



22 May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had yet another busy half term albeit a shorter one, it has been packed with so many learning opportunities, memorable experiences and achievements across the school. I very much enjoyed the Year 11 Portfolio and Presentation evening, recognising the achievements of our students and presenting them with their Portfolios is always a joy. Good to see parents and carers enjoying the evening too, like us it seems no time from these wonderful young people were awe struck Year 7's!

A significant focus since the start of May has been the beginning of the examination season. Both the GCSE and A Level examinations are now in full swing. This is an important and demanding time for our young people, and I am incredibly proud of the level of maturity, resilience and dedication they have shown. We wish them all the very best of luck!

Events this Half Term

Our annual Arts & Culture week highlighted a real sense of togetherness, the school atmosphere was vibrant from music, singing, dance and drama. We hosted a colourful evening where students wowed the audience with songs, dance and recitals. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to celebrate creativity, culture, diversity and expression through a range of performances and activities throughout our school community.

Following on from our school production of Matilda the Musical last term, which I have to say was a magical performance, students had the opportunity to visit the West End and watch the professional production of Matilda to experience the show firsthand.

We are delighted to be involved in the **Poetry Slam** workshops with Breis, a renowned professional poet. Many students discover talents they did not know they had, until they are given an opportunity to find their voice. The **Poetry Slam** event is a popular event which supports KS4 students in assisting them in a workshop where they develop their writing skills, confidence for public speaking, and creating their own poems on the theme of identify and self-expression before going on to perform for an audience after school.

Well done to our very impressive Year 13 students who took part in this year's UK Chemistry Olympiad, organised by the Royal Society of Chemistry. Four students achieved the Bronze Award,

Headteacher Mrs Colette O'Dwyer

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and this year we were very pleased to be informed that one student achieved Gold. This competition challenges students on Chemistry knowledge well beyond the A Level curriculum, and these awards represent many hours of hard work and dedication on the part of our students.

With a focus on their A Level exams Year 13 Economics students attended a Grade Booster Workshop at the Vue Cinema in Stratford. As well as revising the course content, students received guidance on exam and revision techniques to help them achieve their very best.

History came alive for our Year 7 students on their trip to the ancient sites around the City of St Albans. From discovering the lives of Medieval Christian Pilgrims to the Cathedral, to exploring the Roman ruins in the Verulamium Museum and the nearby park. Students told us they found it both enjoyable and informative.

Year 10 students on the Inspire Programme were immersed in the works of Banksy, Andy Warhol and other world-famous modern artists at the Moco London Art Museum. The students were inspired by the themes of self-identity, of how ideas can be expressed through art with a new perspective and a wider sense of what 'art' can be.

Highlighting their impressive achievements, Year 9 Brilliant Club students attended the Department of Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology at the University of Cambridge for their graduation, I am proud to share with you that once again one of our student's essays has been selected for publication in the upcoming edition of the Club's National Academic Journal - 'The Scholar.'

Sports News

This half term has seen a transition from winter to summer seasons in terms of sporting competitions. As the winter seasons were wrapped up, we won trophies in Football and Table Tennis and took Bronze in Gymnastics. The victories took our tally of borough championships for 2025-26 to 15. We are chasing a record of 17! Watch this space as the summer sporting season gets under way.

The focus of summer competitions are Athletics, Rounders and Cricket. We have already enjoyed success in the Athletics, with some of our students being selected to represent Harrow. In Cricket we are through to the last 16 of the Middlesex phase of the (national state school) Knight-Stokes competition.

Policies

A quick reference to our school policies can be found here: [Policies](#). These policies are available on our school website too.

Student Wellbeing during the Half Term Break

We understand that young people may need to access some support for their wellbeing and there are a number of organisations signposted on our school website [here](#). In particular we would like to draw your attention to [Kooth](#), which is a free, safe, and anonymous online mental health service commissioned across the UK by the NHS, Local Authorities and Charities to provide free online mental health support. If you are worried about your child and would like further support, please contact your Pastoral Team when we return to school.



Key Dates for Next Half Term

Students return to school	1 st June 2026
Year 10 Work Experience (Band A)	15 th – 19 th June 2026
Summer Concert	17 th June 2026
Year 10 Work Experience (Band B)	22 nd – 26 th June 2026
Year 7 Residential Trip	22 nd – 26 th June 2026
Year 9 Sports Day	26 th June 2026
Year 11 Prom	26 th June 2026
Year 8 Sports Day	30 th June 2026
Year 10 Sports Day	2 nd July 2026
Year 13 Prom	2 nd July 2026
Year 7 Sports Day	3 rd July 2026
Review Day	14 th July 2026
Year 10 MFL Roadshow	15 th July 2026
Last Day of Term for Students	17 th July 2026

As we move into the Summer Term with hopefully more days of sun, please ensure your children have the necessary sun protection. We will inform you of any changes to the school uniform.

School reopens on Monday 1st June 2026. We look forward to welcoming students back refreshed and ready.

I wish you a restful half term break.

Stay safe and well.

Kind regards,

Mrs Colette O'Dwyer
Headteacher

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