



Robert Smyth Academy

Dear Parent/Carer,

PE 'Lock-In' 2023

I would like to wholeheartedly congratulate the entire PE Faculty for their sterling organisation of the first PE 'Lock-In' charity fundraising event for 3-years. This has been an enormous success with students competing in a plethora of sports and activities throughout the night, for 24-hours, to raise money for charity. Congratulations to all the students who have been involved. I hope that parents will take pity on those intrepid student participants when they arrive home, because they are going to need plenty of sleep to catch up after the excitement of the evening! We like to tell students that achievement comes in many forms, and I felt that it was a moment of great personal achievement not to have injured myself in the warmup.

Mass Movement Qualification

I would also like to congratulate Mrs. Routledge and her fantastic dancers on their qualification for 'Mass Movement' based at The Curve Theatre in Leicester. Our Dance Group will be performing on Sunday 12th March, and it is a real achievement to have been able to qualify for this prestigious event once again.

World Book Day

On Thursday 2nd March it is World Book Day. As a school, we will be participating in this event in a number of ways to show our collective love of books and to promote the life-changing value of reading. On the day:

- Staff have been asked to come to school dressed as characters from their favourite books
- Tutor groups have been asked to participate collectively - dressing as characters from the same book if they wish and decorating their tutor base door
- Students are encouraged to bring their favourite books into school so they can read extracts from them to their tutor groups.
- Parents are invited to donate a new copy of their favourite book to the RSA library for others to enjoy. More details to follow.
- Mr Cleary will run a whole school prize draw in the morning for a book voucher prize

Mrs Coxon, our librarian, has also given all students a Readathon Sponsor Card to bring home over half-term. This will allow students to raise sponsorship for each book they read and benefit both themselves and others. All details are on the sponsor card but please contact Mrs Coxon at jcoxon@robertsmyth.tgacademy.org.uk if you have any further questions.

How do I protect my child online?

Safer Internet Day was celebrated globally last Tuesday 7th February 2023 with a theme of "**Together for a better internet**", it calls upon everyone to join to make the internet a safer and better place, especially for children and young people. Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre (www.saferinternet.org.uk) the aim is to help promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology.

We are very concerned by these issues and feedback from parents indicates that this concern is shared by you. In recent years, there has been a dramatic growth in internet communication via social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter and Snapchat and a major factor in this rise is the increased accessibility to the internet using 'smart' phones. To be very honest, **this is one of the key challenges for our generation of parents.**

In response to parental feedback and requests for more information, we invite all parents to complete one of the following **National Online Safety (NOS)** courses to gain advice and guidance on how to support your child.



Part of Tudor Grange Academies Trust

Burnmill Road, Market Harborough, Leicestershire, LE16 7JG
01858 440770 office@robertsmyth.tgacademy.org.uk www.robertsmyth.tgacademy.org.uk

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Step 1: Register

Use the following unique self-enrolment link to sign up to the hub. You will receive access to online safety courses, their library of explain videos, and helpful platform guides, which are released weekly:

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/the-robert-smyth-academy>

Step 2: Parents can learn more about how to protect their child online by completing these courses:

Parents of children aged between 11–14 years

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/hub/view/course/os-for-parents-carers-of-children-aged-11-14>

Parents of children and young people aged between 14–18 years

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/hub/view/course/os-for-parents-carers-of-children-aged-14-18>

Year 11 – Critical Time for Revision

Thank you once again to parents for your ongoing support with revision. We are now entering the critical phase of preparation for Year 11 students as they approach their final trial examinations and the GCSE exams in May. This is a key moment for preparation, and we would expect students to have established good routines for study and will have a plan to follow over half-term. This is a further reminder regarding available resources:

- The **Trial Exam Schedule** can be found [here](#) (best displayed on the fridge)
- If your child still needs further reminders on 'How to Revise', we have a resource section [here](#)
- Your child should be **revising regularly** at home, and be able to show you evidence of this work

Key dates

- **w/b 20th February: SCHOOL CLOSED DURING FEBRUARY HALF-TERM**
- **w/b 27th February:** Year 11 Trial Exams Begin
- **Tuesday 14th March***: Year 10 Parents Evening 4.00-6.30pm (remote via School Cloud)
- **Wednesday 22nd, Thursday 23rd, Friday 24th, Saturday 25th March:** High School Musical Production (Ticket holders only)
- **Thursday 30th March:** Year 10 Parents Evening 4.00-6.30pm (remote via School Cloud)
- **w/b 27th March:** Year 7-9 Assessments begin (4-week window)
- **Friday 31st March:** Ski Trip Departs
- **Monday 3rd April – Friday 14th April:** SCHOOL CLOSED DURING EASTER HOLIDAY

**A changed date due to industrial action on Thursday 16th March.*

As ever, my thanks for your ongoing support. I wish you a restful weekend.

Yours sincerely,

D Cleary
Principal



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