



GARSTANG COMMUNITY ACADEMY

Bowgreave □ Garstang □ Lancashire □ PR3 1YE □ Tel: 01995 603226 □

Email: info@garstang.fcat.org.uk

27th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of another incredibly busy and productive term, I am delighted to write to you with an update on the fantastic activities and collective achievements that have taken place at Garstang Community Academy. It has been a period filled with inspiration, community spirit, and outstanding success across our academic and extra-curricular programmes.

We are particularly thrilled to launch our brand-new attendance initiative, "The Golden Ticket Awards," thanks to Pete Atkinson (Senior Attendance Manager) and local partners. We firmly believe that "being there" is the first step toward greatness. To celebrate our students' commitment, we are turning daily attendance into daily rewards where every student in school receives a virtual golden ticket for a chance to win prizes donated by local partners, including The Flower Bowl Entertainment Centre, Leach Steel and Towers and Gornall Accountants.



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Company Limited by Guarantee Number 08364709

Registered in England & Wales – Registered Office: Mereside Primary Academy, Langdale Road, Blackpool, FY4 4RR



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Our students have also benefited from a wealth of inspirational visitors and trips designed to broaden their horizons. Ten of our Year 10 girls recently attended an empowering event at Blackpool Sixth Form for International Women's Day, where they were inspired by the leadership of former GCA student Erin Parkinson.



We also welcomed back alumna Becca Heath, who returned as a professional dancer with Preston College Dance to deliver high-energy workshops to all year groups.



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Furthermore, our high-achieving students explored prestigious pathways at Cardinal Newman College, while Year 9 students gained a fascinating "behind the scenes" look at modern logistics during a visit to the Amazon Fulfilment Centre in Bolton.



In the classroom, our Year 8 scientists were "blown away" during a renewable energy workshop led by Deborah Woods from Flotation Energy, where they designed and tested their own wind turbines. Our Year 11 Drama students also engaged with the arts through a powerful performance of Macbeth at the Bolton Octagon. These experiences continue to show our students just how many opportunities exist in the world of modern technology, science, and the arts.



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Flotation Energy Workshop



Bolton Octagon trip to see Macbeth

In sporting news, it has been a historic term for GCA. We are incredibly proud to announce that our Year 9 team are officially the Wyre and Fylde Rugby Champions after a dominant performance against St Bede's. Our Under 13 Handball teams also achieved remarkable success at the Lancashire Finals, with the boys ranked 4th and the girls 5th in the county. Additionally, our Year 9 Girls' Football team performed brilliantly in their tournament at Lytham High School, and our Year 11 students showed great determination in their Volleyball match against Armfield Academy.



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Our recent two-day visit to the University of Oxford proved to be an unforgettable experience for a group of year 10 students, offering them a genuine insight into what it feels like to study at one of the world's most prestigious universities. The trip was packed with academic exploration, cultural discovery, and moments that helped students realise that Oxford is not just a dream for "other people" — it is absolutely an option for them after college or sixth form.



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Finally, I would like to extend a huge congratulations to our very own Mr. Porter (Pastoral Manager), who completed a grueling 26km march carrying a 20kg pack to raise vital funds for Child Action Northwest (CANW) and Papyrus. His dedication to these causes close to our hearts is a wonderful example of the values we hold dear at this school. This video gives a flavour of our community and care of each other-

<https://www.facebook.com/61582638844533/videos/pcb.122123180757087961/4787244701502321>

I encourage you all to follow our Facebook page for regular updates and photos of these events as they happen.

As we now pause for the Easter break, I would like to wish all our families a restful and enjoyable time together. While this is a period for relaxation, we are also mindful of our students who are currently preparing for their upcoming examinations in the Summer term. We encourage them to find a healthy balance between well-deserved rest and purposeful revision during the holidays, and we look forward to supporting them in their final push toward success upon their return.

As we look ahead to the summer term, I would like to kindly update you on a small addition to our school calendar. We have an upcoming staff INSET day scheduled for Monday 29th June 2026, meaning the school will be closed to students. I sincerely apologise that this was omitted from our previous communications, but I wanted to share this with you well in advance to ensure you have ample time to make any necessary childcare arrangements.

Best wishes,

Satinder Singh

Headteacher

Key Dates :

- Year 10 Progress Evening - Thursday 16th April 2026
- Year 10 Mock Exams - 8th to 23rd June 2026
- **INSET Day (School closed to students) - Monday 29th June 2026**

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