



# Robert Smyth Academy

Dear Families,

## Lock In Champions (2024)

I would like to start this week's letter by expressing my thanks to our amazing PE Faculty for hosting a momentous 'Lock In' event before half-term. This event was first launched in 2008 by Mr. Scully (Head of PE) and since then over £35,000 has been raised for charitable causes. This year all proceeds were raised for Hope Against Cancer with students completing sporting activities around the clock over a period of 24-hours.

This event was a huge success, the energy, enthusiasm, and behaviour throughout was outstanding. The overall winners were "Tour de Lock in" (Year 11 girls) who have been radiating in their achievement this week. This is a good opportunity to make parents aware that places for the Lock-In are awarded to teams in Year 10-13 and that this event is always oversubscribed. Congratulations once again to all the students and staff involved.



*The winning Lock-In team; "Tour de Lock in". This is the first time that the Year 13 boys have been defeated in many years and we are delighted to congratulate the Year 11 girls for taking the ultimate prize!*

## World Book Day (Thursday)

Next **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March** is **World Book Day**. This offers us a fantastic opportunity to celebrate reading as a community and recognise the transformative part it can play in the lives of young people.

On the day, we are asking staff, students, and parents to participate in this celebration of reading in several ways. We are anticipating that all students will choose at least one, however, we highly encourage them to do as many as possible.

1. Dress up as a character from a favourite or famous book
2. Design a door for your tutor group with a literary theme
3. Donate a book to the library that you think would be enjoyed by other students
4. Bring in your favourite book on the day to share and discuss in tutor time and English lessons
5. Donate to the Read for Good charity, which raises money for children in hospital to be read to. Mrs Coxon is a recognised champion for this cause. Donations will be attributed to the academy. Link to donate to follow.



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## **National Careers Week**

National Careers Week promotes careers guidance across the UK. It happens in early March each year, with this year's event running next week.

At Robert Smyth Academy, we invest great stock in the importance of careers education so that our students have great opportunities to reflect on and consider the most aspirational horizons ahead of them. To mark National Careers Week, all students will participate in College Assemblies where opportunities and information will be presented. Teachers will also have conversations with students about future career pathways within their individual subject areas.

As you will be aware, all students have a bespoke Careers Day each year from Year 7 – 13, alongside work experience in Year 10. As a school we will take every opportunity to broaden student understanding of potential careers.

## **National Secondary School Offer Day**

Following an unprecedented volume of interest and applications, Robert Smyth Academy is again oversubscribed in Year 7 following the National Secondary School Offer Day today. We are excited to begin the transition process with families (both new and established) and more information will be sent to parents of children who have been awarded a place in the coming weeks.

We will host the **Year 6 Information Evening on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March** (5.30 - 7.30pm) for students who have been awarded a place. This evening will be held in two, separate sessions at 5.30pm (session 1) and 6.30pm (session 2). Families will be invited to one of the two sessions in a separate communication. Please note that on this evening, parking will be limited and so if you are within walking distance, please consider walking.

If families need any further information regarding the admissions process because they had hoped to gain a place but did not (including appeals), then they will need to contact **Leicestershire County Council** and not the school. There is more information available [here](#).

Thank you once again for taking the time to read this update and thank you to the 44-parents who have completed the RSA All Stars MS Form so far, we have been reading these entries and we will be contacting specific families regarding the ways in which we will be promoting the hard work and dedication of these fantastic students.

Yours sincerely,

Dan Cleary  
Principal



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## **Key Dates: Spring Term**

- **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March:** Year 11 Trial Exam Week (continues..)
- **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March:** Year 10 Virtual Parents Evening (4.00 – 6.30pm)
- **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March:** Year 7-9 in-class assessments begin (4-week window)
- **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March:** Year 6 Information Evening (5.30 – 7.30pm)
- **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March:** Year 10 Virtual Parents Evening (4.00 – 6.30pm)
  
- **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April:** EASTER HOLIDAY

## **Parents' Evening Dates (Summer Term)**

- **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May:** Year 8 Virtual Parents Evening (4.00 – 6.30pm)
- **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June:** Year 8 Virtual Parents Evening (4.00 – 6.30pm)

## **Teacher Training Days (Summer Term)**

- **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June**

**Term Dates (2024/25),** as previously communicated, can be found [here](#).