

Newsletter

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17th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you all had a restful Easter break and were able to enjoy some of the recent warmer weather. We are delighted to welcome students back for what promises to be a busy and productive summer term. Already, there has been plenty taking place; earlier this week students took part in the Great Big Dance Off competition, and our Year 12 students visited Imperial College as part of their careers programme, gaining valuable insight into future pathways.

Over the past two weeks, our site and IT teams have been working hard to ensure the school is fully ready for learning. This has included painting and decorating, refurbishing toilets, and making a range of improvements across the school environment. We are proud of our facilities and would appreciate your support in reinforcing with your child the importance of respecting the school premises so that all students can benefit from a safe and well-maintained environment.

The term has already begun at pace, starting with the Year 10 Curriculum Evening held yesterday. Thank you to all parents and carers who were able to attend. We hope the information shared was useful in supporting your child as they prepare for their upcoming mock examinations and continue their GCSE journey. We look forward to welcoming Year 8 parents and carers next week to discuss their children's progress to date.

At the end of last term, we said farewell and thank you to Miss Reid-Minto, who has taken on a promoted role closer to home. We also said goodbye to Mr Taylor and Mrs Wells, who have both now left the teaching profession. We are grateful for their contributions to Coombe Wood School and wish them all the very best for the future.

As we begin the summer term, we would also like to wish our students the very best of luck as the GCSE and A Level Creative Arts exams begin next week. We know how much preparation and dedication has gone into this moment, and we are confident that students will rise to the challenge and showcase their talents. We wish them every success.

At Coombe Wood School, we strongly believe that the best outcomes for students are achieved when there is a strong partnership between home and school. Our Home-School Agreement sets out clear expectations around attendance, behaviour, respect, and commitment to learning. We thank you for your continued support in reinforcing these values at home, including ensuring your child attends regularly in the correct school uniform, arrives punctually, completes homework, and shows respect to staff, peers, and the school environment. By working together, we can ensure that every student is supported to achieve their full potential.

We look forward to a successful and rewarding term ahead.


With best wishes

Headteacher

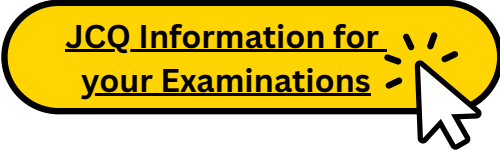
Summer 2026 – Exams Season – GCSE and A Level

Dear Parents and Carers,

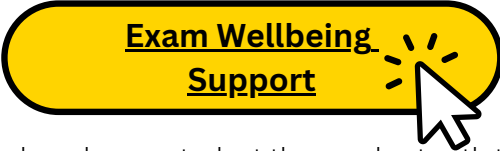
The summer 2026 examination season is just around the corner for our Year 11 and 13 students, the full examination timetable has now been confirmed and is posted on our website.

[Examination Timetable
Summer 2026](#) 

Throughout their mock exams students will have been made aware of the guidelines and requirements from the examining boards. Please take a moment to review the examination rules and regulations with your child to ensure that they are 100% aware of these expectations.

[JCQ Information for
your Examinations](#) 

We also appreciate that the exams season can be a worrying time for our students and would like to remind you that in addition to the support that we can offer in school, there are a number of external services that can also help.

[Exam Wellbeing
Support](#) 

All that remains is for us to wish each and every student the very best with their summer exams, we are confident that with the hard work that they have shown throughout their mocks we are confident for excellent outcomes for them.

many thanks

Ms Donohue

Deputy Headteacher - Curriculum

Summer Parent /Carer Survey

We value your views!

Please take a few minutes to complete this short survey. Your feedback helps us to improve the experience and outcomes for all students at Coombe Wood School.

All responses are confidential and will be used to support school improvement.

[CWS Parent/Carer Survey
Summer 2026](#) 

Parents Evenings - Dates for you diary.

Thursday 23rd April 2026 - Year 8 Parents Evening - In Person - Details to follow

Summer Term Menu

As we return from the Easter break, I would like to confirm the introduction of Meat-Free Mondays at Coombe Wood School.

This initiative is a simple yet powerful way to align our daily operations with the Trust's overarching commitment to reaching Net Zero. Agriculture, particularly livestock production, is a significant contributor to global greenhouse gas emissions. By making a small shift in our weekly menu, we can tangibly reduce our school's carbon footprint.

Why This Matters Now

- Trust Alignment: This directly supports our commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship.
- Educational Value: It provides a weekly and teachable moment; for students to understand the link between food systems and the environment.
- Health and Variety: It encourages students to explore diverse, nutrient-dense plant-based options, supporting a balanced lifestyle.

