



ROBERT BLOOMFIELD ACADEMY

Principal: Mr John Linehan



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Dear RBA Families,

It has been another great week at RBA with students finding their feet at the start of the year and demonstrating our VOICE values in the classroom and beyond.

In my half-termly assemblies this week, we focused on the importance of talking openly about our feelings and everyday struggles. I highlighted the new 'On Your Side' campaign - a fantastic initiative fronted by figures including Prince William, Harry Kane, and Jill Scott, aimed at encouraging young people to stand by one another.

This ethos sits so naturally with our core RBA value of Community, and I have urged all of our students to look out for their peers, offer support, and check in with each other whenever needed.

In a similar vein, something new for this year that we have bought into for parents/carers is FACE, which offers parents and carers fantastic free and practical advice, information, and support across a wide range of topics - including supporting neurodiverse children, understanding emotions, and managing behaviour.

The timetable of support on offer for October is attached to this update; you can browse their live talks by visiting facefamilyadvice.co.uk and navigating to the *PARENTS – Live talks* page. To access these talks free of charge (usually £24 each), please use our dedicated RBA access code: RB110926. This code provides unlimited access for any parents within our school community (please note that this code must not be shared with families or staff from other schools and cannot be applied to other FACE services).

Today was national Teaching Assistant Day and it is only right to take a moment to acknowledge and recognise the wonderful work that our Learning Support Assistants do. Students with additional needs thrive at RBA and that is in large part due to the fabulous support and guidance our LSAs give them each every day.

This evening, our community comes together for the second annual Steve Fox Memorial Game at Shefford Saints Sports Club. All proceeds collected at the gate will go directly toward the Steve Fox Foundation and the charitable causes that were so close to Steve's heart. On a personal note, my main goal for the night is trying to get through more than five minutes without giving away a goal, so please wish me luck! I hope as many families as possible can come along to support the evening and cheer on our staff—if nothing else, it should provide plenty of great material for some light banter on Monday morning!

Looking ahead to next week, we are greatly looking forward to welcoming our Year 5 parents and carers into school on Wednesday from 4:30 pm for our Meet the Tutor and Information Evening. The event will feature a presentation from Mr Marshall and myself, a chance to tour the site, and, most importantly, the opportunity to meet your child's tutor. This is the first official step in building a positive, collaborative working relationship between home and school, and we hope to see as many of you there as possible.



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Lastly, looking a little further ahead, Thursday 1st October is National Poetry Day, and this year's theme is WONDER. We are preparing some brilliant activities across the school, so please look out for more information in the coming days regarding lessons, resources, and our upcoming House competition.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. I hope to see many of you at the match tonight!

John Linehan

Principal



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