

Urmston Grammar School

Newton Road
Urmston
Manchester
M41 5UG
email: office@urmstongrammar.org.uk
website: urmstongrammar.org.uk
Tel: 0161 748 2875
VAT Registration Number: 120 1656 61



13 July 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

The end of the academic year is an opportunity to reflect on all that has happened over the last twelve months. So many of our students have made excellent use of the array of opportunities that life at Urmston Grammar presents and they have taken on board our key messages of pride, participation and empathy.

The last few weeks have been packed with activities which have given students and staff many opportunities to display the positive qualities that make the students and staff of this school so special.

The Shine School Media Awards is a national competition that celebrates a diversity of talent from secondary schools across the UK who work on the writing, editing and design for school newspapers, magazines and digital publications. The annual culmination of each year's Shine Awards is a gala ceremony held in central London every summer with student workshops and guest speakers. We were thrilled that this year the Perspectives team were shortlisted for the prestigious award. Laurie in Year 8 won fiction writer of the year against fierce competition for his poem *Oriental Sunset*, 40 other schools were represented in this category and most of the other nominees were sixth form students, so we are especially proud of him! [Oriental Sunset – UGS Perspectives \(wordpress.com\)](https://www.wordpress.com)

Our Year 9 Industrial Cadets Team has been working with a team of engineers from Siemens. The students have focused on careers in STEM and conducted research to complete their project to construct a sustainable school. The competition is designed to accelerate young people's personal growth and help to prepare them for the real working world. We were so pleased that the team received a special commendation for their fabulous project focussing on the design of an eco-school at the 'Celebration Day' at Liverpool University.

The focus on careers was also part of the Future Clinicians Project, created and launched by Dr Carolyn Asher with support from staff in school. Over the last few months our Year 10 students have been working with Dr Asher to plan and deliver a 'Health and Wellbeing Fair' for the local community at Urmston Library. Last Friday was the culmination of all their hard work and it was great to see them interact with the public and speak with such confidence on a whole range of healthcare issues.

Many of our Year 12 and Year 10 students also took the opportunity to take part in work experience and arranged placements in a wide variety of fields over the last two weeks. This has given them a

Urmston Grammar School - Headteacher: Mrs R S Wall
pride, participation, empathy

Urmston Grammar School

Newton Road

Urmston

Manchester

M41 5UG

email: office@urmstongrammar.org.uk

website: urmstongrammar.org.uk

Tel: 0161 748 2875

VAT Registration Number: 120 1656 61



flavour of the world of work and will hopefully help them to make important decisions about their plans for the future.

Last week saw many students from across the whole school take to the stage as part of the Performing Arts Week. We were treated to three fabulous evenings, where students shared their music, voice, dance and drama with us. Thank you to the parents and families who supported the events; it makes such a difference when students perform for an enthusiastic and responsive audience.

We were delighted to return to Longford Park for our annual Sports Day; it was a great opportunity for the school to come together and celebrate the accomplishments of individuals and teams as they competed in a wide range of track and field events. It was inspiring to hear the crowd cheering as they encouraged their peers to find that additional burst of energy. The House winners and the individual record times will be revealed at next week's end of term assembly.

We have had phenomenal sporting successes this year with our girls' and boys' teams across the age range and in many different sports including athletics, football, rounders and netball. Most recently, the U15 girls' indoor cricket team won the Northern Championship in Sale. They are officially the best school team in the north-west! Regional, national and international success in volleyball continues, we have had 17 students represent the North West at the Inter-Regional Championships and 5 students represent England in international competitions. We also had teams placed highly in the National Championships across different age groups.

The success of all our students means a great deal to us and we always want to recognise and celebrate their individual and collective success. Earlier this term Abigail in Year 12 won the Oxford University's German Olympiad. She wrote a poem inspired by The White Rose resistance circle who were responsible for writing a series of leaflets calling on Germans to resist Nazism. Abigail travelled to the Bodleian Library to receive her award and her winning poem is available at: <https://www.ogn.ox.ac.uk/files/abigail-fernandez-arias-submission.pdf> Abigail was also a regional winner in the Anthea Bell Translation competition run by Queen's College, Oxford!

This morning our silver Duke of Edinburgh students set off for their final expedition. This year 45 year 12s have taken part in the silver award and over 50 Y10s have taken part in bronze. For so many it is simply a life-changing opportunity as they build confidence and resilience taking challenges as well as contributing to their community. The students are able to develop and demonstrate their communication skills, their leadership and their teamwork. It's also a chance to make memories that will last a lifetime!

Urmston Grammar School - Headteacher: Mrs R S Wall
pride, participation, empathy

Urmston Grammar School

Newton Road
Urmston
Manchester
M41 5UG
email: office@urmstongrammar.org.uk
website: urmstongrammar.org.uk
Tel: 0161 748 2875
VAT Registration Number: 120 1656 61



Tonight, we are celebrating the A level success of 2022's Year 13 cohort at our presentation evening, as well as showcasing the amazing work of our students in Art, Photography, Design and Technology.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our teaching and support staff who work so hard day in day out to create wonderful learning opportunities for all our students and to ensure that the school runs smoothly.

So many of our students and staff do so many remarkable things that this letter can only give a flavour; our online newsletter will give you some more of the highlights from this year [Urmston Grammar School - Latest News](#)


Inevitably this time of year means saying goodbye to staff: Mr Ahern, Miss Cooper, Miss Jackson and Ms Mc Devitt are moving to new schools; Mr Bicen is leaving us to develop his work in the online world; Mr Moloney is going to be working in Japan and Mrs Motiwala is retiring. We appreciate all their dedication, energy and enthusiasm and thank them for all that they have contributed to the overall success of our school. We wish them well for the future.

School closes on **Wednesday 19th July at 12:30 pm** and reopens for students at **10:30 am on Wednesday 6th September** (Year 7 and Year 12 start at 8:30 am).

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support of your children and our school. We are all aware that schools cannot be successful unless we all work together with the common aim of ensuring that each child has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

On behalf of the staff and governors, I wish you and your families a wonderful summer.

Yours faithfully,



R S Wall
Headteacher