



Fir Vale Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

FIR VALE FORTNIGHTLY

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we draw Term 2 to a close, I would like to thank our staff, students and wider community for their continued support, contributions and hard work since January.

Together, we have navigated challenges, maintained momentum and remained firmly focused on driving meaningful improvement at Fir Vale Academy.

This half term has been a busy and productive one. Our Year 11 students have completed their mock examinations, we have celebrated a successful Careers week, and many students have benefited from a range of trips and visits.

We have also welcomed new colleagues to the academy, both during this term and in preparation for after the Easter break, strengthening our team as we move forward.

In recent weeks, I have been working closely with our Trust to plan the next phase of improvement, alongside the physical developments already underway across the site to enhance our learning environment.

Following the break, I will be writing to you with further details about changes to the start of the school day. These will take effect from the second week back and will include adjustments to entry points and gate opening times to support a calm and purposeful start to each day.

I hope you have a restful break, with time to relax and enjoy time with family and friends ahead of a strong start to the summer term.

Mr Bullock



Mr Bullock
Principal



Determination



Togetherness



Achievement



Opportunity



Kindness



Respect



Arbor

We're now in full swing with Arbor, our school's information system that keeps you connected to your child's attendance, achievements, behaviour, and all our updates. **It's really important that you download the Arbor app so you can stay fully in the loop.**

Please take a moment to download it and log in so you have everything you need at your fingertips!

[iOS App Store](#) / [Play Store App Store](#)

Key Dates Ahead

Easter Holidays

Monday 30th March 2026
to Friday 10 April 2026

School Closure Days

(Staff Training)
Monday 13th April &
Tuesday 14th April 2026

School Reopens

All students will be welcomed
back for 8:45am for Tutor Time of
Wednesday 15th April 2026

Y9 Options Deadline

Students will be making their
Options choices in the first two
weeks of the new term.

Rewards Week!



A full week of rewards saw students celebrating their achievements across a wide range of areas.

The Pastoral Team were immensely proud to recognise these students and hosted reward parties to celebrate their success:

Rewards were given for;

- Head of Year Award
- Most Improved Student
- 100% Attendance
- Strong Attendance Awards
- Fir Vale Values: **Achievement, Determination, Kindness, Opportunity, Respect, Togetherness**

Well done to all students who were acknowledged - keep up the fantastic work!





Life of a Footballer!

To celebrate Careers week at school, ex-international footballer Daniel Pudil paid a visit to Fir Vale and ran sessions with our students. Questions came thick and fast and it's fair to say that Danny created a big buzz around school! Having played for Sheffield Wednesday and Watford during his footballing career, as well as representing his country – Czech Republic. Danny gave our students a first-hand glimpse into the life of a footballer.



A Sweet Visit!

Year 11 Business students thoroughly enjoyed their visit to Cadbury World, where they were able to apply their classroom knowledge to a real-life business setting.

They observed the chocolate production process and explored the various marketing strategies that Cadbury uses.



Motivational Speaker!

Careers week continued with a visit from world-class motivational speaker Sean Anthony. His humbling story really hit home with a lot of our students and through that, invaluable lessons in overcoming challenges and achieving personal growth were delivered. An awe-inspiring speaker with some big messages for our students!



Principal Drop-ins!

Mr Bullock would welcome the opportunity for parents and carers to meet with him to discuss the academy, the journey we are on and anything you may wish to discuss.

You can book a 20 minute meeting using the QR code above or by clicking here.

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/K8FcYjUEZKe>