

20 March 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Easter Break 2026

As we head towards Easter, the days at last begin to lengthen and we are approaching the end of another busy but good term, I thought I would write to you and share what great work has gone on at the academy. As ever our success can only be achieved through the support we have from parents and carers. Each one of you chose this academy as you believe in what we stand for in relation to expectations and standards, which I would personally like to thank you for.

The academy has been extremely busy elsewhere; World Book Day on March 5 was once again a fantastic event and we would like to thank all the local shops around Chelmsley Wood for supporting this through their extremely generous donations of books. On the day we had a “Bookie Breakfast” and a World Book Market at break time where over 300 books were given out to students.

One of our highlights of this term was our wonderful production of *Matilda* which was a tremendous success, it was performed to sold-out audiences who were blown away by the talent and energy on stage. The students delivered a performance of exceptionally high quality, showcasing their hard work, dedication, and passion. We are incredibly proud of what they achieved and grateful for the wonderful support from our academy community.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Tove Learning Trust, and to celebrate this milestone all 14 schools within the trust will be taking part in ten special events under the banner *Tove 10*. Each event is designed to give back—either through charity or by supporting our academy and local communities. Over the past few weeks, we’ve proudly launched our first Tove 10 activities, including giving away more than 300 books in the above mentioned World Book Day event and hosting a charity bike ride from Chelmsley Wood to London using academy spin bikes. The event was created and led by our Post-16 students, who did a fantastic job from start to finish. Thanks to their efforts—and the generosity of our parents—we raised over £480 for the Teenage Cancer Trust. We are incredibly grateful for your support, which helped make the event such a success. Other academy news, events and updates are available to browse on our [website](#).

As we come towards the final term of the year, there are many integral processes that are well underway for the transition steps for the various Key stages in the academy. Year 10 students will be taking part in residential visits to some of the local universities. Mock exams for yr 11s were also completed in March, while years 10 and 12 will be doing the same later in the summer term. Practice sessions for interviews and CV writing have also been a key feature for year 10 students, which were with industry professionals from a variety of sectors and have been extremely valuable to our students. In year 9 students are well underway with their Pathways process where they are making informed decisions about their future option choices based on conversions from the recent KS3 Parent Review Day and career aspirations.

I am sure a number of parents and carers will have also received their acknowledgement of a Year 7 place at Grace Academy Solihull; we were once again massively over subscribed which is again a true reflection of the trust and confidence that you have in our ability to care for and educate your child. More information will be coming out over the next few months for new starters, but even so I look forward to welcoming you to Grace and congratulations on receiving a place.

Finally for the all important upcoming GCSE and A Level exam period, staff will be working over Easter, in their own time, with exam groups to ensure they have the best opportunity of success and a programme of revision

sessions will already have been communicated to students as well as being available on the [academy website](#). If it applies to your child I would strongly encourage you to support them in attending, as past evidence shows the improvement in outcomes this brings is extremely noticeable.

A reminder to parents/carers around online safety and would ask again that you speak with your children about staying safe online. We ask that you are vigilant about the websites and media they are accessing and if you require any [guidance](#) around this, please check our website again where there is further detail and [support for students, parents and carers](#).

This term there have been two major changes to your child's experience at the academy; the first of these was the banning of mobile phones in line with government direction. The outcome of this has so far been extremely positive with social times becoming an opportunity for our students to engage in conversation and a variety of activities that we have invested in for them, including more outside table tennis tables and a wide range of games and activities, as well as sporting and educational opportunities. The other major change has been the introduction of tutor time in the morning, this has allowed us to get to know your child better and forms part of our inclusion and belonging strategy. Students are able to raise any issues or challenges they may be having at the start of the day and be supported in ensuring they are ready for the day ahead.

A reminder as well about the academy uniform expectations, please make sure that if your child does not have the right footwear for school that this is rectified over the Easter break; full details of which can be found [on our website here](#) and within our [Uniform Policy](#).

The focus of students reaching their potential is key for all of us, which can only be achieved by you supporting us in ensuring students attend. The message is very clear both nationally, and from our experience, where students who miss school do less well in all areas of their progress. Again I can reassure you that if we feel you need to be contacted about your child if they are not well, we will not hesitate. A reminder also **that the academy day starts at 8.20 am**, which is when the student gate is opened, and students should be reminded that they need to make their way to their morning tutor room promptly - punctuality is key to avoiding being given a late detention or missing out on their morning attendance marks.

Our fresh food market continues to operate and is extremely well received; this opportunity is open to all parents and carers of students in the academy, and if you feel this or our Breakfast Club would be beneficial to you, I would again, encourage you to contact our academy Ethos Lead, Miss Foster via gas-communitylink@graceacademy.org.uk for further information.

On the last day of this term, Friday 27 March, we will be finishing at 12.30 pm to allow a number of projects to begin around the academy site. As I mention regularly, our success and that of your child can only happen through working in partnership with you around all aspects of your child whilst attending the academy, particularly in relation to attendance, behaviour and attitude to learning. I hope you and your family have a restful Easter break and we look forward to welcoming our students back for the summer term on **Monday 13 April at 8.20 am**.

Yours sincerely



Mr Matthew Godwin

Principal

For and on behalf of Tove Learning Trust