



# Robert Smyth Academy

Dear Families,

## **Night at the Musicals**

This week, there is no better place to start than by expressing my incredible pride having watched such passionate and talented performances from our students. The first ever 'Night at the Musicals' production has already been a momentous success and with the second night to come later this evening, those in attendance will have an evening to remember.

I would like to commend all student performers for the fantastic energy and enthusiasm that they provided as part of a demonstration of their talents. There were so many standout performers and groups, but the overarching success of this production was the sense of community and appreciation for the students. I would like to wholeheartedly thank all members of the Performing Arts Faculty for their sterling work in arranging this production including Mr. Hughes, Mrs. Routledge, and Miss Tidley. Their ceaseless encouragement and support for our students has been remarkable from the first rehearsals through to the performance.



*The amazing performances included over 150 students who performed a range of famous songs and scenes from popular musicals. This is a snapshot of the incredible performance from Elena (Year 12) who gave a mesmeric performance at the start of the Thursday production.*

## **Student Leadership Presentations**

Throughout the Spring Term, we have been privileged to welcome applications from prospective student leaders. All student applicants have had the opportunity to write a letter of application and to interview with either myself or a member of the Senior Leadership Team. These have been fantastic personal development experiences for the students, and we have learnt a great deal from talking to our leaders of the future.

Over the last week, we have made final decisions regarding student appointments. Successful students have been informed in person by their College Leader during this week. As a result, students who have been successful in their application will be invited to participate in a celebratory breakfast next week where they will be formally awarded with new student leadership badges. Following this, College Leaders will announce the key student leadership appointments in their respective college groups next week.

After Easter, students who have been appointed will begin the next phase of their student leadership journey and they will be afforded fantastic opportunities to further enhance and shape the school experience for the overall benefit of their peers. We will also review the RSA All Stars information after Easter so that we can share and celebrate their attributes and achievements. Thank you to parents who have been in contact to share this information, it has been brilliant to read.



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## **Harborough Town FC Vs. Corby Town FC**

As many families and students will probably know, I am a passionate supporter and contributor to the local footballing community, and I am invested in the brilliant work that our local sports team do to enhance sporting participation including Harborough Town FC. I am especially hopeful that the first team continues to do well and gains promotion this season after a fantastic year so far.

I am keen that students who go to the game this weekend will remain safe and will have a great experience supporting their local team. However, I feel a weight of responsibility to be honest with our parents about my concerns regarding the behaviour and safety of our students who attend the fixture. Last year, as many of you will know, behaviour after this fixture led to police intervention and there were concerns raised locally regarding public order and personal safety. These were not unique issues related to our community but rather concerns that impacted all local schools.

As a result, I would strongly urge our students to behave in a way that is commensurate with our school values. I must express, in terms unmistakable, that we do not condone or endorse any poor behaviour in our community whether that be discriminatory language on the terraces, a lack of respect toward club officials or interactions that could place anyone at the risk of physical harm. Put simply, we want our students to be ambassadors for doing what is right, whatever the context and wherever they are.

I hope that this note will promote open and honest conversations with our students. Our town and the surrounding villages have so much to be proud about and I sincerely hope that this weekend is another example of the things that we do best; community, positive relationships and enjoyment.

Finally, thank you once again for your ongoing support. We know that this has been an intense time for students particularly in Year 11 and 13 as they continue to progress toward national examinations. We have had so many breakthroughs over the last month which should allow many students to approach revision over Easter with confidence and hope. There is no limit to what our students can achieve if they keep working hard.

Yours sincerely,

D Cleary  
Principal

## **Key Dates: Spring Term**

- **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](#).