



Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

10th May 2019

Diary

Date	Information
Monday 13 th May	Year 8 Parents Evening Year 11 External Written Examinations start
Wednesday 15 th May	Year 10/Year 11 GCSE English Literature Examination
Thursday 16 th May	Year 7 visit to see teenage cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason
Monday 20 th May	Year 7 and Year 8 Examination Week Governors Meeting
Thursday 23 rd May	Year 10/Year 11 GCSE English Literature Examination

Notices

Year 8 Parents Evening – We look forward to meeting with our Year 8 Parents and Carers on Monday. Parents Evenings are an ideal opportunity to discuss your daughters progress and strategies to enhance her learning with teachers. Please discuss this evening with your daughter, who has/will make appointments for you to see her teachers. A copy of the letter is available on [this link](#).

Year 7 to Year 10 Internal Examinations – A list of revision topics by subject for each year is now available on [this link](#). Please encourage your daughter to use this as she continues her revision throughout the time before her examinations.

Year 7 and Year 8 will have a week of examinations w/c 20th May. A copy of the exam timetable for Year 7 and Year 8 is available on [this link](#).

Year 9 and 10 will have their examinations during w/c 3rd June and w/c 10th June. Please note that Year 10 will not be sitting an English exam in the internal examination series as they will have completed their actual GCSE English Literature exam.

The gyms will be used for some exams in Years 7, 8 and 9 to enable the pupils to develop their understanding of a formal examination situation. Year 10 will sit the vast majority of their exams in the gym to support the development of skills for their external GCSEs in summer 2019.

Year 11 External Examinations – GCSE practical examinations have been completed in many subjects. Formal written examination commences on Monday 13th May. Please ensure your daughter arrives 15 minutes before the start time of her examinations. Morning examinations will start at 9.00AM and afternoon examinations will start at 1.00PM.

Your daughter will be provided with her FINAL examination timetable printed on yellow paper before her examinations start next week. A copy of this timetable is also available on [this link](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Ms Qureshi.



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It is especially important that all of Year 11 pupils attend school for the full school day as normal. When pupils are not in examinations, they will be attending normal lessons with their teachers, who will be available to provide support for our pupils. It is important that your daughter uses this time to ask any questions, seek help with her revision and ensure that she understands exam techniques and expectations.

Please [click here](#) to read a parent letter with important information on the arrangements for Year 11 pupils.

GCSE Pod – During the last week pupils watched 645 pods, with History, English Literature and Maths the most accessed subjects. Since 1st March, an average of 20.13 pods per Key Stage 4 pupil have been watched.

GCSE Pod is an excellent resource that supports all pupil revision and learning. To maximise the learning encourage your daughter to try one of the following after watching GCSE Pod:

- Note down at least 5 key facts, dates, diagrams or quotes from the video.
- Create a mind map to join ideas together.
- Discuss the key learning from the pod with a family member or friend.

The [GCSE Pod Parents section](#) contains lots of useful advice to help parents support their daughter as they prepare and complete examinations. Especially recommended are '[Supporting your child through their GCSEs](#)' and '[How to deal with exam stress](#)'

Workshops for pupils whose first language is not English - Norton Hall Children and Family Centre provide a range of services for families, women, children and young people in the Washwood Heath area of Birmingham. Norton Hall Centre has a new workshop for pupils whose first language is not English that will improve communication skills using innovative techniques, exercises, games and discussions. To find out more about their services please call on 0121 328 3043 or get in touch using the contact form on <http://www.nortonhall.org.uk/>

2018 GCSE Textiles - Past pupils who completed their Textiles GCSE last year are invited to come and collect any remaining coursework they require. Please note that any coursework not collected will shortly be disposed of. Please be kind enough to pass the message on to any further pupils from last year's GCSE textiles class.

Attendance and Punctuality – Recently we have had an increasing number of requests for holidays in term time. Pupils are expected to be in school during term time and as such holidays cannot be authorised.

Please note that the register is taken at 8.35 each morning. Pupils need to be in their form room ready for this time. A number of pupils are not making their way directly into school in a morning. Please reinforce with your daughter the importance of being on time and in the right place at the right time.

