



Archbishop Tenison's

CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers

20th January 2026

A good start to 2026

The Spring Term has started well. We wish to commend Year 11 pupils on the way in which they have approached their mock exams. This week students in Year 13 are in the Hall for their mock exams. On Wednesday we have the first of two Parents' Evenings for Years 9 and 10.

In January we are also working hard on the School Development Plan for this year. A summary of it is now posted on the school website for your information.

Looking ahead to the next academic year

On Monday evening the Governing Body met for the first time in 2026. At this meeting I informed them of my decision to retire from my post as Headteacher at Archbishop Tenison's at the end of this academic year. As you may know, I started in this role in September 2005, so this will complete 21 years as the Headteacher here and at the same time 40 years in teaching.

As you can imagine, this has not been an easy decision for me. It is good to see the school thriving in so many ways, and that we are starting to see the fruits of so much work done over many years (including through the pandemic). It is exciting to see our first year group of 150 in Year 11 this year, and the Sixth Form starting to grow again. It remains a huge privilege to work with some remarkable pupils and students, and with such a dedicated team of staff and Governors. This is why I also believe that it is important as a headteacher to retire at the right time. I have taken this decision now so that the Governing Body has as much time as possible to appoint the right successor for September 2026. Given your high level of commitment to the school as parents, I also wanted to inform you personally before the end of today. Thank you for your ongoing support for the work of the school; it means a lot to all of us who work here.

Key dates for the rest of this half-term

We have two Parents' Evenings for parents of Year 9 and 10 pupils (the first of which is tomorrow – 21st January and the second on Wednesday, 4th February). On Wednesday 11th February we have an on-line Academic Review evening for Year 11 and Year 13 parents. Also, on Wednesday 11th February we have the first of three nights of the School Production of **Matilda**. Please book your tickets soon.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Parrish
Headteacher

