



Robert Smyth Academy

Dear Families,

Back to school: Uniform

As a timely reminder before the break, please note that all students will be expected to return in full school uniform and without piercings/infractions that are not acceptable. We would be grateful if parents could remain mindful that **we do not permit the following**, as per the uniform [policy](#):

- **Nail polish or false nails**
- **Unnatural hair dye**
- **Multiple ear piercings (one single stud in each ear maximum)**
- **Nose piercings**

We will **specifically follow up on these features of our uniform policy** to ensure high standards from all:

- Grey pleated skirt, regulation length, **on or just above the knee.**

Please note that students who are not appropriately dressed for school will face sanctions via the VIP card.

Back to school: Punctuality

Students should be at their Tutor Base by 8.45am, ready for their Form Tutorial session. Students who arrive late will be placed into detention for lateness on the same day.

Where can I access support while the school is closed?

During the Christmas holidays, families can access the following sources of support:

- **Childline:** <https://www.childline.org.uk/> or by calling **0800 1111**
- **Children's Services:** <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/community-safety/>
- **NHS England:** Call **111** or visit <https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/>
- **Guidance on coronavirus:** <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>
- **Market Harborough Food Bank:** <https://www.harborough.gov.uk/foodbanks>

Suicide prevention

I want to remind you of the support available via [Papyrus](#); an organisation dedicated to the prevention of young suicide. Suicide is the biggest killer of young people under 35 in the UK and every year thousands more attempt or contemplate suicide, harm themselves or suffer alone, afraid to speak about how they are feeling.

If you are the parent of a young person who experiences thoughts or feelings of this kind, then we would strongly advise that you seek an appointment with your GP and that you access the following support:

If you are having thoughts of suicide or are concerned for a young person who might be you can contact HOPELINEUK for confidential support and practical advice.

Call: 0800 068 4141

Text: 07860 039 967

Email: pat@papyrus-uk.org



Part of Tudor Grange Academies Trust



Robert Smyth Academy

College Competitions

Sporting

The college competition has got off to a strong start this year with College Dodgeball being a feature of this term's sporting events - the majority of tutor groups took part with enthusiasm and commitment. We have the final match of the series next week with year 10 on Wednesday but the current winners were Moseley of year 7, Logan of year 9 and Logan of year 8. Well done to all those that have participated so far.

Artistic

We also ran a Christmas card competition and had entries in every year - the winners are below - who each received 500 points for their college.



Bella 7M2



Holly 8L2



Tabatha 9L2



Neave and Maisiey 11M1

Academic

We also hold a weekly quiz in tutor time and this can get very heated with tutor groups voting for the right answer - the current leaders are HAMMOND with the other colleges close behind.

Christmas Jumper Day

We invite students and staff to wear a Christmas Jumper or Christmas colours (red, green, yellow) instead of their blazer on the final day of term (Friday 19th December). We ask that families who participate in this fundraising initiative make a small donation via **My Child at School** and these funds will then be donated to the UK Sepsis Foundation.

Friday

- ***Students in Years 7 and 8 will finish at 1.15 pm, after visiting lesson 4***
- ***Students in Years 9 to 13 will finish at 2.15 pm, after visiting lesson 5***
- ***School buses will depart after 2.15 pm***

For those younger students who finish earlier but need to wait for the bus, we will provide a supervised space where they can relax, complete their Sparx Maths homework (A7 and A8), and clear the decks before Christmas. Confectionery incentives will be provided. Before leaving, all students will sign in with their teacher at the end of lunch, giving us a chance to wish them well.

I hope you have a restful weekend ahead of you as you enter the final week of what has been an excellent term.

Yours sincerely,

D Cleary
Principal