



ROBERT BLOOMFIELD ACADEMY

Principal: Mr John Linehan



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Dear RBA Families,

Welcome back to a brand-new academic year! I hope you and your families had a wonderful, restful summer filled with fantastic memories, fun, and hopefully a bit of sunshine. While the peace and quiet of an empty school over August gives us a chance to prepare the site, there is truly nothing like the burst of energy and joy that returns when our students walk back through the gates. I am so genuinely thankful to have everyone back in school, refreshed, and ready for another brilliant year together.

On a personal note, Monday was an especially momentous day for my own family: my youngest daughter had her very first day here at RBA, while my eldest stepped through the doors for her first day at Samuel Whitbread Academy. It certainly brought home just how fast time flies and reminded me first-hand of the mix of excitement, nervous anticipation, and morning organised-chaos that every family navigates during these big milestones.

While Monday was a huge day for all of our students returning to school, it was particularly significant for our brand-new Year 5s as they experienced their very first day at middle school. Stepping into a larger school environment with new teachers, unfamiliar corridors, and different VOICE routines is a massive leap, but they have made an absolutely phenomenal start. Walking around the classrooms this week, I have been so impressed by just how immaculately smart they look in their new uniforms—a clear reflection of our core value of **Excellence** right from day one.

Seeing how warmly they have settled in speaks directly to our value of **Community**. In fact, I was blown away to see some of our new Year 5s voluntarily picking up litter from the playing field on their very first day as part of their commitment to looking after our school. They are already adding so much vibrant energy to RBA, and we cannot wait to get to know each and every one of them as individuals over the coming weeks and months.

Speaking of outstanding achievements, I must also take a moment to share just how immensely proud we are of our Year 6 students from last year, who did exceptionally well in their SATs. Their brilliant efforts contributed to results across the whole school being significantly up in a number of key areas. Their hard work and resilience have truly paid off, and we are thrilled to celebrate their success. As they now take that exciting step into secondary age as Year 7s, we cannot wait to see what they continue to achieve both in the classroom and beyond.

Looking ahead, I would like to give Year 5 parents and carers advance notice of an important date for your diaries: our upcoming **Year 5 Meet the Tutor and Information Evening**. This event will be held in school on **Wednesday the 30th of September from 4:30pm**, giving you a wonderful opportunity to learn a lot more about life at RBA, take a walk around the site, and, most importantly, meet your child's form tutor to start building that vital link between home and school.



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In related news, we have also listened carefully to parent and carer feedback regarding our online software for parent/carer evening appointments. To improve your experience, we are introducing a new program called School Cloud. This brings us in line with Samuel Whitbread Academy and offers much better functionality and ease of use than the Bromcom version we used last year. We will share more information and guidance on how to access School Cloud in the near future.

Finally, with everyone back in school and settling into daily routines, please could I ask all families to ensure that all uniform items, coats, water bottles, and PE kits are clearly labelled with your child's name. Taking a quick moment to do this makes it so much easier for us to reunite lost items with their owners and will hopefully help us avoid the towering mountain of lost property that seems to magically accumulate every year!

We have an incredible year ahead packed with inspiring learning, rich extra-curricular opportunities, and plenty of memorable events. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support and partnership as we begin this new chapter together.

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