

15<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Dear Students, Families and Colleagues,

As we come to the end of our first autumn term at BOA Digital Technologies Academy, it's clear just how much we have achieved together in such a short time. This has been a term defined by creativity, community and ambition. The very qualities that sit at the heart of our academy. Here, you don't just learn about the future; you begin inventing it.

This term saw the introduction of our revised Teaching Model, designed to sharpen how we explain, question, practise, assess and support learning. We added additional English and Maths intervention time for Year 10 and launched our revised behaviour policy alongside Class Charts, giving us clearer insight into behaviour patterns and support. These changes are already helping us cultivate calmer corridors, smoother transitions and a stronger, more purposeful learning climate.

In terms of IT investment, we introduced our new VR headsets, opening exciting possibilities for immersive learning. Our retro arcade launched to huge excitement, quickly becoming a place where computing history meets lunchtime fun. We published the first edition of our BOA Bytes newsletter, purchased two additional laptop trolleys, expanded our wi-fi provision, and have further exciting digital developments planned for the new year.

We are strengthening our industry links too. We explored a collaboration with Birmingham City University to offer CISCO training, and our partnership with Birmingham Open Media continues to grow. This term we also co-developed a curriculum project with Steamhouse connected to HS2 for Year 8 and delivered a CyberFirst Masterclass thanks to the excellent work of Ms McKenzie-Pusey.

I have also been delighted to welcome a number of key appointments to our team, including Ms Benton as our new admin support and Ms Bagley as our new office manager. We celebrated several important internal promotions and new leadership roles: Ms Whittaker (Head of Creative), Ms Thorne (Head of Humanities), and Ms Storey, who will join us in January as our Product Design teacher and Leader for Years 7 and 8. Each brings expertise, energy and a commitment to strengthening the learning experience we offer.

We delivered free breakfasts to all students and continue to offer fully staffed supervision a full 30 minutes before the start of school. We enriched student life with creativity and culture throughout Black History Month, curated by Ms Gordon, and celebrated languages through our European Day of Languages flag-hunt led by Ms Russell. Students took part in a range of

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inspiring trips, including Year 10's visit to the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, and the Year 7 & 8 girls' festival at the Doug Ellis Sports Centre led by Ms McGrane.

We hosted our Year 7 Meet the Tutors afternoon, host a Birmingham City Council Traffic consultation, enjoyed a joyful Children in Need day (featuring several staff bravely enduring wet sponges for charity), and expanded our range of extracurricular clubs. Including Mr France's choir, which culminated in a stunning Christmas Concert showcasing the remarkable talents of our students.

As I reflect on this term, I am incredibly proud of our students' attitude, our staff's dedication and our families' trust. Together, we have laid foundations that will carry us confidently into the new year. Foundations built on creativity, curiosity and a shared belief that the future is something we create.

I wish you all a joyful and restful Christmas break. Stay safe, recharge, and return ready to invent what comes next.

Warmest wishes,



Dr Jonathan Morris

**Principal**

**BOA Digital Technologies Academy**

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