



Robert Smyth Academy

Dear Parents/Carers

A couple of weeks ago Mr Cleary wrote about the nature of this term and how, as an academy, we 'wind up' to the end of the year rather than 'wind down' and this week was absolutely no exception.

Year 12 Enrichment Week – Mr Luhrs

This week marked our annual Enrichment Week, a key part of our Sixth Form provision that focuses on broadening students' horizons, developing life skills, and preparing them for life beyond school. I'm delighted to say that our students have approached every opportunity with enthusiasm, curiosity, and maturity.

We began the week on Monday with a visit to the UCAS Convention at the NEC, where students explored a wide range of university and apprenticeship options. It was a fantastic chance for them to speak directly with representatives and gather information to help shape their future plans.

On Tuesday, we hosted a Driving Safety Day, with invaluable input from Leicestershire Fire and Rescue, the East Midlands Ambulance Service, and Heartwise, a local charity that trained students in basic CPR. The day was both informative and impactful, helping students understand the importance of safety and responsibility on the roads.

That evening, we welcomed many of you to our UCAS Support Evening, hosted by the University of Warwick. Jack, the presenter, provided a clear and helpful overview of the application process, and we hope it gave the parents in attendance greater confidence in supporting their children through this important stage.

Wednesday was dedicated to Careers and Post-18 Planning. We were joined by representatives from the University of East Anglia and the University of Leicester, who ran sessions on choosing the right university and crafting strong personal statements. A particular highlight of the day for students was hearing from several parent volunteers, who generously gave their time to share insights into their own careers and experiences of the world of work. Their contributions added a valuable real-world perspective that students found both inspiring and thought-provoking.

On Thursday, we held our Faith Forum Day, where students took part in thoughtful discussions with representatives from a range of world faiths. This was a powerful opportunity to explore different perspectives and promote mutual understanding and respect.

Throughout the week, our students have shown real enthusiasm and a strong willingness to learn. We believe that education is about more than just academic success; it's also about helping young people grow into thoughtful, informed, and responsible members of society. This week has offered exactly that kind of meaningful learning experience.

Year 10 Work experience

Year 10 students went to a huge range of businesses this week and feedback reports that they were credit to you as parents and the academy. A few choice comments below give you a flavour of how the year 10 students represented themselves and the academy.

"is confident and proactive, involves herself without needing prompting and speaks and plays very nicely with the children."

"has been a star this week. We are short staffed, [and] He's been really helpful and shown a keenness to learn."

"engagement with everyone in the workplace was excellent. She was able to hold meaningful conversations



Robert Smyth Academy

Year 11 Prom

The week ended on a high with the year 11 prom, which was the best ever attended with students looking supremely stylish and celebrating with staff and their friends after all their hard work.

Next week there are more opportunities at the 'RSALitFest: Beyond the Page', events including a poet and an author working with students in Key Stage 3 to share their passions and experiences around writing, crafting and developing of literature in a real-world context. We also can't wait to hear all about the European adventures of year 9.

Thank you again for supporting your children to get as much out of these opportunities and experiences as possible.

Yours sincerely,

K Nicholson
Associate Principal