



# Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

20<sup>th</sup> January 2020

## Diary

Date	Information
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Timetable week A</b> Year 9 Parents' Evening 4.00pm – 6.30pm Reading Age Assessment for all Year Groups – All week.
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 9 - Visit to Lichfield Cathedral for Holocaust Memorial Day
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	<b>Timetable week B</b> Governors Meeting
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 7 Symphony Hall visit
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 9 and 10 Science Live! visit

## Notices

**Do We Have the Correct Contact Information?** – We have introduced a new system for parental communications called School Gateway. It is our intention that all school related communication including school closure notifications, bulletins, newsletters, reports, timetables, attendance figures and out-of-hours-learning bookings will be distributed using School Gateway. There are many advantages to using School Gateway, which includes an app that can be installed on your smart phone. In order to use the app it is essential that you supply the school with your current **email address and mobile telephone number**. Letters were sent in December that included your contact information. Please either return the response slip or email [enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk) including the name and form group for all your children alongside your email and mobile telephone number, so that we can ensure that our records are correct.

**Young carers who are they:** [Click on link](#) Please let your child's pastoral manager know if your child is a young carer.

**Assemblies** – Mental Health awareness week - Bravery.

**Value of the month** – This month our value is **Change**. Please discuss this value with your daughter. To support use these links to view the [poster](#) and [30 days of Change](#)

**Thought for the week:** [Celebration](#)

**Target for the week:** Free online resource to help support revision for pupils: [Link](#).

**Year 11 Countdown to GCSEs: Preparing to Succeed** – **13** weeks until the first of the exams begins.

A second series of mock examinations begin on **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February**. Pupils will receive their own personal timetables.



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Telephone: 0121 464 3094  
Email: [enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk)

**Astronomy in the City** – The University of Birmingham hosts a number of lectures which are free of charge and open to the public. Their next lecture is Astronomy in the City will take place on Wednesday 29th of January.

More information are available on the following links: [Information](#) and [tickets](#)

**Out of Hours Learning** – A summary of the ‘Out of Hours’ learning opportunities currently available is on [this link](#). Please note that some clubs are only open either week A or Week B. Our Out of Hours Learning opportunities are continually reviewed, which may result in changes to this list.

**Job of the week for Citizenship** – This week’s career of the week is being a Solicitor. Click on [this link](#) to find out more.

If any parents or family members are currently working for a law firm and would like to come in and speak to the students then please contact Mrs Barron: [s.barron@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk](mailto:s.barron@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk)

**Careers in Health and Social Care:** [See link for information](#)

**Enhance your learning with GCSE Pod** – Total number of GCSE Pod accessed by pupils last week; 579 pods showing English Literature, History and Biology were the most watched subjects. We have remained in 2nd place – out of 96 - in the GCSE Pod league for schools of our size in our region, with an average of 30.2 pods having been watched per KS4 pupil since 1st November 2019.

Year	GCSE Pod Active Users	Use of GCSE POD
Year 7	76%	72 pods have been watched with English Literature, History and Biology the most popular.
Year 8	91%	55 pods were watched in English Literature and English Language.
Year 9	95%	140 pods watched with Math’s, English Literature and RS the most popular subjects.
Year 10	97%	121 pods, most popular subjects are English Literature and Text for Drama.
Year 11	97%	191 pods, History, Chemistry and Biology the most popular subjects.

Please encourage your daughter to continue to use GCSE Pod. It is a great resource to help to consolidate learning from this term or prepare for future learning.

**Supporting your daughter’s learning:**

**Tassomai** –The Science Faculty are using the Tassomai software programme as homework for all pupils. Please ensure your daughter has registered her account and is completing tasks daily. Your daughter can speak to her Science teacher or Dr Malik if there are any problems.

**Hegarty Maths** –This is an online resource used by the Maths Faculty as part of its homework setting programme. The target for success is 80%+. Parents are recommended to look at their daughter’s tests/classwork books and encourage them to search Hegarty Maths for any topic that they are struggling with.

