

# Urmston Grammar School

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22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a short but incredibly busy Spring Term for students and staff who have been involved in a whole range of learning events and activities, both inside and outside the classroom. I do hope your sons and daughters have already shared their own highlights with you, but please see our news page which Mrs Longden is <https://www.urmstongrammar.org.uk/news-and-events>. You can also keep up to date by following us on whole school and departmental social media sites (Facebook, Twitter & Instagram).

During the last few weeks, we have continued to promote reading as we celebrated World Book Day and I was delighted to hear how many of your students have been involved in whole host of book competitions. Mrs Longden organised her very popular Golden Ticket Search, in which students had to compete to solve literary clues and track down the elusive tickets, which were hidden away in a whole range of books.

Our ongoing commitment to developing student empathy and leadership was evident when our Year 12 ISOC committee organised an Iftar event for 150 people, raising significant sums to support Islamic Relief and this morning our School Council and Miss Murray arranged Easter egg donations from our students to be collected for the Children's Ward at Wythenshawe Hospital.

Earlier this term our Guys and Dolls production was a wonderful culmination of many months of hard work, commitment and determination. It was amazing to see students and staff work collaboratively and a chance for them to share their talents and shine both on stage and behind the scenes.

In March, National Careers Week & National Apprenticeship Week was launched with careers assemblies. Year 8 were involved in a whole host of activities throughout the week, including a 'Guess My Job' workshop, a 'Careers Speed Networking' workshop, talks and quizzes. We were incredibly grateful that over 25 volunteers from a range of career sectors including accountancy, communications, media, armed forces and engineering, supported our students during the week.

National Science Week was celebrated in school, and it was brilliant to see many of our Year 7 students participating in our annual Science Fair, sharing their research with other students and staff. Older students had the opportunity to master their surgical skills conducting eye, lung and rat dissections;

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**pride, participation, empathy**

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whilst others got the chance to make iodine clocks, take part in a timer challenge and launch rockets of their own design.

We have had significant sporting success this term, some highlights include:

- last Saturday our U15 Boys volleyball team won all the matches they played including the semifinal and have made it to cup final on Sunday 21st April.
- Our undefeated Year 9 netball team have won the League, and our Year 8 netball teams were runners up in the Trafford Netball tournament.
- our under 15s girls won the Trafford cricket competition.

As our Year 11s and Year 13s are now in their final preparations for external examinations, and Year 10s will be working towards internal examinations; I hope they will all use their holiday time wisely. Students should make time to relax and recover, but this is their chance to make a concerted effort so that they can tackle the upcoming examinations with confidence. Some of the Y11s and Y13s are involved in Easter Revision sessions in school over the next few weeks, a chance to consolidate learning.

As the term draws to a close, we are saying goodbye to Mr Di Mauro who is moving to a permanent role in a new school after Easter. We thank him for his contribution to the overall success of our school and wish him well for the future.

School closes at 3:15 pm today and opens for the new term at **8:30 am on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024.**

On behalf of the staff and governors, I wish you and your families a very happy Easter and thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

R S Wall

Headteacher

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