



Robert Smyth Academy

Dear Families,

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.

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 go above and beyond to ensure that our students have access to a variety of enriching experiences beyond the classroom whilst sustaining a great climate for learning. Ordinarily, we would also be concerned with keeping our students hydrated in the heat and ensuring that the PE Faculty do not run out of sun cream, but the weather seems to have relieved us of such concerns this year!

The trips and opportunities that our staff have organised are not only enjoyable for our students but also play a crucial role in their personal development. They allow students to gain new experiences, 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.

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

- **Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions**
- **Geography Residential Visit to Derbyshire**
- **Physical Education Residential Visit to Morzine, France**
- **History Visit to Kenilworth Castle**
- **Modern Foreign Languages Residential Visits to Barcelona (Spain), Normandie (France) and Cologne (Germany)**
- **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**
- **Band Recital Performances**
- **Summer Concert**
- **Year 10 Faith Matters Forum**
- **Year 12 Faith Matters Forum**
- **Year 10 Work Experience**
- **Year 12 Road Safety Day**
- **Year 12 UCAS Evening**
- **Year 12 Careers Day**
- **Year 11 Prom**
- **Key Stage 3 Enterprise Day**
- **Year 10 Careers Day - interview experiences with representatives from the business community**
- **Art, Design and Textiles Show**
- **Sports Day**
- **Key Stage 3 Celebration Evening**



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Alongside this, there will be great opportunities for students including:

- **College Competitions**
- **School Council**
- **Peer Mentoring assignments**
- **Student Leadership Award portfolio**

Thank you to our staff.

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 and I think these experiences exemplify that commitment. The summer term may be a busy time for our teachers and support staff, but it is also a time of growth and opportunity. 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,

D Cleary
Principal



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Key Dates: Summer Term

- **Monday 10th June:** PE Adventurous Residential (Morzine, France)
- **Thursday 13th June:** SEND Parent Forum (6–7 pm)
- **Tuesday 11th June:** Year 7 Careers Morning
- **Monday 17th June:** Sports Awards Evening
- **Friday 21st June:** Year 10 Faith Forum
- **Monday 24th June:** Year 9 MFL Residentials
- **Monday 24th June:** Year 10 Work Experience Week
- **Tuesday 25th June:** Year 12 Road Safety Day
- **Tuesday 25th June:** Year 12 UCAS Information Evening (6-7 pm)
- **Wednesday 26th June:** Year 12 Careers Day
- **Wednesday 26th June:** Key Stage 3 Enterprise Day
- **Thursday 27th June:** Year 12 Faith Forum
- **Thursday 27th June:** Year 11 Prom (From 6.30 pm)
- **Friday 28th June:** Teacher Training Day (school closed)
- **Monday 1st July:** Year 6 Meet the Tutor Evening (5-8 pm)
- **Tuesday 2nd July:** Year 6 Induction Day
- **Tuesday 2nd July:** Year 10 Careers Day
- **Wednesday 3rd July:** PSHE Dropdown (P1)
- **Wednesday 3rd July:** Summer Concert
- **Thursday 4th July:** Summer Concert
- **Thursday 4th July:** Sports Day
- **Wednesday 10th July:** End of Year Trips
- **Thursday 11th July:** SUMMER HOLIDAY BEGINS

Parents' Evening Dates (Summer Term)

- **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 (Summer Term)

- **Friday 28th June**

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



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