

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Last day of term

Term will end at 2pm on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December. The Learning Hub will close at 2pm and the buses will depart at 2.10pm, including the CR5 public bus. This will be a Christmas Jumper non-school uniform day, raising money for two charities chosen by our School Council: Save the Children and The Friends of the Yeatman Hospital. A £1 fee can be donated via Wisepay.

### School Carol Service

Our School Carol Service will be held in Sherborne Abbey on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm. All families and friends of The Gryphon School are invited to attend. The service is always a real highlight of our school year.

### @Gryphon Newsletter

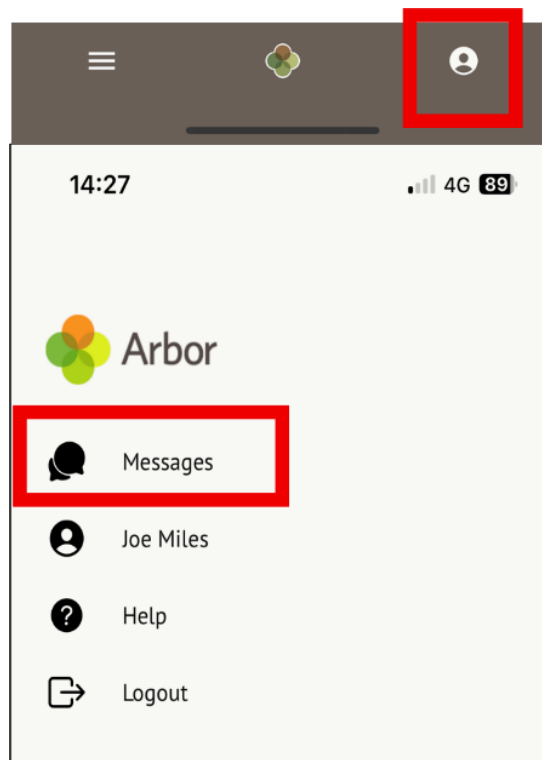
Please look out for our @Gryphon newsletter, which will be published on our website at the end of term and contains all our news about the past term: [Newsletters: News & Events - The Gryphon School: Sherborne](#).

### Arbor Parent App In-app messages

We kindly ask all parents and carers to ensure they have downloaded the *Arbor Parent App* on their device and have notifications enabled. This allows us to send important updates directly to you via in-app messages, particularly useful for quick reminders about trips, timetable changes, or any urgent information we need to share.

Once you've downloaded the app and signed in, you will be able to access messages by clicking on the 'Profile' icon, then 'Messages'.

If you need support logging in to Arbor or setting up the app, please use the parent guide by clicking [here](#).



Headteacher: Mr J. Gower

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## Attendance & Punctuality

We would like to remind all parents and carers that Lesson 1 begins promptly at 8:45am. To ensure a smooth and focused start to the day, students should be in their classrooms and ready to learn by 8:40am. Punctuality is essential. Arriving late, even by a few minutes, can lead to missed instructions, disrupted learning, and a loss of valuable teaching time. Over the course of a term, just five minutes of lateness each day can add up to more than three hours of lost learning. We appreciate your support in helping your child arrive on time and prepared for the day ahead. A punctual start builds good habits, boosts confidence, and sets students up for success.



## Behaviour & Attitudes

Our students continue to demonstrate outstanding behaviour and attitudes, consistently living out our LIFE values of Leadership, Integrity, Fellowship and Exploration. With exceptionally low negative behaviour points and more than 53,000 positive points awarded, our students are creating a calm, purposeful and supportive school environment that visitors frequently praise. Improvements in punctuality and homework completion, including over 850 students with a perfect homework record, highlight their growing responsibility and ambition. This positive culture is a testament to the hard work of our students, the dedication of staff and the invaluable support of parents and carers, all contributing to a community where every young person is encouraged to thrive.

## Parking on the school site

We kindly remind all parents and carers to park considerately when dropping off and collecting children. Please ensure that you are not blocking local residents' driveways and that you avoid using the designated nursery parking bays, which are reserved exclusively for nursery families. Your cooperation helps us keep our community safe, respectful, and accessible for everyone. Thank you for your continued support.

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## The Gryphon Foundation

The Gryphon Foundation has three core purposes: assisting in the provision of facilities and special benefits for the education of students at The Gryphon School, funding prizes at Prize Giving and Celebration of Achievement events, and providing grants to present and past students, up to the age of 25. The Gryphon Foundation aims to benefit from future investments, gifts, and legacies so we can continue to enhance the outstanding opportunities and facilities at The Gryphon School. If you would like to apply for a grant or donate to the foundation, please visit: [The Gryphon Foundation: Our School - The Gryphon School: Sherborne](#).

## Key Dates for the next half-term

- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January – First day of term (Week 1)
- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January – Y11 Parent Information Evening 6pm
- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January – Y10 Parent-Teacher Evening
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January – The Gryphon School Careers Fair
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January - 6<sup>th</sup> Form Meet & Greet for current Y11 students 3.30pm
- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January – Y13 Parent Forum 5.30pm
- Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January – Y9 Parent Forum (GCSE Options)
- Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January – Y12 Parent-Teacher Evening
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February – INSET Day (Students not in school)
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February – Half Term
- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – Students return to school (Week 1)

Thank you for your ongoing support of our school. I wish each of you a Christmas of peace and happiness.

Yours faithfully,



Jim Gower  
**Headteacher**  
**The Gryphon School**

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