



22nd October 2025

Sent via email

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Dear Parent and Carers,

It feels like just yesterday when we were welcoming back our students to the new academic year. We have had an incredibly successful eight week half term, and I know that students and staff are very much looking forward to a relaxing week to recharge their batteries. Our year 7 have settled incredibly well to secondary school life, and the older students have very much taken them under their wing.

In September, Ofsted published their new inspection framework which centres around three key phrases which I feel best sums up our school and our students – “Belong, Achieve, Thrive”. These are words with particular significance for our community and I will try to summarise our students’ successes this term against these key titles.

Belong

We have built on our sporting success at the West Berkshire Sports Awards from the early part of term, and last night’s House Performance was testimony to the hard work and progress students have made. Congratulations to **Benyon** for their well-earned win. It was wonderful seeing different year groups working so well to support one another, and the teamwork demonstrated was extraordinary; I have a unique viewpoint of the school from my office, and it was wonderful seeing students rehearsing after school. In addition to a focus on standards both inside and outside lessons, students have had access to wide variety of opportunities including “Wild Science” where students met a variety of unusual creatures as well as a multitude of trips that have taken place, with visits to Kew Gardens, Farnham Sculpture Park and many more.

It was a joy to see so many families come to the annual Key Stage 3 Awards for last year’s years 8 & 9 students. There was an incredible sense of community and support between different families and staff, all celebrating the successful year. We look forward to the Year 7 Awards Evening that will take place in March 2026.

Thank you to parents for supporting with our continued strategic focus on attendance. I know the message can be repetitive, but the simple fact is that students who attend school well go on to achieve better in public examinations and consequently have more opportunities available to them. There are always individual stories and context that sit behind any attendance figure, and we are fully aware of that. From early analysis of Theale Green School attendance data 2025-26, it is our girls whose attendance is lagging behind the boys; your support in improving attendance is very much appreciated.

We have worked extensively with our feeder primary schools to ensure transition into year 7 is successful. I wrote to primary schools at the start of the academic year to celebrate the success of last year’s year 13 students. This week we have written again to our primary schools with update on year 7, which has been hugely valued by the schools, who have worked so hard with families to enable them to leave year 6 as successful, confident students, ready to start secondary school.

Thrive



Registered company number: 08707909
Registered address: Activate Learning Education Trust
Crescent Rd, Reading RG1 5RQ, United Kingdom

Schools

- The Bicester School
 - Theale Green School
 - UTC Heathrow
 - UTC Oxfordshire
 - UTC Reading
 - UTC Swindon
-



Our extensive extra-curricular offer has started with a bang this year. We run a wide range of clubs including the Garden Club, vast array of sporting clubs, badge making and calligraphy – truly there is an opportunity for everyone. I was delighted to attend the inaugural Duke of Edinburgh celebration evening with current year 11 presented with their certificates and badges, and with groups presenting the stories that sat behind their silver expeditions. This is an amazing scheme that enables strong friendships to be forged, and personal limits to be tested. I am really excited to see the next generation of students as they progress through the scheme.

Our student leaders have done an incredible job in their roles. From our year 8 & 9 Student Ambassadors leading our successful Open Mornings for current and prospective families, to our Year 11 Prefects establishing student mentoring opportunities for younger students. Our Head Team and House Captains have been working hard to support their teams with House Performance also. There has been a strong community feel with everyone supporting each other.

Achieve

Years 11 and 13 have made an excellent start to their final year. Revision clubs and interventions have started earlier than ever and both year groups have absolutely stepped up to the mark. We spend a lot of time talking to individual students, and it has been heart-warming to hear year 11 students (both boys and girls) reference how much they “love” a particular teacher, and the deep appreciation they have for the support that they receive from staff that enables them to improve. The mock examinations for exam classes begin straight after the half term break which will give us a better understanding of how they are progressing.

Furthermore, all staff have been very impressed by the professional way every year group has started this academic year, and the rewards assemblies we have run this week have been testament to this.

Parent Partnership

As you are aware, working collaboratively with our families sits at the heart of all that we do at Theale Green School. We have had a multitude of opportunities for existing and prospective families to come and visit during the school day, and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

During our Open Mornings, prospective parents repeatedly commented on the calmness and focus in lessons. To quote Aiden y9 “if you pay attention in class, of course your homework is easier” which is a sharp soundbite that summarises an extensive School Improvement Plan!

From our TGS Parent Coffee morning last Monday I am happy to share the following themes and comments shared by our parents. Everyone came with a mixture of backgrounds and experiences, with some parents taking a day off work to attend. I truly valued the high-quality conversation and reflection of the journey of our school community.

- ❖ Parents were pleased to have had the opportunity to look around the school during the day as this is not a common offer within other local secondary schools.
- ❖ Parents observed very calm and focused lessons with students positively engaged in their learning. The recent changes in whole school routines were observed to have had a positive impact on children’s engagement in school life. Parents can see improvements in the school year on year.
- ❖ There was a positive appreciation for Class Charts and how it enabled families to get a flavour of their children’s day at school.

