

Year 7 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to everyone who attended our recent Year 7 Welcome Evening. It was a beneficial event to share key information and highlight the many opportunities available to our students.

A Positive Start to Year 7

Year 7 students have done well at transitioning to life at Glenthorne. They have approached the challenges of starting a new school with enthusiasm and engagement. They have been acknowledged for their positive attitudes towards learning, settled quickly into school routines, and adapted well to their new classes and the school itself.

Meet the Year 7 Team

This year, the Year 7 team consists of Mr Banfield, Head of Year supported by Mr McCarthy and Ms Graham Golding the two Assistant Heads of Year.

Our Year 7 motto remains:

"Learn, Grow, Succeed "

This reflects our commitment to be resilient, improve at every opportunity and ultimately reach their full potential.

Celebrating Success

At Glenthorne we strongly believe in recognising and rewarding achievement. Throughout the year students can earn:

- Achievement points
- Positive postcards home
- Staff shout-outs
- Recognition in assemblies
- Awards at end-of-term celebrations
- Rewards after each set of report data

Rewards acknowledge not only academic success but also effort, resilience, kindness, leadership, and contributions to school life. One of the highlights of the year will be the Year 7 rewards trip to the cinema in January, alongside our annual Glenthorne Celebrates awards evening.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

We encourage every Year 7 student to become involved in school life beyond the classroom. A wide range of clubs and activities are available before school, at lunchtime, and after school, covering areas such as sport, music, drama, dance, technology, debating, and much more.

These clubs were launched during our extra-curricular fair during lunchtime 17th September.



Research consistently shows that involvement in extra-curricular activities can help young people develop confidence, resilience, and strong friendships. Information about this term's activities has been shared with students and is available on the school website.

An example of some the clubs run on one day is shown below. For more information please explore the Extra Curricular booklet on the school's website.

Tuesday

Time	Activity	Year Group	Where	Staff
07:45 - 08:20	Music Theory Enrichment	All Years	DH4	
07:45 - 08:20	French or Spanish Enrichment	7		
13:30 - 14:00	Music - Tech Club	9-13	DHM	JRS
13:30 - 14:00	DT - Think.Design.Make	8, 9, 10, 11	JO2	BCA
13:30 - 14:00	PE - Badminton & Table Tennis	9, 10, 11	Sports Hall	BMC
13:30 - 14:00	PE - Trampolining	8	Sports Hall	ESC
13:30 - 14:00	Geography Club	7, 8	A15	ABL/MST
13:30 - 14:00	English - Debate Club (Week A only)	7, 8, 9	AO6	SSA

Challenge Week

One of the most exciting events in the Year 7 calendar is Challenge Week. Students will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of experiences, including:

- Educational visits
- On-site activities
- The residential trip to Bushcraft

These experiences help students develop teamwork, leadership, independence, and resilience while creating lasting memories.



Wellbeing and Student Support

The wellbeing of our students remains one of our highest priorities. We recognise that adolescence can bring challenges, and we have a comprehensive range of support available, including:

- House Buddies
- Homework Club
- One-to-one listening support
- One-to-one interventions
- Challenge It, Change It

We want students and families to know that support is always available. If concerns arise, we encourage parents and carers to contact us so that we can work together to provide the right support at the right time.

Social Media and Online Safety

As young people gain greater independence online, parental involvement remains extremely important. While social media can support communication and social development, it can also expose young people to risks such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content, negative influences, and online safety concerns.

We encourage parents to:

- Maintain open conversations about online activity.
- Limit time spent on social media platforms.
- Avoid allowing mobile phones in bedrooms overnight.

Many issues dealt with in school begin on large group chats that are most active late in the evening when students should be sleeping. Limiting access to devices overnight can help improve sleep, concentration, wellbeing, and academic performance.

Key Dates for the Year Ahead

Please make a note of the following important events:

- **Parent Evening:** 3rd February
- **Whole School Production - Annie:** 26, 27 and 28 January
- **Trips and Visits:** Including year 7 Theatre Trip (9th and 12th December)

These events provide valuable opportunities for students to develop academically, socially, and personally.

Thank You

Thank you for your continued support of Year 7. The partnership between home and school plays a vital role in helping young people succeed. We are excited about the opportunities ahead and look forward to working with you throughout the year to ensure every student can truly thrive

Mr S Banfield
Head of Year 7

