



16<sup>th</sup> July 2021

*Happiness does not come from doing easy work but from the afterglow of satisfaction that comes after the achievement of a difficult task that demanded our best.* (Theodore Isaac Rubin)

Dear Parents and Carers

The What3words app identifies locations all around the world by allocating three randomly chosen words. Those allocated to TGAW are **evenly.wisely.modern**. This is more than an apt coincidence given our priority to ensure the next generation of achievers fulfils their potential.

It has been the strangest of years, facing challenges at every turn. This term there has been a little more movement around the school site, much to the benefit of pupil and staff emotional well-being. We had a great STEM week. Year 9 experienced a Criminology and Forensics Day. Students examined a murder scene and presented their prosecution case and evidence in a mock courtroom trial. The provider said TGAW is one of the absolute best schools he has been to. The week culminated with four of our students graduating as Industrial Cadets and achieving their Bronze STEM award following their 12 week project with Bosch. They had designed a home hub to support people with disabilities who live alone.

Nearly 90 students have applied to join our Sixth Form. Four of our Year 13 students were fortunate enough to be awarded bursaries to help finance their University places: £1,000 each for the next three years from The Rowlands Trust. The Governors have also approved a change in dress code for the Sixth Form; you will now see them wearing black suits as an additional option to their grey suits.

Government guidance meant we were unable to arrange Induction Week for our new children joining Year 7, this will now be done online and at the beginning of September. There are forty children on our waiting list for year 7, and once again we had over two people apply for each place available.

We were sorry that the trips had to be cancelled as part of Final Fun week but have seen that the Fun Days arranged for each year group were enjoyed by the students. Thanks to the masterminds – Mr Sidaway and Miss Dewe for all their hard work with this.

We are saying farewell to the following members of staff: Miss Doherty; Miss Taylor, Miss Evans and Mr Mahony. We wish them every happiness on their future journeys; particularly Miss Taylor to China! Mrs Myers leaves us to work full time for the Trust. They have all been a pleasure to work with over the years.

Joining us are Mrs Bevilacqua, Miss Hopwood and Mr Margetts in the English Department; Mr Walker in Maths; Miss Haines leading the Inclusion Team; Mr Seaborne in Computing, IT and Creative i-Media; Mr Hughes in Geography and Miss Asquez-Mauro as maternity cover for Music. We look forward to having them on the team.

Like the rest of Worcester we have been hit hard in terms of virus outbreaks over the last fortnight, dropping down to just under 400 students on site and year group bubbles coming and going. We were delighted that most of year 10 were back in time to participate in Sports Day. Thank you to the PE Department and in particular Miss Chadderton for showing great determination and resilience in pulling off this successful event.

If you are staying in Worcester, I would like to point out that there are some festivals on. The Big Parade has just started with over 60 elephants to locate including our very own TGAW elephant, Friedrich. Take a photograph and send it to us @ArtsTgaw. The IWA Festival of Water takes place on 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> August at Perdiswell Park. Go to [www.waterways.org.uk](http://www.waterways.org.uk) for more information and look out for this banner created by Year 8 students Fajar Khan, Ollie Peacock, Jake Moseley, Ollie Shaw and Kacy McCrudden.





## **Return in September**

We are looking forward to seeing everyone return in September refreshed after a well-earned summer break. The return details are quite complex as we are required to re-open our testing centre to test all children before their return in September. Please read the information below carefully.

The testing dates are as follows:

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September | Year 7 testing in morning<br>Year 11 testing in afternoon     |
| Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September  | Year 10 testing in morning<br>Sixth Form testing in afternoon |
| Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September    | Year 8 testing in morning<br>Year 9 testing in afternoon      |

The return to lesson dates are as follows:

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September | Year 7 return at 8.35 a.m.<br>Year 11 return at 8.55 a.m. |
| Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September   | Year 10 and Sixth Form return at 8.35 a.m.                |
| Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September   | Year 8 and 9 return at 8.35 a.m.                          |
| Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September  | School photographs for all year groups                    |

(Staggered start and finish times are no longer in place for September everyone starts at 8:35am and finishes at 2:55pm).

Term dates are available on <https://www.worcs.tgacademy.org.uk/events/term-dates/>

Some of our COVID measures will continue with three break and three lunch times at least for the first term. This will not only act as a precautionary measure in the event of identifying cases within school, but will hopefully also support the new Year 7 pupils in their transition to secondary school.

I would like to thank the pupils and staff for their commitment, resilience and support throughout this year. It has been a journey which will become part of our shared history. With warmest wishes for a happy, safe and healthy Summer.

Yours sincerely,

Mr D Butler  
Principal