**Maths Whizz** – Maths Whizz is an award-winning online tutor that is used by pupils in Year 7. It is recommended that all pupils in Year 7 complete 45 minutes on Maths Whizz as part of their weekly Maths homework. Please remember that pupils do have access to computers in school at lunchtimes and at our Homework Club, which pupils can sign up for. Additional IT access is now available for Year 7 to use Maths Whizz in ICT1 at lunchtime on Wednesdays.

**Physics Evening Lectures** – The Institute of Physics at the University of Birmingham offers a number of evening lectures which are open to the general public and may be of particular interest to families wanting to widen their learning opportunities in science; please follow [this link](#) to find out more.

**English Literature** – Tickets are on sale for a dramatisation of Jekyll and Hyde at the Old Rep Theatre, Birmingham from **Wednesday 26 February to Friday 28 February 2020**. Tickets and more information is available on [this link](#).

**Holocaust Memorial Day** - Families and young people have the opportunity to participate in a range of related learning activities through the Echo Eternal Youth Festival. [See linked document.](#)

**Memories, the 30<sup>th</sup> Young Art Exhibition at the Royal College of Art** – Pupils are invited to submit oil, watercolour, acrylic, pastel, crayon, pencil or ink original work for the Art, Drawing and Printmaking Competitions. All entries must be submitted with a donation of £2.00 for Research into Childhood Cancers. The competition rules are available on [this link](#). The closing date of this competition is **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January**, which will be followed by judging in February and a proportion of each school's entries will form an exhibition from 28<sup>th</sup> April to 1<sup>st</sup> May. More information is available on [this link](#) and from the Art Department.

**Never Such Innocence Project** – This is a competition we have taken part in before that invites young people to create a piece of art which reflects on conflict and it's affects. The closer date for this competition is **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020**. More information is available on [this link](#).

**New fund created to help Birmingham girls who 'dare to dream'**– There is a new fund to help the next generation of fearless females pursue their ambitions and dreams has been launched by Birmingham City Council and the Lord Mayor of Birmingham's Charity on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019. Birmingham girls aged under 16 can now apply for grants of up to £250 to support their own academic or career dreams. This can be for an activity, course, books, equipment or help in accessing work experience (e.g. travel costs). Applicants must live in Birmingham and be in education or training in the city. All bids must be supported by two nominating adults (including a teacher). More information and an online application form is available on [this link](#).

### **Forthcoming community events of interest**

**Czech Innovation Expo (CIE) exhibition at the Library of Birmingham** – 16<sup>th</sup> October to 28<sup>th</sup> February. More information is available on [this link](#).

**The New Art Gallery Walsall**– 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019 to 19<sup>th</sup> April 2020. More information is available on [this link](#).

**Dressed to the Nines at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery**– 7<sup>th</sup> December to 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020. More information is available on [this link](#).

**Ikon Gallery Family Saturday** –1<sup>st</sup> February, 12:00 noon to 4:00pm. More information is available on [this link](#).

### **College and Sixth Form Open Evenings**

This is a list of the open events for some of the colleges and sixth forms our pupils have visited or joined in previous years. Please note that it is not a complete list and should be supplemented by independent research. It is recommended that pupils apply for more than one course, to ensure they have suitable choices when examination results are known.

College	Date of next Open Event	Website address
Access Creative College	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January 2020, 5:00pm or 6:30pm	<a href="http://www.accesscreative.ac.uk/locations/birmingham/">www.accesscreative.ac.uk/locations/birmingham/</a>
BMET	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2020, 4:00pm to 7:00 pm	<a href="http://www.bmet.ac.uk">www.bmet.ac.uk</a>
Solihull College	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2020, 5:30pm to 8:00pm	<a href="http://www.solihull.ac.uk">www.solihull.ac.uk</a>
University College Birmingham	Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> January 2020, 10:00am to 3:00pm	<a href="http://www.ucb.ac.uk">www.ucb.ac.uk</a>