



# WOLVERHAMPTON

---

## GRAMMAR SCHOOL

May 2011

Dear Parents,

With Easter being so late this year and the Royal Wedding weekend following hot on its heels, the Whitsun holiday has rather sprung upon us. Nevertheless, Year 11 and the Sixth Form are now well into their GCSE and A level examination seasons and much has been going on in a short, but extremely busy, half term.

As I write, our French Exchange partners from Savenay have just returned home after a very enjoyable stay and plans for the expeditions to Borneo, Morocco and Uganda are being finalised. In Drama, under the splendid direction of Jon Wood and Mark Payne our young actors delivered excellent performances in the Junior School production of *Grimm Tales*. Many of the veritable cast played more than one role in a very authentic evening that captured the horror and comedy of these fairy tales.

In boys' sport, the football season finally drew to a close with the U13s losing 3-1 in the City Cup semi final and the U14s putting up a brave fight in their City Cup final eventually losing 2-0 to Coppice in a tense encounter. It wasn't all bad news for our footballers though, because Jamie Bostock (Year 8) has been selected for the England U14 Independent Schools' team for a festival in August and Wolves avoided relegation! Our cricketers have registered some excellent wins against King's and RGS Worcester and a clean sweep against Bishop Vesey. Our batsmen are in fine form with Tom Weston, Sam Linney and Will Nield registering centuries and Arun Patel scoring 97 and taking four wickets against King's. The 1<sup>st</sup> XI also competed in the National 20/20 championship. In tennis, Sam Griffiths, Henry Parocki, Matthew Pritchard and Alex Dmitrewski competed strongly beating St Peter's in the first round of the National Glanville Cup. In karting, George Williams, Year 10, is leading the British Championships after two rounds of this season's competition.

In girls' sport, Ellie Barnett captained the England U16s rounders team in their match against Greece and the girls of Big Six registered their first win against Oswestry. In sailing, Chloe Macaulay represented the West Zone and won four out of her five races in the Mirror Class at the recent Eric Twiname championships.

In tennis, our Senior Girls have had a busy term representing the school in a variety of tournaments. In the National Aberdare Cup, our Senior Doubles teams, Abi Houghton, Grace Baker, Ria Wagstaff and Fiona Jones beat Newcastle-u-Lyme in the first round. They were joined by Georgina Baker in the second round but lost to a very strong Ellesmere College. The Senior Girls also competed in the 100<sup>th</sup> Midland Girls' Tennis Tournament and, although we couldn't repeat last year's victory in the competition, the girls played very well. The U13 and U15 squads lost narrowly to WGHS in the local league.

Team Athletics has only just started with track heats in the City Championships taking place last week and a full list of County Representative Honours will be published at the end of term.

As always, our students have benefitted from a wide range of school trips. Year 7 enjoyed an excellent day out at Warwick Castle. Outward Bounds weekends at the Towers Centre in Wales for Years 8, 9 & 10 were hugely enjoyable and Year 10 Geographers completed their controlled assessment in Wales.

After months of preparation, the Year 10 Coast to Coast runners will set out over half term to cover the 190 miles between St Bee's on the West Coast to Robin Hood's Bay on the East Coast in 24 hours – we wish them luck as they once again look to raise thousands of pounds for a local charity and this year, it's the Haematology department of New Cross Hospital.

Start-endltrs/htermmay2011

Not to be outdone, our 10 strong team of staff swimmers swam a mile each raising some £1800 in aid of Cancer Research UK.

After half term, exam week will begin on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June and please note our staff training day on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June when school will be closed except for GCSE and A Level exam candidates. Year 7 camp leaves on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>, there will be a Year 10 Art trip to Ironbridge, and the Lower Sixth artists are going to the Tate Gallery in London. Year 10 Historians will be heading off for the Battlefields trip in July and please don't forget Sports Day on the morning of Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June – parents are very welcome to come and support.

May I take this opportunity to thank parents who attended our first Child Safeguarding meeting hosted by Mr Hills, the school's Child Protection Officer. Despite the seriousness of the subject matter, the evening was a very positive one and we intend to host similar meetings in the future. Also, please don't forget to send in your returns regarding the Parents Consultation evening on the 9<sup>th</sup> June, when we will endeavour to respond to questions sent in to us or raised during the evening. Please see a copy of the original invitation attached and we have extended the deadline to Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June.

Finally, I have attached a letter regarding the next stage in the improvements we intend to make to the school uniform. I believe that the uniform is smarter than it was, but there have still been issues with the length and material of skirts in particular. I believe that our plans for September and the start of the Quincentenary will ensure that the students at WGS have a brighter and smarter uniform, much more in keeping with one of the top schools in the Midlands.

Mr Johnson has also attached a letter to gauge parental views regarding the possibility of establishing a health club at WGS.

As always, I close with an invitation to contact me if you have any questions you'd like me to address, comments you'd like to make or suggestions about how we can go on improving all aspects of school life at WGS.

With best wishes,



Vincent Darby  
Head

enc: Parents Consultation Evening 09/06/11  
Uniform letter, Price list + website details  
Health Club letter