

## Dear Parents, Guardians, Carers, Staff & Governors

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Welcome back to half term two! We ended last half term looking around a variety of classes. We witnessed lots of energy in Year 8 enjoying football, trampolining and basketball in their PE lessons and 6th formers were engrossed in their own independent work. We also congratulate the finalists for this year's Norwood Factor - they are now gearing up for the big final - we look forward to it! We start this half term with the first set of GCSE mock exams for our Year 11 - we hope they have prepared themselves with some half term holiday revision and are ready for the experience. The results will be used to identify gaps in their knowledge and guide their next steps. We wish them well. We also have the MFL Barcelona trip away this week where a number of students are able to experience Spanish culture and language in this packed residential. We look forward to hearing all about it on their return.

With Bonfire night this week, can we please ask parents to remind their child of the need to be cautious around fireworks. They are illegal for anyone under 18 and dangerous to be around. Also remind them that the darker evenings mean taking more care on the roads when crossing so that they are seen. Let's stay safe!

Best Wishes,

Niki Clemenger & Richard Cole  
Co-Headteachers



## Highlights of the Week

Just before we broke up for half term, our talented Portrait Artist finalists gathered in the atrium for the final stage of their competition. Students and staff alike enjoyed watching the progression of each artist's work throughout the day, as the portraits developed before our eyes. We're looking forward to seeing the finished pieces, and you can catch a sneak preview of their incredible work in the newsletter!

Our Black Cinema Day with Key Stage 3 was a wonderful success. Students were fully immersed in screenings of *Wakanda Forever*, *Soul*, and *The Hate U Give*, each chosen to spark meaningful discussions on identity, culture, and resilience. They engaged enthusiastically in conversations both before and after the films, sharing thoughtful reflections and making the event a memorable experience for all.

Our A Level English Literature students had the chance to visit Queen Mary University for a Comparative Literature taster day. They explored fascinating topics, including the ninth-century Chinese fairy tale *Ye Xian*, a precursor to *Cinderella*, and the portrayal of werewolves in medieval texts – a fitting subject for the Halloween season!

## Important Dates

- Year 11 Mocks Monday 4th-Friday 15th November
- VA Mocks 18th-22nd November
- A-Level Assessment Week 18th-22nd November
- Y 9 Information Evening Thursday 5th December 5 - 7pm
- Yr 11 Parents' Evening Thursday 12th December 4:30 - 7pm
- Norwood Factor Thursday 19th December 7-9pm
- Last day of term Friday 20th December

## Hot Chocolate with the Heads this week

Congratulations to:

- Year 7 - Lily Sullivan 7JUG
- Year 8 - Zachary Clegg 8RPI
- Year 9 - Linus Chivers 9MCL
- Year 10 - Martha Lane 10WMA
- Year 11 - Frankie Suthers 11DWO
- Year 12 - Dina Kolmanovskiy 12HAI
- Year 13 - Abdi Mohamud 13VBU

