



Robert Smyth Academy

Dear Families,

Robert Smyth Academy Sixth Form Open Evening: Wednesday 15th November (6-8pm) – Year 11

On Wednesday 15th November, we will open our doors to students who wish to find out more about gaining a place at **Robert Smyth Academy Sixth Form**. This evening is an important opportunity for current Year 11 students to consider the opportunities available to them next year including key course information.

Robert Smyth Sixth Form offers **high-quality teaching**, a wide range of **A-Level courses**, excellent **pastoral care** and guidance, **personal development** opportunities and pathways to **aspirational destinations** including Russell Group Universities. All the key information can be found here for students and families:

<https://www.robertsmyth.tgacademy.org.uk/sixth-form/>

We expect a busy evening and so we ask that families book using this [form](#).

Charity Fundraiser: Staff Football Match

Report from Mrs Coxon (Reading Coordinator and Librarian)

The green immaculate turf at Robert Smyth Academy was bristling with anticipation for the big match on Friday 27th of October 2023. The crowd had arrived in their masses to support this great event. Bright and beautiful banners were held aloft, and the scene was set for the much-anticipated clash of the Titans with a formidable line up of players old and new.

In keep for the 'Bibs' was Mr Booth who put in a heroic shift saving one close range shot with his face. The heroics didn't stop there, and for the 'Non-Bibs' keeper, Mr Harrison, was leaping like a salmon to rescue a number of attempts. It was end-to-end stuff and with no VAR the referee was reliant on his observational skills and had to disallow some hotly disputed goals during the game.

The action was hotting up with some fine football skills on display. Mr Page is not only an artist on paper, but he is also an artist on the pitch leaping and sliding, creating some wonderful shapes in the air. Miss R Smith showed off her Formula One like acceleration, Max Verstappen would have struggled with her pace, she seemed to be everywhere on the pitch and excelled with her passing and ball skills.

Mr Omawaye was dominant up front for the 'Non-Bibs' and had feet of silk using the step over to great effect and ultimately scoring a scorching first goal. A raft of skills was evident in midfield with strong attacks being produced from this zone, Mr Sullivan forged ahead with some clean sharp passing, Mr Jabbar was a solid pack member and proved difficult for the opposition to take on. Mr Bailey was like a magician and recycled the ball so well it made the Eco-Committee proud. There truly was magic on the pitch with solid defence from Mr Walker who looked like he was walking on water at times. There were some extraordinary turns and weaves from Mr Armstrong who took on the turf from a prone position on a few occasions. Mr Tucker, like his name's sake in Grange Hill, just said "No!" to any attacks, his supreme skill and agility forced the opposition to rethink their strategy. The rolling subs for the 'Non-Bibs' were a tour-de-force. The leg extensions which Ms Kirk produced were a barrier which couldn't be conquered. Miss Porrit was difficult to play against with back up from Miss Mayer who became the very fabric of the team and held together the line of defence. Miss Atkinson was literally everywhere she was a blur of speed and athleticism and fearless, charging face on to tackle any player who dared to stand in her way.



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The 'Bibs' fought back with amazingly coordinated attacks. Mr. Copp seemed to have worked out all the equations and calculated all the answers with some breakaway runs deep into the opposition half, eventually equaling the score with a beautifully struck top corner goal. Mr. J Markham was sharp in attack and like Dracula he seemed cloaked with mystical powers of stealth. The depth and breadth of the 'Bib' team was reinforced with wide play from Mr. Webb who wove a web of silk to trap any 'Non-Bibs' in the attacking third. Mr. Scully created some wonderful chances breaking down the opposition with grit and determination. Mr. Millar continued to grind down the opposition with some amazing one touch play and Mr. Inchley gained yards on the pitch pursuing every ball and passing with inch perfect precision. Mr. Adams created some inspired play marking man to man to produce some biblical runs on the right wing. In defence was the towering wall of Mr. B Markham who made some impassioned defensive stops preventing the most determined of runs. The rolling subs for the 'Bibs' had strength and depth with an early appearance for Mrs. Osborne producing a magnificent set piece goal saving clearance in the box. Miss Patel took to the pitch and held her ground against the attacking 'Non-Bibs' forming a formidable back line with Mr. B Markham who produced some extraordinarily flexible maneuvers to stop each wave of attack. The subs gained in confidence and Miss B Smith took to the pitch with a pacy spring to her skillful jockeying of the 'Non-Bib' attackers. Miss Dowling was burning up the pitch challenging all-comers with her tenacity and grace. A late set piece free kick was taken by Mrs. Coxon. To the delight of the defence, the Quality Street she was throwing, as a distraction, nearly made the quality of the run one not to be missed. However, miss she did, and all was equal in the one all draw.

