intervention, every revision session and every piece of support available to them.

I have been **SO impressed** with Year 11's return to school. Many students have already described themselves as being "locked in" and I have to say, I agree! Students have returned with enthusiasm, engagement, and a real sense of motivation. We have had multiple sessions in the AV this week focusing on revision, motivation and ambition, and I have been incredibly pleased with how maturely and positively students have engaged with these sessions. This is exactly the attitude we need to maintain throughout the year.

It has also been exciting to see students auditioning this week for our production of Matilda Jr. I cannot wait to see which roles some of our Year 11 students have been given! Getting involved in opportunities outside of the classroom is such an important part of school life, and I am delighted to see Year 11 students continuing to throw themselves into these experiences.



There is one phrase that students are going to hear **A LOT** this year:

It's not good luck, it's... GOOD PREPARATION!

This is going to be our mantra throughout Year 11. GCSE success isn't something we leave to chance. It comes from preparation, consistency, resilience and putting the work in, little by little, every single day.

We have made an incredibly strong start, and I want us to keep that momentum going. Year 11 is going to be challenging at times, but it is also going to be one of the most rewarding years of their school journey.

145 days. One year. One opportunity to give it everything.

Let's get to work.

The future depends on what you do today.

Have a wonderful weekend, Year 11. Rest, recharge, and come back ready to go again on Monday!

Kind regards,



Miss K Jackson

Head of Year 11, English Teacher.

Mental Health Lead



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