



Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

27th November 2020

Important Dates

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Monday 30th NovemberWednesday 2nd DecemberFriday 4th DecemberMonday 7th December | <ul style="list-style-type: none">St Andrews DayYear 7 Flu VaccinationsTraining Day – <u>School will be closed to all pupils</u>Governors Meeting |
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PROTECT OTHERS BY KEEPING YOUR DAUGHTER AT HOME IF DISPLAYING ANY COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

CONTINUE TO CHECK SCHOOL GATEWAY/EMAILS AND THE SCHOOL WEBSITE FOR REGULAR UPDATES

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Dear Parents/Carers

On Thursday 26th November, the government announced the three-tier system. You will be able to use the postcode checker to find out the restrictions in your area or an area you plan to visit.

- <https://www.gov.uk/find-coronavirus-local-restrictions>

The new rules will come into effect on Wednesday 2nd December where different tiers of restrictions apply in different parts of the country, in order to prevent a growth of infection.

- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/full-list-of-local-restriction-tiers-by-area>

If you or anyone in your family or bubble

- 1. have symptoms or a positive test result themselves**
- 2. live with someone who has symptoms or has tested positive**
- 3. are a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19) and are requested to do so by NHS Test and Trace or the PHE advice service.**

Must stay at home, self-isolate and request a test immediately.





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School Information

Face Masks

Your daughter **MUST** bring a face mask into school every day which must be worn as pupils move around the school building and in communal areas. Please inform us if your daughter is exempt from the existing face covering obligations, due to an underlying health condition, if so, she will continue to be exempt from these new obligations.

Free School Meals: October half-term vouchers

Vouchers were emailed out retrospectively last week for October half-term; please ensure that you check the expiry date on the voucher and use it before it expires. Please contact school if you have any queries enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk.

Access to Electronic Devices: Computer and Tablets at Home

Please let us know if your daughter does not have access to a computer (laptop or desktop) or tablet at home to support her learning. If you do not have wi-fi access at home, please contact school for further information.

School Office:

Due to the national lockdown and guidance regarding not undertaking unnecessary journeys, parents and carers must not visit the school site unless specifically requested by a member of staff. Please contact school reception on 0121 4643094 or email enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk should you need to get in touch with school.

School Uniform

- **Jewellery** – we allow one plain stud in the lower part of each ear and one small stud in the nose. Nose rings are not permitted. All piercings must be removed for PE. We suggest that any new piercings are done at the start of the summer holidays. Pupils can also wear a watch. (Smart watches or the equivalent are not permitted)
- **Nails, Make-Up, Hair** – nails should look natural and be an appropriate length for school. False nails and coloured nail polish are not allowed and, as such, will need to be removed. Pupils at KS4 may wear discrete natural make up. Hair should be natural in colour and tied back for practical activities. Appropriate hair accessories e.g. hair slides can be worn but should be black to compliment the school uniform. No fashion accessories should be worn.





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GCSE Pod: 809 pods have been watched in the last week with English Literature, History and Maths the most watched subjects. We are in 8th place out of 114 schools of a similar size to ours in our area with an average of 6.62 pods having been watched per KS4 pupil since 1st November.

Individual year group figures are as follows:

Year 7	71%	pupils with active accounts; 274 pods accessed; Spanish, History and Science are the most watched subjects.
Year 8	85%	198 pods; English Literature, Maths, English Language
Year 9	94%	118 pods; English Literature, Maths, Biology
Year 10	97%	109 pods; History, English Literature, Chemistry
Year 11	99%	110 pods; History, Biology, Combined Science

English Department



The Globe theatre has created a special adaptation of 'Romeo and Juliet', aimed at young people to watch online, for free! It is a 90-minute production filmed in the Globe Theatre and available to watch until 28th February 2021.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wFBWXRqa7Gs&feature=youtu.be>



They have arrived! The 600 books we have purchased for all Year 7 and 8 pupils to keep, will be distributed during next week. Each pupil will be given two books, staggered over the Autumn and Spring terms.

Boosting the reading skills of our pupils, continuing to inspire a love of reading is always paramount. It is important that pupils get the opportunity to choose their own books to take home and keep. The books range from non-fiction reads for curious minds, to fast-paced page-turners. Bookbuzz, a national reading programme for schools, has something for everyone.