*A magnificent game concluded and the charity to benefit from this event is The UK Sepsis Trust which is very dear to the hearts of the Robert Smyth family. **Thank you to our families who raised £1000 as a result.***

VIP

Year 11 Trial Exams

I would like to conclude my letter by commending students in Year 11 and their families, who have worked so diligently toward the Trial Exams during this week. These assessments will continue until Wednesday next week, but we have all been impressed by the attitude to learning that we have seen from our students. They have exhibited our Values in Practice from respectful interactions, succeeding in completing their first trial exam week to modelling the aspiration to achieve well.

Inevitably, there will be much learning that takes place because of these exams, and we aspire to provide every student with the grounding and foundations for success in the summer. **It is important that all students continue to revise regularly in the coming weeks and months ahead.** Nothing is decided or concluded in November and there is plenty of work required for students to achieve their best outcomes when they come to GCSE Assessments after the Christmas break.

The best thing that students in Year 11 can do is to establish a strong revision routine and habit so that they get the best possible grades reflective of their hard work. This remains our shared aim.

Yours sincerely,

Dan Cleary
Principal



Part of Tudor Grange Academies Trust



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Key Dates (after half-term)

- Trial Exams continue for Year 11 next week...
- **Monday 13th November:** Year 13 Exams Assembly
- **Wednesday 15th November:** Year 12 Health Day
- **Wednesday 15th November (evening):** Sixth Form Open Evening (6-8pm)
- **w/b Monday 20th November:** Year 7-10 in-class assessments
- **Wednesday 22nd November:** Sixth Form Open Morning
- **w/b Monday 27th November:** Year 12 in-class assessment week
- **Friday 1st December:** INSET Day – school closed to all students.
- **Tuesday 5th December:** Christmas Concert
- **Thursday 7th December:** PSHE Dropdown (Lesson 1) and Year 9 Careers Day and Workshops
- **Thursday 7th December (evening):** Year 11 Parents Evening 4-6.30pm (remote via School Cloud)
- **Wednesday 13th December (evening):** Year 11 Parents Evening 4-6.30pm (remote via School Cloud)
- **w/b Monday 18th December:** Year 13 Trial Exam week
- **w/b Monday 18th December:** Year 11 A-Level Taster Lessons
- **Friday 22nd December:** *Early finish at midday.*
- **Monday 25th December – Friday 5th January 2024:** CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

Parents' Evening Dates

- **Thursday 7th December:** Year 11 Virtual Parents Evening (4.00 – 6.30pm)
- **Wednesday 13th December:** Year 11 Virtual Parents Evening (4.00 – 6.30pm)
- **Thursday 18th January:** Year 13 Virtual Parents Evening (4.00 – 6.30pm)
- **Thursday 25th January:** Year 12 Virtual Parents Evening (4.00 – 6.30pm)
- **Thursday 1st February:** Year 9 Virtual Parents Evening (4.00 – 6.30pm)
- **Thursday 8th February:** Year 9 Virtual Parents Evening (4.00 – 6.30pm)
- **Tuesday 12th March:** Year 10 Virtual Parents Evening (4.00 – 6.30pm)
- **Thursday 21st March:** Year 10 Virtual Parents Evening (4.00 – 6.30pm)
- **Thursday 23rd May:** Year 8 Virtual Parents Evening (4.00 – 6.30pm)
- **Thursday 6th June:** Year 8 Virtual Parents Evening (4.00 – 6.30pm)

Teacher Training Days

- **Friday 1st December**
- **Monday 29th January**
- **Friday 28th June**



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