- ❖ All commented on the positive change they had seen in English and the enjoyment their children had in the subject. Equally parents appreciated the increase in Habits (homework) that have been set across all subject areas.
- ❖ There was an appreciation of the common-sense approach to mobile phone usage.
- ❖ Students felt proud to be a member of the school community, and to take part in wider opportunities.
- ❖ The transition process between primary and secondary school is strong, and in many cases, students are having a much better experience at Theale Green School compared to primary. The school asks for, and has acted on feedback where systems could be improved to further refine our approach.

Question	Response												
Students cannot see their House Points on Class Charts.	This has now been enabled and should work for all students.												
Will my child experience significant timetable changes this year?	We do not anticipate this to happen, and staffing should remain consistent.												
Can the announcements be limited in Class Charts	We have worked hard to reduce these, and this remains an area of focus of staff training.												
Some Maths homework can be difficult to read if using a mobile phone to read it.	Please click edit and this should allow you to read fully on your mobile phone.												
Students would value having a homework planner	We are exploring various options regarding this. If students need a fresh copy of their timetable they can go to student reception; we will issue fresh copies to year 7 for after half term.												
School uniform – a focus on girl’s skirts, particularly the style and length.	For term 1 we have made significant improvements in the standard of uniform for our community. For term 2 we will further refine and strengthen this.												
What is the summer uniform?	We will be giving further clarity in the spring term on our approach for uniform in term 5. There is no expectation for parents to purchase new uniform items.												
How can I know the average number of House Points for my child’s year group?	<p>We will include these in parent bulletins moving forward. The average House Points for different year groups is listed here:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">Year group</th> <th style="width: 50%;">Average House Points</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>129</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>110</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>101</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>77</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td> <td>84</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year group	Average House Points	7	129	8	110	9	101	10	77	11	84
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Finally, some quotes from parents who attended

- “Thanks for organising the morning; I’ve seen 16 children through all manner of school settings and that is one of the most refreshing things I’ve been to!”
- “I’m very grateful for inviting me to join your Parent Coffee Mornings. I really enjoyed the experience and what I have learned from it.”
- “The school looks amazing, with the recent upgrades and cleanliness, and the children's behaviour in all the classes we visited was impeccable. The open-door policy to classrooms was an eye opener and a testament to the overall running and teaching in the school, so a big well done... The uniform was my deciding point that made me opt for Theale, even though I live within 5min walking distance of Little Heath. Teaching children to dress smartly and pronounce words properly are high on my list of important lessons for the youngsters of today (as well as politeness, of course).”

Please do book on to the next Coffee Morning which will take place before the Christmas break.

Parent Friendly School

Finally, Theale Green School is working alongside ParentKind, the UK’s leading parent charity. This is an exciting collaboration for us, as we know our families appreciate that their voices will shape the experience for their children. Over the coming months we will be undertaking an accreditation to see how “parent friendly” we are as a school, and I will share more details in due course.





Alongside this, ParentKind are giving to the parents of our school a unique opportunity for you to learn more about your parenting style, and provide you with tools to help you reflect on your parental style. To do this there is a 10-minute survey you can undertake, linked to our school, which will enable you to understand how you parent. There is absolutely no judgement involved, the school will get results based on how all our parents have responded and will not receive individual responses.

If you would like to receive a summary of your parenting style and a link to a free digital magazine, bespoke to your parenting style, you will need to tick that you are happy to receive correspondence from ParentKind before completing the survey. This will provide you with links to helpful resources specific to the answers that you have given, to help families to navigate their way through teenage years.

The link to the survey is here: [Theale Green](#)

The four Parenting Languages

Every parent is a mix; in different scenarios, with different children, at different stages of their development.

 <p>Vigilant</p> <p style="color: #00a68f; font-size: small;">You like to stay closely aware of what’s going on, making sure your child is safe, supported, and prepared. You notice the little things and are ready to step in when needed.</p>	 <p>Empowering</p> <p style="color: #0056b3; font-size: small;">You encourage your child to believe in themselves, take on challenges, and grow with confidence, always cheering them on from the sidelines.</p>	 <p>Empathic</p> <p style="color: #e69d00; font-size: small;">You tune in to how your child is feeling and respond with care, helping them feel seen, understood, and emotionally supported.</p>	 <p>Guiding</p> <p style="color: #6a329f; font-size: small;">You help your child find their way by offering steady direction, gentle encouragement, and support as they learn and grow.</p>
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Strategic Plan

The Theale Green School strategic plan 2024-25 is concluded, and by [clicking here](#) you can see our final progress. For our new parents, the strategic plan 2025-26 can be [found here](#).

Thank you as ever for your continued support. Knowing that the school has your support enables our students to shine brighter than ever. I wish you a very happy half term break.

Yours sincerely



Charlotte Badarello
Headteacher

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