Competition Time

This is a competition open to all of our Year 7-8 pupils who can write the most persuasive and informative Book Review, for one of the 17 Bookbuzz titles. **Closing date: Friday 11th December.**





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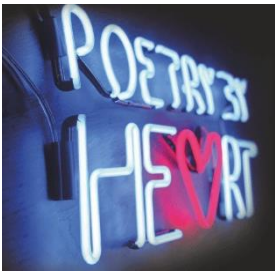
New Books We Love!



Every month, the BookTrust reviews dozens of books for teenagers and here are the ones we liked the most for November.

For Teens 12+

- ✓ 'The Monsters of 'Rookhaven' by Pádraig Kenny
- ✓ 'Red Stars' by Davide Morosinotto
- ✓ 'Windrush Child' by Benjamin Zephaniah



Get ready for Poetry by Heart

Poetry by Heart is a national competition in which young people in Key Stages 2, 3, 4 and 5 choose poems they love, learn them by heart and perform them in school. It is also a fantastic way of getting our pupils to utilise creative memory retention strategies for GCSE Literature Paper 2.

Closing date: **28th February 2021**



Value of the month – November 'Courage' Please discuss this value with your daughter. To support please use the following link. [Poster](#) and [30-day courage](#).

- **Thought for the week: 'Preparation'** see [PowerPoint](#) presentation and [video](#).
- **Job of the Week: 'Dentist'**. Click on the link for more information [Dentist](#)

Notices

(CEIAG) Post 16 virtual Open Events

You may need to register to take part. Click on the following links to see the next virtual open day. Start planning your future for 2021.





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Institute	Link
Click on the link for all Post 16 colleges and Sixth Forms open days <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.birminghamcareersservice.co.uk/open-days/ 	
Joseph Chamberlain – Sixth Form College www.jcc.ac.uk	https://www.jcc.ac.uk/voe/
BMet www.bmet.ac.uk	https://www.bmet.ac.uk/open-events-enrolment/virtual-open-events/
UCB www.ucb.ac.uk	https://www.ucb.ac.uk/open-days/college-open-days/
Solihull college www.solihull.ac.uk	https://www.solihull.ac.uk/news-events/virtual-open-event/
Solihull Sixth Form College www.solihullsfc.ac.uk	https://www.solihullsfc.ac.uk/
South and City College www.sccb.ac.uk	https://www.sccb.ac.uk/about-us/open-days
Bournville	https://www.opendays.com/institutions/bournville-college
Bordesley Green Girls' School & Sixth Form	http://www.bordgrng.bham.sch.uk/applying/
Sutton Coldfield Grammar School & Sixth Form	https://www.suttcold.bham.sch.uk/sixthformapplications
Aston University Sixth Form www.auea.co.uk	https://auea.co.uk/sixth-form/courses
Access Creative College	https://www.accesscreative.ac.uk/open-events December virtual open events





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Careers – Virtual Work Experience

All students are encouraged to apply as soon as possible to have the best chance of success. Opportunities may close early if many applications are received. You can email n.nazish@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk for further information.

New Virtual Work Experience Opportunities:

- [Work Experience Week - Nursing](#)
 - Dates: 15th – 19th February 2021
 - Age: 16+
 - Application Deadline: 25th January 2021
- [NHS Meet the people behind the masks: Midlands](#)
 - Date: 9th February 2021
 - Age: 14+
 - Application Deadline: 19th January 2021
- [Johnson Matthey: Learn about the Social Value of Science](#)
 - Dates: 9th December 2020
 - Age: 14+
 - Application Deadline: 6th December 2020
- [Johnson Matthey: Learn about Unconscious bias and stereotyping](#)
 - Dates: 11th December 2020
 - Age: 14+
 - Application Deadline: 9th December 2020

For a full list of placements - [sign in here to search and apply.](#)

WorldSkills Live online: Saturday 28th November 10.00am – 2.00pm. Spotlight talks on careers, apprenticeships and excellence. Click on the link to see the timetable of events throughout the day. [Read me.](#)

Raf Humanitarian Engineering Online Course

The Smallpeice Trust have just released details of a fantastic opportunity for Year 9 pupils; please follow links

- <https://www.smallpeicetrust.org.uk/course-page/871a22d8-be1d-eb11-a813-00224800fc6c>
- <https://www.smallpeicetrust.org.uk/course-page/93cd9968-bf1d-eb11-a813-00224800fc6c>





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for details of two opportunities for pupils to apply to participate in the RAF Humanitarian Engineering online course. This course is free and may be of particular interest to pupils who are considering a career in the forces and/or engineering.

