Walton High

A place to **Belong**, a place to **Learn**, a place to **Achieve**

Fyfield Barrow
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Principal: Jim Rowland

23 October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another half term, I would like to thank you for your continued support and engagement over the past seven weeks. The positive partnership between home and school is vital to our success, and we greatly appreciate the encouragement you provide to your children every day.
This has been another busy and successful fortnight at Walton High, with a number of highlights worth celebrating.

We were delighted to welcome the **Maximise** team into school to work with our Year 11 students and families. Through a series of revision and study skills workshops, students learned practical strategies to support effective revision ahead of their mock examinations.



Feedback from both students and parents has been overwhelmingly positive, with many reporting increased confidence and a clearer understanding of how to prepare successfully for examinations.
The Maximise facilitators were full of praise for our students, commenting on their excellent behaviour, focus and willingness to engage throughout the sessions.



I am also delighted to share that, following an external review earlier this month, Walton High has successfully achieved the **SEND Inclusion Award**. This recognition reflects the significant progress we have made over the past year in strengthening our SEND and inclusion provision and acknowledges the commitment of our staff to ensuring that every student is known, valued and supported. Whilst we are proud of this achievement, we remain committed to continuing our journey of improvement for all learners.

Our **Duke of Edinburgh's Award** programme continues to go from strength to strength, with registrations remaining in line with previous years.



We are particularly proud that **100% of our Silver participants successfully passed their three-day expedition in the Chilterns**, demonstrating exceptional resilience, teamwork and determination.





The DofE remains one of the most valuable enrichment opportunities available to our students, helping them develop skills and experiences that will benefit them well beyond school.

We were also pleased to host the **5D Orchestra** at The Venue on Wednesday 21 October.
The concert brought together talented musicians from across the Trust and provided a wonderful opportunity for students to collaborate and perform. It was a fantastic evening of music that was enjoyed by all in attendance and showcased the incredible talent that exists across our schools.





This week, students in Years 7-11 successfully completed and passed their **Anti-Bullying Ambassador training**. 🎉
The students engaged exceptionally well throughout the day, demonstrating maturity, empathy, and a real commitment to making a difference. We are now looking forward to a fantastic year ahead as our ambassadors lead the way in being **upstanders, not bystanders**, helping to create a culture where respect, kindness, and inclusion thrive.
Together, we can continue working towards removing bullying from the Walton High community.

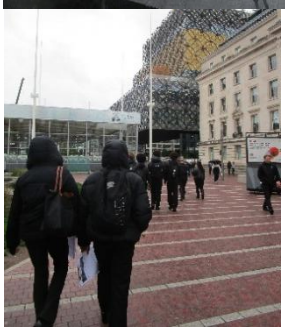
Redevelopment in Birmingham
Some of our Year 11 Geography students braved the weather on Wednesday to bring one of their Year 10 case studies to life.
Students visited the site of the former Longbridge car factory which produced cars for nearly a century, and at its peak employed over 26,000 people. The main car production plant closed in 2005 when MG Rover collapsed into administration.
Students were able to learn about the regeneration of the site by touring it, completing some fieldwork and using this to judge its success. Through questionnaires, students spoke to several local people who had connections to the former plant.





The second half of the day enabled students to explore Birmingham's industrial past and elements of the 'Big City Plan' which is transforming the centre of the city. Students enjoyed the opportunity to get out of the classroom and apply what they had learnt in lessons.





Celebrating Student Success

What a fantastic half term it has been! Our students have earned an incredible **217,026 achievement points**, recognising the positive choices, hard work and commitment they demonstrate every day.
We were also delighted to award **33 Bronze Certificates**, celebrating students who have gone above and beyond in embodying our school values.
Students earned **123,092 points for being a Place to Learn**, **49,101 points for being a Place to Belong**, and **44,833 points for being a Place to Achieve**. Congratulations to **Year 7**, who led the way with an impressive **45,545 achievement points**.

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As we break for half term, I would like to thank our students, staff and families for their contribution to such a positive start to the year. Over the past seven weeks, we have seen our values of being **a place to belong, a place to learn and a place to achieve** reflected in the way our students have embraced opportunities, supported one another and strived for success.

I am incredibly proud of all that has been achieved this term and grateful for the continued support of our school community.

Key dates:

Monday 2 November	Inset Day (staff only)
Tuesday 3	All Students return to school
Tuesday 3- Monday 9 November	Year 10- MFL Speaking Mocks
Friday 6 November	Flu Vaccinations Years 7-11
Thursday 12 November	P-16 Open Evening 6.00p -8.00pm
Wednesday 18 November	Year 9- Art Trip to Kew Gardens
Thursday 26 November	Year 7- Parent Consultation Evening

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming students back refreshed and ready for the next stage of the term.

Jim Rowland
Principal