



Robert Smyth Academy

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you well and that you are looking forward to the summer break with anticipation. As we approach the end of the academic year, I wanted to take a moment to address an important aspect of our school's activities during this period: the organisation of trips and opportunities for our students.

As you may know, the summer term is an incredibly busy time for our teaching staff. While some might assume that the winding down of classes and impending holidays would lead to a more relaxed atmosphere, the reality is quite the opposite. It is during this time that our teachers work tirelessly to ensure that our students have access to a variety of enriching experiences beyond the classroom whilst sustaining a great climate for learning, keeping our students hydrated in the heat and making sure that the PE Faculty do not run out of sun cream.

These trips and opportunities are not only enjoyable for our students but also play a crucial role in their personal and educational development. They allow students to explore new environments, engage with diverse cultures, and develop skills that cannot be taught within the confines of a traditional classroom setting. Through these experiences, we hope to broaden their horizons, create curiosity, and inspire lifelong learning.

However, organising such events involves meticulous planning, coordination, and attention to detail. Our teachers invest countless hours to ensure that each trip or opportunity is carefully crafted, aligns with our curriculum objectives, and meets all safety and logistical requirements. From researching suitable destinations and coordinating with external providers to obtaining necessary permissions and ensuring adequate supervision, every step of the process demands considerable effort and commitment.

Here is a brief list of opportunities that students will experience during the summer term (non-exhaustive!):

- **Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions**
- **Geography Residential Visit to Dorset**
- **History Visit to Kenilworth Castle**
- **Modern Foreign Languages Residential Visits to Barcelona (Spain) and Cologne (Germany)**
- **Music Tour to Disneyland Paris (France)**
- **End of year trips to Drayton Manor and Alton Towers**

We have planned opportunities to further broaden the curriculum and to recognise achievements including:

- **Sports Awards Evening** – 20th June, 6pm, Main Hall
- **Band Recital Performances** – 19th June, 3.30pm, Main Hall
- **Summer Concert** – 22nd June, 5.30pm, Main Hall
- **Year 10 Faith Matters Forum** – 23rd June
- **Year 12 Faith Matters Forum** – 29th June
- **Year 10 Work Experience Week** – w/b 26th June
- **Year 12 Road Safety Day** – 28th June
- **Year 12 UCAS Evening** – 27th June, 6pm Main Hall
- **Year 12 Careers Day** – 27th June
- **Year 11 Prom** – 29th June, 6.30pm Marquee/ Sixteen 07
- **Year 7 Enterprise Day** - 29th June
- **Year 10 Careers Day including interview experience with representatives from the business community** – 4th July
- **Art, Design and Textiles Show** – 6th July, 6pm Bragg Hall
- **Sports Day** – 6th July
- **Key Stage 3 Celebration Evening** – 10th July, 6pm Main Hall



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Robert Smyth Academy staff are working harder than ever

I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to our dedicated teaching and support staff who go above and beyond their regular responsibilities to make these experiences possible for our students. Their dedication and passion are the driving force behind the success of these trips and opportunities, and their commitment to the holistic development of our students is truly inspiring.

I will often say to parents that this school wants every child to achieve and to gain great qualifications, but we are not simply an exam factory. Therefore, I want to reaffirm our commitment to providing exceptional educational opportunities for our students. The summer term may be a busy time for our teachers and support staff, but it is also a time of excitement and growth. I am confident that the experiences we have planned will leave a lasting impact on our students, and I look forward to seeing their personal and academic development.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Yours sincerely,

Dan Cleary
Principal

Key dates

- **Tuesday 20th June:** Sports Awards Evening
- **Thursday 22nd June:** Summer Concert
- **w/b Monday 26th June:** Year 10 Work Experience Week
- **Tuesday 27th June:** Year 12 Careers Day
- **Thursday 29th June:** Year 11 Prom
- **Friday 30th June:** INSET Day – school closed to students
- **Monday 3rd July:** Meet the Tutor Evening (Year 6 only)
- **Tuesday 4th July:** Year 6 Induction Day
- **Tuesday 4th July:** Year 10 Careers Day
- **Monday 10th July:** KS3 Celebration Evening
- **Wednesday 12th July:** End of Year Trips / Last Day of Term. **The school closes at 3.15pm.**



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