Implementation Strategy

The goal isn't to remove choice, but to lead with innovation. Our catering team will focus on high-appeal dishes such as vegetable lasagne's, hearty bean chilis, or halloumi Mac and Cheese burgers to ensure student satisfaction remains high.

Did you know?

According to the UN, the livestock sector accounts for roughly 14.5% of all human-induced greenhouse gas emissions. Switching just one day a week makes a measurable difference.

Our new-look **menu** includes exciting new options with clear allergen advice. Additionally, you can now scan the QR code on the menu to access full nutritional and allergen details for every dish.



Thank you for your time and for your ongoing support of our sustainability efforts.

Best regards,

Regional Catering and Development Catering Projects Manager
Greenshaw Learning Trust

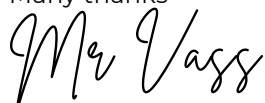
New One Way System for Coombe Wood School

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all of our students for their positive response to our newly implemented corridor navigation system.

This system was introduced to create a safer, more efficient, and single-direction flow of movement throughout our building. By changing the way students transition we are fostering a more orderly environment that allows students to move between classes with greater safety.

We recognise that adapting to a new way of navigating the school requires a change in habit and mindful planning of routes. We are appreciative of the patience and cooperation our students have shown as they get used to these changes, and we are pleased with the maturity they have demonstrated in supporting a safer environment for everyone.

Many thanks



Deputy Headteacher - Pastoral

Communications Update - Bromcom/MCAS

Please note that **Bromcom** is our chosen platform and works hand in hand with **My Child At School (MCAS)**

We will use MCAS for all communication regarding behaviour, achievements, and detentions. Parents and carers should already have access to this platform, however please do not hesitate to contact the school office team if you are experiencing any issues.

Please take a moment to check all your details are correct on MCAS.

We will no longer be using SIMS / SIMS Parent or Classcharts as a method of communication.

This Newsletter will be sent out Bi-weekly on a Friday to all parents and carers. The next edition will be sent **Friday 1st May 2026**

New Parent and Student Guide for 2025/26

We are delighted to announce the launch of our new Parent and Student Guide for 2025/26. The aim of this document is to help you by having all our key information available in one place.

Please take a moment to review the document

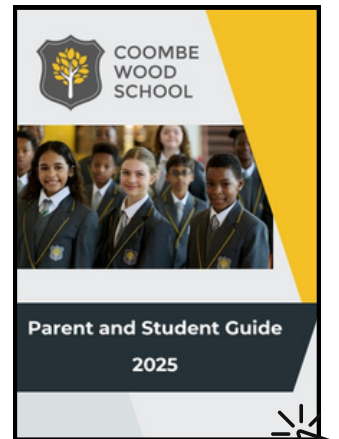
Kind regards

Mr Vass

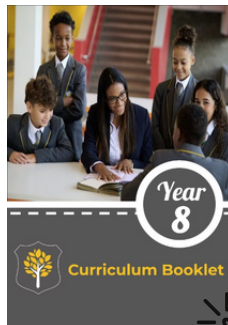
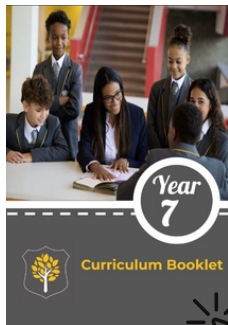
Deputy Headteacher - Pastoral

[Click Here to Read the letter
from Mr Vass](#)

[Click Here to Access the
Uniform Statement](#)



Key Stage 3 - Curriculum Booklets



Kind regards

Mrs Kerk

Head of KS3

Sports Roundup - Spring Term

As we start the Summer term, I wanted to take the opportunity to provide a round up of sporting achievements from the Spring Term.

- Under 15's Girls Football team- Runners up in the Croydon tournament
- Year 8/9 Girls Football team- Winners of the International women's day tournament
- Sixth form Girls & Mixed teams- Winners against Riddlesdown
- Year 7 Girls Football team- Croydon tournament winners
- Year 9/10 Boys Futsal team- Winners of the London Youth Games
- Students representing South Croydon in the Surrey X Country Event- Ruby (Y11), Charlie (Y11), Teddy (Y13)
- Savannah (Y11) Cheersport National Champion
- Sixth Form Football- Finalists of the ESFA Super league after a 2-0 win to Royal Russel in the semi final.

Well done to all our students who have competed both in external competitions and school/house tournaments.

