



17 July 2026

Dear parents/carers

What a wonderful year it has been, and how fantastic to see so many students excelling in so many different ways. As we reach the end of another busy and successful academic year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on some of the highlights, particularly from the last term.

Over the past few weeks we have enjoyed some of our established flagship events, alongside new initiatives that have quickly become valued additions to school life. Our annual Sports Day was an epic occasion, with students competing across more than twenty different sporting activities. It was wonderful to see so many young people representing their colleges with courage, determination and enthusiasm. Congratulations to Barbary College, who once again emerged victorious.

The Film Festival was another outstanding event, showcasing creative talents that are not only among the best within our school community but rival that of the very best produced by young people across the country. Our *Film in a Year* project, *Finding Solace*, is something that has only been undertaken by two schools across the entire United Kingdom, and we look forward to sharing this remarkable achievement with the wider community when we are able to do so.

FinhamFest once again proved to be a tremendous success. It was a joy to see students genuinely having the time of their lives throughout the day, before many of our talented musicians and performers took to the stage in the evening to entertain and inspire those in attendance. The sense of community and celebration throughout the event was truly special.

We were also delighted with the success of our first ever **Finham Flame** celebration evening. Led brilliantly by our sixth form student leaders, the event provided an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the achievements of more than one hundred students from across our community. Importantly, these awards reflected not only academic excellence but also the positive contribution students make to our wider school and local community.

Earlier this week, we were able to appreciate the artistic and creative talents of our students through our annual exhibition of artwork, printmaking and product design. Many families were able to visit the school and see first-hand the exceptional quality of work being produced in our creative subjects. These displays provide a powerful reminder of the breadth of talent that exists within our student body.

Alongside these events, many students have had opportunities to travel and learn beyond the classroom. Over the last few months, students have participated in a range of international visits, including our annual trip to China, which this year visited Shanghai. These experiences provide invaluable opportunities for personal growth and cultural understanding, and we are grateful to all the staff who dedicate so much time and energy to making them possible.

As always at this time of year, we say goodbye to both staff and students. We wish all those leaving Finham Park every success and happiness in the future. We hope that you will stay connected with the school and take opportunities to return and share your experiences with us. One of our ambitions is to continue developing our alumni network and create meaningful opportunities for former students to contribute to and support future generations of Finham Park students.



THE LION
ALLIANCE

Finham Park School
Green Lane
Coventry, CV3 6EA

Tel: 024 76418135
Email: headteacher@finhampark.co.uk
www.finhampark.co.uk

Headteacher: David Bedford
Chair of Governors: Anne Brennan



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Later this summer, we will have the opportunity to celebrate examination success with our students and recognise what we anticipate will be another strong set of academic outcomes. We also look forward to learning about the many exciting destinations, opportunities and pathways our students will pursue as they move into the next chapter of their lives.

On a personal note, I would like to thank you for making me feel so welcome within the Finham Park community during my first year as Headteacher. It has been a genuine privilege to lead and serve this wonderful school and wider community. I have been continually inspired by the kindness, ambition and commitment of our students, staff and families, and I am excited about all that we will achieve together in the years ahead.

For now, may I take this opportunity to wish you and your family a wonderful summer holiday. I hope it provides an opportunity for rest, reflection and quality time together, and that everyone returns refreshed and ready for the start of the new academic year in September.

Kind regards

Mr D Bedford
Headteacher



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