

16.07.25

Dear Parents,

We've reached the end of the academic year 2024-5 and, before the community takes its summer break, there has been time for both reflection and celebration. In the last 3 weeks of term the induction events across the four Trust schools welcomed over 60 new specialist staff as well as over 1,300 of next year's new students as the sixth forms at William Perkin and Ada Lovelace reach full capacity. We have been particularly gratified with the increased interest in the T-level programmes at Ada Lovelace – Accountancy now having been added to Digital Technology and Lab Science applied programmes. No doubt potential 6th form students have been inspired by the success stories of the first Yr 13s who have ended the year with well-paid degree apprenticeships (entry level jobs and degrees paid for by employers) in a context where graduate employment is not a given.

Lower down the schools, the advantages for students in taking opportunities which would not have been there if the schools functioned in isolation have also been pleasing to see. A great example has been the first interschool music project which ran throughout Enrichment week and saw students from across the Trust engaging in workshops with professional singers from the worlds of Opera, Gospel and West End Shows. The week ended with a superb and wide-ranging performance showcase which rivalled the stunning Ealing Music event at the Albert Hall a few weeks earlier, at which Trust students also took a lead role.

So many other activities and successes will be celebrated in final assemblies this week as well as in the Head Teacher's end of term newsletter. Some of the greatest triumphs of the year, however, will have happened quietly, behind the scenes – particularly for individual students using the systems of signposts and nudges to bring about improvements in their work or learning habits. This was a theme for the year, and all the schools have been pleased to see positive impact. Please continue to reflect with your son or daughter after their individual target setting meeting on what

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has worked well as well as owning the areas for focus next year when we will be continuing the drive.

Other changes, as parents know, will be around the curriculum delivery and in three of our schools a change in the school day to be more closely aligned to the Twyford model. Again, joined up working between the Subject Leads within the four schools has been a great advantage – particularly in modern languages where a wholesale curriculum re-write has been undertaken, culminating in a new exam syllabus being sat for the first time next year by Year 11s. We hope very much to have been ahead of the curve on this project also and are excited now to be working with a number of primary schools to try to achieve greater join-up from KS2 also.

We always end by thanking the teachers whose hard work and commitment make all of this possible. This year is no exception – and equally we thank **you**, the parents and carers, for your support in helping us to help your children. As we celebrate and reflect in equal measure, please also remember that you support the schools most effectively by ensuring that your own child keeps the rules and uses the systems well. May we therefore make this final plea to use time in the summer to do the following:

- Maintain a good & regular reading habit
- Monitor/regulate screen time, maximising healthy personal interaction creativity & sports

Plus of course

- Ensure uniforms are refreshed over the holiday to meet regulations so no student has to be removed from the community on the first day back and precious teacher-time is not wasted on negative engagement. At William Perkin, a PTFA uniform sale for the summer will take place on **Friday, 25th July 2025 11am to 12:30pm**

Best wishes for a lovely summer,

Dame Alice Hudson

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