



Birchwood Community High School

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Brock Road, Birchwood,
Warrington, Cheshire, WA3 7PT

Tel: 01925 853500

Email: contactus@birchwoodhigh.org
www.birchwoodhigh.org



Date 23.05.25

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we break up today for the May half term, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been a short but incredibly busy half term. I'm immensely grateful to our dedicated staff who have packed so much into these few weeks, ensuring our students benefit from a wide range of experiences and opportunities both in and beyond the classroom.

Year 11 have continued to approach their GCSE exams with maturity and focus. Some of the major papers have taken place this week, and I'm so proud of how well they are managing this intense period. I encourage them to enjoy some well-earned rest over the holiday, but also to stay on top of their revision as we head into the final stretch.

All year groups have taken part in careers assemblies this week, expertly led by Mr Sutton. These sessions are a valuable part of our commitment to preparing students for life beyond school.

A highlight of the week was our fantastic House Karaoke Challenge at Wednesday lunchtime. It was great to see so many students participating with such enthusiasm and good humour—it brought real energy and joy to the school community.

A huge congratulations to Emily in Year 9, who is the first student this year to complete all of the Birchwood Best challenges! The BB award recognises students who go above and beyond to build their employability skills, develop their cultural capital, and truly embody our school values. Emily has shown dedication, enthusiasm and resilience in completing her pledges - earning a BB certificate and badge to mark her incredible achievement. We are so proud of her and can't wait to see who will be next!

To find out more about the Birchwood Best award and the pledges here:

<https://www.birchwoodhigh.org/birchwood-best/>

KASTs – End of Year Knowledge and Skills Tests

Starting from **9th June** and running for **two weeks**, students will be sitting their **end-of-year Knowledge and Skills Tests (KASTs)**. These assessments are an important part of measuring student progress.

Students have attended an assembly highlighting the importance of these tests and have been preparing for them during their lessons.

You can find the **KAST timetable** and a range of **valuable revision resources** on our website via the following link: <https://www.birchwoodhigh.org/kast-revision-portal/>

In last week's letter, the dates for the Year 10 Work Experience were incorrect. The amended dates are **15th and 16th July 2025**.



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Looking ahead, we're excited to welcome everyone back for the final half term of the year. As always, there's a lot to look forward to.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half term break.
Best wishes and take care,

Emma Mills
Headteacher