Speakers for Schools

Are very excited to announce an upcoming live broadcast for football fans everywhere! Join England football Manager and author of 'Anything is Possible', Gareth Southgate, and Youtube gamer and entertainer, Sharky, to talk about Gareth's England football career and insight – all in partnership with Penguin Talks!

Date: Tuesday 1st December

Time: 16:00 – 17:00

Speakers: Gareth Southgate, England Football Manager and Sharky, Youtube Gamer & Entertainer

Year Group: KS4 & 5 / S4 – 6

- [CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)

The talk will be webinar style and so attendees will not have their cameras or microphones on. There will be a Q+A chat function where students can ask their questions, which will be moderated by Penguin staff. For further details email n.nazish@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk

Safeguarding and Wellbeing

Keeping your daughter safe online:

All parents/carers need to be aware of what their daughter are accessing when online. Young people often access sites that are not appropriate for their age. Click on the school website for further guidance on staying safe online.

- <https://www.hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk/parents/online-safety>

Check your security and privacy settings

- Adjust privacy and safety settings to increase security and control the personal data you share. Look for the 'privacy and security' or 'settings' on the app or website.
- [Review the security settings](#) on your 'smart' devices. If your device is using a default or easily guessable password, change it.
- [Set up two-factor authentication](#). This is a free security feature to stop unwanted people getting into your accounts. You will receive a text or code when you log in to check you are who you say you are.
- [Update your devices](#). Using the latest version of software and apps can immediately improve your security.





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**Birmingham
Community Healthcare**
NHS Foundation Trust

Drop-In Sessions: Come and see the school Nurse

At Hodge Hill Girls' School we will be having the school nurse starting drop-in sessions for pupils in January 2021 once a month. They will be available for pupils to speak to someone about any worries they may have or just someone to speak to. Click [here](#) for details

Youngminds

Starting a conversation with your daughter can be difficult, especially if you are worried that your child is having a hard time. It does not matter what topic the conversation starts with – it is about the opportunity it gives you both to talk about feelings and to provide comfort. The following resource with 'conversation starters' may help you.

- https://youngminds.org.uk/media/1712/young-minds-conversation-starters_final-003.pdf

Pause/Forward Thinking Birmingham

If you are under 25 and registered with a GP in Birmingham, you can receive support from Pause. They also provide support for parents and carers who are concerned about their child or young person's wellbeing.

There are three simple actions we must all do to keep on protecting each other



Wash hands

keep washing your hands regularly



Cover face

wear a face covering in enclosed spaces



Make space

stay at least 2 metres apart - or 1 metre with a face covering or other precautions

National Lockdown – HELPING TO KEEP BIRMINGHAM SAFE





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If your child develops symptoms associated with Covid-19 whilst at **home**, please keep them at home and follow the process outlined below. If your child develops symptoms associated with Covid-19 whilst **at school**, we will isolate them immediately, providing the support and reassurance they will require. We will contact you and require that you collect them immediately from school. Please take them straight home and follow the same process outlined below.

Step One: CONTACT

the NHS and request a COVID-19 Test from them online or by calling 119. Do not visit your GP, pharmacy, hospital or other healthcare provider. Call 999 if emergency care is needed.

Step Two: ISOLATE

Your child should isolate for 10 days after symptoms appear and other people in your household should isolate for 14-days.

Step Three: TEST

Get a test. Keep your child at home until she gets her results.

Step Four: RESULTS

You should receive your results within 72 hours. If the test is negative, your daughter and household may stop isolating although they must not return to school until they are well. **Please inform us of a negative test result immediately.**

Step Five: A POSITIVE TEST RESULT

If your child tests positive for Coronavirus, contact tracers will contact you to inform you of the isolation regulations you will need to follow. **Please inform us of a positive test result immediately.**