We look forward to everything the summer term brings, including our annual sport day.

best wishes

Miss Potkins

Head of HRF

Extra Curricular Sports Clubs

Please take a moment to review the Summer Sports Update.

Summer Sports
Update 26



Chefs of the Month

Year 7

1st Place: Mason N

2nd Place: Amruta N

3rd Place: Kevin Y

Year 8

1st Place: Victoria P

2nd Place: Nathaniel B-L

3rd Place: Jaelon R

Year 9

1st Place: Jamie P

2nd Place: Lap Yan W

3rd Place: Agnes R

Year 10

1st Place: Mason A

2nd Place: Benjamin J

3rd Place: Christopher D



Well done to all of our Chefs!

Ms Kerstake and Ms Gordon

Food and Nutrition

Our Melville Neighbours

Please remember to be considerate of our neighbours in Melville Avenue and the surrounding roads when dropping off or collecting your child.

We would be grateful if you would avoid parking over their drives or idling for extended periods of time whilst waiting for your child.

Jack Petchy Speak Out Challenge

Frank proudly represented our school in the Regional Final of the Jack Petchy Speak Out Challenge last term, held at Coloma Convent Girls' School.

Starting as one of 1,350 Year 10 students across Croydon, he progressed through the competition to reach the regional finals, where he competed against students from 14 other schools.

Frank performed exceptionally well, and we are incredibly proud of his achievement and the way he represented our school.

Kind regards

Miss B Floyd

Teacher of English, Latin and Classics



Coombe Wood School Year 12 Attend UCAS Discovery Trip

On the 24th March our Year 12 students attended the UCAS Discovery Exhibition at ExCeL London. where they explored a wide range of university and career options.

They had the opportunity to speak with representatives from universities, employers, and apprenticeship providers, gaining valuable advice on their future pathways.

Kind regards

Mrs. N Natarajan

Sixth Form Administrator



Great Big Dance Off

Our lovely CWS Dance Competition team recently competed in the London regionals (semi final) for GBDO yesterday and they were utterly fantastic! Unfortunately on this occasion we didn't get through to the finals but they still performed to an exceptionally high standard.

Our marks (each out of 10) were:

Creativity - 8
Complexity - 7
Formations/Transitions - 7
Synchronisation/Timing - 7
Spacing/Dynamics - 7
Placing/Control - 7
Strength/Fluidity - 7
Technique/Connectivity - 7
Eye Contact/Enjoyability - 7
Crowd Appeal - 9
TOTAL: 73 /100



The two qualifying teams scored 84 and 85, so it was very close indeed and as it was our first competition, I think we can be really proud!

Kind regards

Miss J Binfield

Lead Teacher of Dance

School Carpark

Our school carpark is operated by Creative Car Parks.

You will have a 20 minute grace period when dropping off or collecting your child.

Should you need to stay longer than this you will need to enter you registration number into the i-pads which can be found in the main school reception or for out of hours in the HRF reception.

Should you incur a PCN, you will need to deal directly with Creative Car Parks, unfortunately the school is not able to intervene on your behalf.

ADVICE FOR WHEN YOUR CAR PARK USERS RECEIVE A PCN

If one of your car park users receives a PCN they may ask you for guidance on what to do next, or ask you to cancel the PCN.

Please explain that you're not able to deal with PCN enquires on site as the car park is managed by Civil Enforcement Ltd. They have one of two options available:

OPTION 1 **OPTION 2**

Pay the PCN **Submit an appeal**

 They visit the website address shown below and make the payment. Note: a discounted rate is available if paid within 14 days of the ticket being issued. **OR**  They visit the website address shown below and submit an appeal within 28 days of the ticket being issued. Note: drivers must attach relevant supporting evidence.

payments.ce-service.co.uk appeals.ce-service.co.uk

Thank you for your help in supporting our PCN process, designed to deter misuse and improve space availability for genuine users.




 **CIVIL ENFORCEMENT LIMITED**
Civil Enforcement Ltd
Horton House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool L2 3PF
www.ce-service.co.uk


PLEASE NOTE

We are not able to deal with Parking Charge Notice enquiries on site.

This car park is managed by Civil Enforcement Ltd.

Please follow the process outlined on the original Parking Charge Notice.



 **CIVIL ENFORCEMENT LIMITED**
Civil Enforcement Ltd
Horton House, Exchange Flags, Liverpool L2 3PF
www.ce-service.co.uk

Off the Record

My name is Adrienne, and I'm a Community Development Worker at Off the Record.

Our team is offering a *Chill Space* for young people aged 16 - 25. It's a relaxed, informal environment where they can unwind, meet new people, and have supportive conversations about their mental health.

