



Queen Mary's Grammar School

Headmaster: R J Langton, M A

October 2021

Dear Parents

Speech Day: Thursday 21st October

Speech Day is the School's annual celebration of its foundation and its achievements through another year.

This event will be in three main parts:

- A service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving at St Matthew's Church in the morning.
- A seminar in the afternoon at the school led by the guest speaker for invited students.
- Prize-giving and Celebration Event at School 4.30 – 6.15 for students in Years 10 – 13.

In the morning ...

- We will be holding our Service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving in St Matthew's Church.
- Pupils in years 8 – 13 must report to their Form Tutor at the church no later than 9am for registration. Sixth-formers are not permitted to sign-in late on this day.
- Pupils should be in smart school uniform. They may bring a *small* school bag containing the equipment for that day. Pupils in Year 8 will still require sports kit for their games lesson in the afternoon.
- We recommend pupils travel to school as usual and then walk down to St Matthew's. It is a simple walk and we will have prefects on hand to guide them.
- Alternatively pupils may report directly to St Matthew's arriving between 8.30 and 9am. This is particularly appropriate for those who are already travelling to Walsall Town Centre by public transport.
- Parents should NOT drive to St Matthew's to drop off pupils as the road network in this area is unsuitable – please drop them off at school and allow them to walk.

Pupils in Year 7 ...

- This year pupils in year 7 will not be involved in the morning service. They should report to school by 0845 as usual.
- Pupils will have their weekly games lesson during period 1 and 2 and should therefore attend school in their kit and tracksuit.

The school day ...

- At the end of the service students will be escorted back to school and follow a normal timetabled day from period 3.
- Sixth-formers without lessons in the afternoon are required to remain in school on this day for the prize-giving event and will NOT be permitted to sign-out early.

The end of the school day ...

- Pupils in years 7 – 9 will be dismissed from school at 3.40pm as usual.
- Pupils in years 10 – 13 will return to their form rooms at 3.40pm for a short supervised break prior to the evening event.

The Evening Event ...

- Our main Celebration Event, which includes the presentation of prizes will be held at School.
- All pupils in years 10 – 13 are required to attend, together with prize winners in other year groups.
- We are only able to accommodate parents of prize winners at this event, who have been written to separately.
- The event will start at 4.30pm, allowing a short break at the end of the school day.
- We expect the event to finish at 6.15pm, following which pupils will be dismissed no later than 6.30pm.

The Start of Half Term ...

- Finally a reminder that pupils are not required to attend school on Friday 22 October and Speech Day therefore marks the beginning of the Half Term break. We wish the whole community a restful break.

Speech Day is always a great occasion in the life of the School. This letter deals inevitably with the details, but let's not forget the big picture. We have so much to celebrate in the life of our vibrant community!

Thank you for all your help and co-operation in making the day run smoothly.

Yours sincerely

Richard Langton
Headmaster