Hay fever - As the seasons change some pupils will suffer with hay fever. Medication should be taken before school if needed. As the Year 11 begin their preparations for the GCSE's please ensure that they have any necessary medication throughout this period.

Handwriting and GCSE exams - Our handwriting is the first impression that examiners will have of us in most subjects studied at GCSE. Please take the time to look at your daughter's handwriting; if you find it difficult to read, an examiner will find it hard too. Please encourage her to write clearly so that examiners will be able to read everything that has been written. Remember, too, that handwriting sometimes deteriorates after writing for a longer period of time, so it is important that your daughter regularly practises extended writing and writing for a sustained period.

GCSE History – Health and the People - Pupils in Years 10 and 11 who study GCSE History are encouraged to watch the BBC Teach series of 'Medicine through Time' videos which support learning for 'Health and the People'. The videos can be accessed through [this link](#).

Year 11 GCSE Science Revision Materials – All Year 11 pupils have access to some new revision materials in the Science area of the X-Drive. These materials can be accessed within school or at home by using the Home Access Plus link from the pupil area of the school website.

GCSE English Literature – All our Year 10 pupils plus some pupils from Year 11 will be taking the GCSE English Literature examinations this year. The exams are taking place on 15th and 23rd May. It is

recommended that pupils are regularly revising and using GCSE Pod to prepare for their forthcoming examinations.

Out of Hours Learning – Throughout the year teachers hold intervention sessions before and after school to enhance learning and achievement. As we approach the GCSE examination period, please reinforce with your daughter the importance of attending all interventions that she is expected to. This will ensure she has the best support during her examination preparations.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathematics • Homework Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basketball • English • Health and Social Care • History Ambassadors • Homework Club • Mathematics • Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History • Homework Club • Mathematics • Rounders • Science • Spanish • Urdu 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art, Craft and Design • Cricket • English • Fine Art • History • Homework Club • Mathematics • Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • French

Subject teachers can provide more advice on ‘Out of Hours Learning’ opportunities. To join our ‘Out of Hours Learning’ programme, your daughter must return the appropriate consent form to the Admin Office. Please ensure that, if you are collecting your daughter from an after-school session, you come down the drive and into Reception as this enables us to supervise pupils.

Art Competition – Inspire 19 – For the fourth year Birmingham Museums are organising an art competition with the opportunity to win up to £200 of CASS Art Vouchers and many other prizes! To enter pupils, need to create a piece of art inspired by the theme of ‘What does family mean to you?’ Artwork could be inspired by a family pet, parents, siblings, foster family, carers or grandparents... The closing date is Friday 31st May and more information is available on [this link](#).

Leonardo da Vinci Exhibition at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery – There is a fantastic opportunity to view drawings by the famous artist Leonardo da Vinci at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery between February and May. This is a temporary exhibition that opens on 1st February celebrating the 500th anniversary since his death. A visit to this exhibition is strongly recommended by our Art Department and is suitable for pupils of all ages. For more information click on [this link](#).

Photography Exhibition at Midlands Art Centre: Kate Holt & Plan International UK: Brave: The Girls of South Sudan – This is a photography exhibition by Kate Holt, showing girls’ everyday lives as they survive in the world’s youngest country. The girls of South Sudan have faced it all. Conflict, violence and hunger; and they are still just teenagers. See their lives in this powerful exhibition with photography by award-winning photographer Kate Holt which runs from Saturday 30 Mar until Sunday 19 May at the People's Postcode Lottery Community Gallery, Midlands Art Centre. More information is available on [this link](#).

Forthcoming events of interest

School of Jewellery Open Day on 29th June – The open day offers lots of activities for families and those interested in knowing what goes on in Birmingham’s Jewellery Quarter. This will include craft orientated activities planned, from making project to technical demonstration, lightening talks to tours as well as Q&A sessions. The aim to invite our local community into the School, show them what the School of Jewellery is about and the range of educational opportunities available from short courses and evening classes to masters and PhD's.