For the month of May, the Chill Space will be open on the following dates:

Saturday 9th March, 1pm - 3pm

Thursday 21st March, 5 - 7pm

I've attached a poster with further details, which you're welcome to display in your school or share directly with young people who may be interested.

If you have any questions, please feel free to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Adrienne Larmond

Community Development Worker - Off the Record





Key Dates for April 2026

For all GCSE / A Level Exam related dates please refer to the [Formal Exam Timetable](#)

Thursday 23rd April

Year 8 Parents Evening - In Person - Details to follow

Key Dates for May 2026

Monday 4th May

Bank Holiday - School Closed

Tuesday 5th - Friday 15th May

Year 10 Mock Exams

For all GCSE / A Level Exam related dates please refer to the [Formal Exam Timetable](#)

Half Term - Monday 25th - Friday 29th May 2026

Key Dates for June 2026

For all GCSE / A Level Exam related dates please refer to the [Formal Exam Timetable](#)

Monday 1st - Friday 12th June

Year 12 Assessments in Class - Details to follow

Wednesday 10th June

Year 12 Art Trip - Details to follow

Monday 15th - Friday 19th June

Year 9 - End of Year Assessments

Monday 22nd June

Year 11 Leavers Assembly - Details to follow

Tuesday 23rd June

Whole School Curriculum Enhancement Day

Wednesday 24th June

Year 13 Leavers Assembly - Details to follow

Year 11 Prom - Details to follow



Key Dates for July 2026

Thursday 2nd July

Year 6 Parent Information Event - 2026 Transition Event- Details to follow

Friday 3rd July

INSET Day - School closed to students

National Transition Day - Year 6 Induction Event- Details to follow

Monday 6th July

Year 12 Taster Day - Details to follow

Friday 10th July

CWS Sports Day

STEM / ECO Event - Details to follow

Monday 13th - Friday 17th July

Year 12 Work Experience - Details to follow

Monday 13th - Wednesday 15th July

Year 10 Health and Social Care Work Experience - Details to follow

Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th July

Curriculum Enhancement Days - Summer - Details to follow

Thursday 16th July

Sports Awards - Details to follow

Friday 17th July

Last Day of Term for students

Monday 20th July

INSET Day - School closed to students

Summer Holidays - Monday 20th July - Friday 4th September

Key Dates for August 2026

A Level Results Day - Details to follow

GCSE Results Day - Details to follow

Term Dates - Academic Year 2026/27

Autumn Term 2026

Wednesday 2nd September - INSET DAY - School is Closed to Students

Thursday 3rd September - INSET DAY - School is Closed to Students

Friday 4th September - INSET DAY - School is Closed to Students

Monday 7th September - First Day of Autumn Term 1- All Students

Wednesday 16th September - School Open Evening - Students will finish at Midday

Thursday 17th September 2026 - Later Start - Students to arrive from 10.15am for their Period 3 lesson.

Friday 23rd October 2026 - Last Day of Autumn Term 1

Half Term - Monday 26th October - Friday 6th November 2026

Monday 9th November - First Day of Autumn Term 2- All Students

Friday 18th December - Last Day of Autumn Term 2

Christmas Holidays - Monday 21st December - Friday 1st January 2027

Spring Term 2027

Monday 4th January 2027 - INSET DAY - School is closed to Students

Tuesday 5th January 2027 - First Day of Spring Term 1 - All Students

Friday 12th February 2027 - Last Day of Spring Term 1

Half Term - Monday 15th - Friday 19th February 2027

Monday 22nd February 2027 - First Day of Term of Spring Term 2 - All Students

Thursday 25th March 2027 - Last Day of Spring Term 2

Easter Holidays - Friday 26th March - Friday 9th April 2027

Summer Term 2027

Monday 12th April 2027 - First Day of Summer Term 1 - All Students

Monday 3rd May 2027 - May Day Bank Holiday - School is Closed

Friday 28th May 2027 - Last Day of Summer Term 1

Half Term - Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June 2027

Monday 7th June - First Day of Summer Term 2- All Students

Friday 2nd July - INSET DAY - School is closed to Students

Thursday 22nd July 2027 - Last Day of Summer Term 2

Summer Holidays from Friday 23rd July

In case you missed it!

Parent and Students
Handbook 2025

Curriculum
Booklets

Home Work Club
Monday - Thursday
3.05pm - 4pm
Years 7 -10

HOME
WORK

Co-Curricular Clubs
Autumn 25

1:1 Music Lessons

Year 12
Curriculum Evening
Slides

Year 13
UCAS Evening
Slides

