

# TRSS Update



13 September 2024

As you know we have been planning for our change of school name for the past two years. So it is with huge delight that I welcome you back to The Royal Sutton School.

## A lot to celebrate and a lot to be grateful for...

At the end of our full first week back to school, the summer feels like a distant memory. That's a good thing because it means we have been busy, and the normal routines of school are back.

There are lots of reasons for us to feel grateful. Firstly, I am grateful to you for your support in preparing your child to return looking smart and with the correct equipment. Secondly, the school building has been cleaned and has new signage and gates. Thirdly, we have welcomed 225 new Year 7 students into our community, and they have been amazing. Lastly, our staff and students have breathed life into our school once again and I have missed them. It has been wonderful to meet and chat with so many of them. They are on great form and ready for the opportunities and challenges of the year ahead.

We celebrated the **GCSE results** of students this August. We intend to use the achievements of our students this summer to show to all other students what it means to be successful, what it takes to get there and also to let them know that we will be with them every step of the way. All they have to do is show up every day, work hard, believe in limitless opportunities and leave the rest to us. We could not be prouder of a special group of young adults. They are amazing young people who have demonstrated their resilience and drive and who will, no doubt, go on to do amazing things. We wish them every success.

At the end of term we held our **Student Leadership elections**. Each candidate shared a video of their manifesto in which they spoke about their ambitions for students and their school. Each one spoke with enthusiasm and passion about the things that matter to them; about the future direction of travel of their school and about the need to care for others both in school and the wider community. In each of our candidates I saw a very special and self-determined young person who thinks beyond themselves and their sphere of influence. It was amazing.

On Thursday 18 July the polling station was open; it had booths, voting slips, instructions for voters and candidate information. Our entire school community were able to take part and their approach to the process was impeccable. On Friday 19 July, the votes were counted and recounted.

Huge congratulations to all of our candidates but especially so to the elected members: **Tosan O** and **Jemimah A**. However, all candidates will have a pivotal role to play in the future of our school and they will soon agree their priorities for the coming year:

Ibrahim B

Lailah D

Chidera O

Cai G-H

Luca M

Bethany B

A HUGE congratulations to CJ A who was among the top 25 students, across the country, who earned the most Sparx Reader Points over the summer and is a winner of our Sparx Reader Summer Challenge! We are very proud of his achievement.

## Attendance

Finally, I would like to share with you a few findings around the impact of attendance on student outcomes. Our exam analysis over the last couple of years clearly shows a direct and significant link between attendance and attainment; this was as much as a grade per subject difference. Success matters to our young people. It gives them choices for their next steps in life and the confidence to do amazing things as they get older. Attendance is the single biggest factor in determining success or otherwise at school and is therefore hugely important. I thought this was important to share with you.

The Department for Education have shared this blog on keeping healthy at school in support of good attendance. [Top tips on how to keep your child healthy at school – The Education Hub \(blog.gov.uk\)](https://www.blog.gov.uk/2024/09/13/top-tips-on-how-to-keep-your-child-healthy-at-school/)

**Attendance Reminder:** If your child is unable to attend school, please remember to notify us every morning of their absence, before 8:30am. You can: Notify us via: **Studybugs:** <https://studybugs.com> **Email:** [attendance@jws.bham.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@jws.bham.sch.uk) **Telephone:** 0121 378 6564.

Please ensure that you clearly state your child's name, tutor group and the reason for absence. Thank you. If we do not receive a reason for absence, we are required to record this as unauthorised absence. Our Attendance Team are here to support with any barriers to regular attendance.

## ClassCharts and Studybugs

I want to thank you for your unbelievable support for ClassCharts and StudyBugs. The launch of these platforms is a means of supporting and improvement communication with families. **Please note** that these will be our main communication platforms, if you want to hear from us, you need to download these Apps. Given your feedback so far has been hugely positive, I am pleased it is working. If you need assistance with accessing any of these platforms, please email [enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk).

## Showbie Class Codes 2024-25

Year 7: EFH6A

Year 8: 6JACP

Year 9: 9HKNM

Year 10: CDFRF

Year 11: J3CPH

## Equipment

Students are expected to bring the right equipment to the school every day. Alongside the school equipment provided (iPad, diary, white board and folder) students should have with them:

School Bag and a pencil case containing:

Black ink pen

Green ink pen

Pencil

Eraser

Ruler

Glue Stick

Scientific calculator

Protractor

## Curriculum

If you would like to know more about the subjects we are studying at school, details are available on the school website:

[Year 7](#)

[Year 8](#)

[Year 9](#)

[Year 10](#)

[Year 11](#)

In support of the curriculum, we have **Knowledge Organisers** in each subject area which can be found on our website.

[Year 7](#)

[Year 8](#)

[Year 9](#)

[Year 10](#)

[Year 11](#)

We know that you may not be an expert in all subjects, but the more you can ask questions, the more it will help your child to consolidate their learning.

## Maths

**Form time numeracy:** Students are successful in their mathematical study when they are fluent in their number understanding. This week we launched form time numeracy – giving all students extra time to practice their maths skills during form time once a week. Make sure students are ready to race against the clock to get as many questions correct!

**Maths Lunch Time Study Club:** We will offer a maths lunch time study club to students who want to complete their Sparx homework. Maths Study Club will take place every Tuesday in room M5. You must bring your iPad to complete your sparx homework.



