

Aston Academy

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Striving for **Excellence**
Empowering Achievement
Shaping **Learning**

17 July 2026

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 7,

An important message for the children on Wednesday evening this week - that there are as many important lessons in defeat as in victory. Pupils returned to school after England's defeat in the World Cup semi-final feeling perhaps a little tired and deflated but very soon were back on sparkling, smiling form. Thanks to their continued superb attendance and Ms Carroll's efforts with the many praise and reward activities it has been a lovely ending to a fantastic first year. We are all in agreement that next year's Year 7 pupils have a fantastic blueprint to follow, but also a lot to live up to!

Year 7 have made a remarkable start to secondary school life - showing excellent conduct in lessons and around the site, coming together as a team, trying their best and supporting each other. We have seen sporting excellence, wonderful creative endeavour and fantastic academic progress. We took time in yesterday's end of year assembly to thank our brilliant team of form tutors who have held unfailingly high expectations and offered daily guidance.

Summer Holiday at The Crucible Theatre

As always, it fills our staff with pride when members of the public approach us to tell us how wonderful your children are when out and about representing Aston Academy. Last night was a joy - pupils were so polite, engaged and thoughtful. They are the very best advertisement for what Aston Academy is all about. Theatre staff and other theatregoers approached us at the end of the show and during the interval to compliment the children - lovely to hear.

September arrangements

You will have seen in Mr Graham's communications that the new school year starts for Year 8 pupils on Thursday 3rd September. The gates will open at 8.10am and pupils will be guided to their Y8 line-up area and new tutor groupings. Thursday 3rd September will be spent with form tutors ensuring that pupils are fully prepared for the year ahead.

Summer of Culture activities

We encourage all of our wonderful year group along with families and friends to tick off as many of the activities from Mr Taylor's Summer of Culture list as they can. Pupils have been given a sheet today during their final tutor session of the year. Most of the activities are completely free or low cost, many can be completed independently by the children and many can be 'grouped' - one day out enabling pupils to tick off a few activities from the list.

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Summer safety messages

As well as celebrating a lovely end to a fantastic year, we have taken every opportunity to go through summer safety messages with pupils - including revisiting in today's tutor time how to keep themselves and others safe over the summer break. We want the pupils to leave school today with these vital messages fresh in their minds.

Thank you

Mr Graham says all the time that it is the combination of pupil, home and school that will make the biggest difference and we can see this so clearly with Year 7. Sincere thanks for your ongoing support this year and for buying into our mission for your children. They have laid a very strong foundation - now we look forward to maintaining the momentum and standards into Year 8.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Kilgannon', followed by a horizontal line.

Mike Kilgannon
Assistant Vice Principal