**Sparx Maths**

## SPARX study club

When?	Every TUESDAY lunch time
Time?	1:30pm – 2pm
Where?	Maths (M5)
Why?	Support with homework

If you have any queries, speak to Miss Rindi (Room 47)

## End of Term Reward Trips

We run a termly reward trip for those students who consistently demonstrate our moral virtues. These trips are designed to recognise and celebrate the self-discipline, commitment, and positive behaviour demonstrated by our students throughout the term. To be eligible for the reward trip, students must meet the following criteria:

### 1. Attendance:

Students must have an attendance rate of over 96% for the term. Consistent attendance is crucial for academic success, and we want to acknowledge those who have shown a strong commitment to their education by attending regularly.

### 2. Virtue Points:

Students must rank in the top 30 for virtue points. These points are awarded for outstanding behaviour, contributions to the school community, and overall excellent conduct. We encourage all students to demonstrate our virtues both in and out of the classroom.

### 3. Negative Points:

Students with few or no negative points will be considered. Negative points are given for behaviour that does not align with our school values and virtues. To be eligible, students should have minimal or no infractions that would reflect negatively on their overall conduct.

**'Potential into Reality'**

We believe these criteria will help motivate students to strive for excellence in their attendance, behaviour, and contributions to the school community. We look forward to awarding those who have met these standards with an enjoyable and memorable reward.

### Friday Prayer

We are pleased to provide a Friday Prayer Room for our Muslim students to use. Should students require a pass for Friday lunchtime they should see Mrs Lockley in the lunch queue by Friday 20 September.

### Student safety and parking

At the end of the school day, we kindly ask that you do not stop or park in or around the layby.

### School opening times from September 2024

The school gates will open from 8:20 am instead of 8:00 am. This adjustment is necessary to ensure adequate supervision and the safety of our students. The decision to delay the school opening time by 20 minutes has been made after careful consideration and discussions with the school staff. This change will allow us to provide better supervision and ensure that our students are safe and well-cared for from the moment they arrive at school. We understand that this alteration may require adjustments to your morning routine, and we appreciate your cooperation and understanding in this matter. Our primary concern is the safety and well-being of our students, and we believe this change will contribute positively to that goal. Please note that **all students should on the playground for line up with their form tutor at 8:40am.**

**West Midlands Police:** Back to School Advice is available [here](#).

### Key Dates for your diary


Monday 9 September	Meet the Professionals: Speech and Language Therapists & the Communication and Autism Team – 4:30–5:30pm
Monday 16 September	Parent Clinic (appointment only)
Monday 30 September	Parent social, coffee morning – 9:30- 11:00am
Tuesday 8 October	SEN Information Report, Parent consultation with Gareth Fowler Pupil and School Support Service – 9:30-11:00am
Thursday 17 October w/c 7 October	Year 7 Parents' Evening, appointments available with SEN and Inclusion Team Student Activities Week (SEN and Inclusion)

### Birmingham City University – National Saturday Club: Make, Do & Mend Club will run from November 2024 through until May 2025

The National Saturday Club is a partnership programme between Birmingham City University's College of Jewellery, Fashion and Textiles. It is aimed at giving 13–16-year-olds the opportunity to explore their creativity, discover their talents, develop their skills and study subjects they love for free, at their local university. The National Saturday Club will run over sixteen sessions, where club members will have the opportunity to develop a wide range of creative craft and making skills. They will have access to BCU's fantastic Fashion, Textiles, Jewellery and Art and Design facilities with sessions led by inspiring BCU staff. Sessions will be on Saturday's during term time: Sessions take place 10:00 – 13:00. You can apply to join the club [here](#).

### Virtues and Virtues Champions

Each week our heads of year nominate a 'Virtues Champion' - a person in their year group who has gone above and beyond to demonstrate our virtue of the week. Thank you to our Virtues Champions for leading the way, focusing and practicing: -

	Year 7 Champion	Year 8 Champion	Year 9 Champion	Year 10 Champion	Year 11 Champion
Self Discipline 	Alex H	Tyler J	Heidi W Edward W	Carter O	Anas B

## Reading Recommendation



'I've been getting into trouble for as long I can remember. Usually I don't mind - some of my best, most brilliant ideas have come from sitting in detention. But recently it feels like no one believes me about anything - even when I'm telling the truth! Everyone thinks I'm just a bully. They don't believe I could be a hero. But I'm going to prove them all wrong...'

Meet Hector: a bully whose dastardly antics spiral out of control when, after school one day, he decides to bully a homeless man in the local park. But as London's most famous statues and emblems go missing and its homeless communities are pointed to as the thieves, has Hector managed to pick on the leader of them all? And if so, what can he do in a world that won't believe a word he says. *Written in lockdown when - for the first time in history - London's homeless community were gifted shelter, The Night Bus Hero explores themes of bullying and homelessness, and the potential **everyone** has to change for the good.*



## JOIN OUR YOUTH PANEL

Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council is looking for young people ages 13-18 to represent their school or club on the Town Council Youth Panel.

For more information and to apply, scan the QR code below or contact:

[enquiries@suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk)

An exciting opportunity for you to build skills and increase in confidence, make a positive contribution to your local community and champion the views of young people in Sutton Coldfield on subjects that matter to you.



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@royalsuttontown  
[suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk](http://suttoncoldfieldtowncouncil.gov.uk)



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