



Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

19th July 2019

Diary

Date	Information
Monday 22 nd July	Start of the School Summer Holiday
Thursday 22 nd August	Year 11 Exam Results Day
Monday 2 nd September	School Closed – Staff Training Day
Tuesday 3 rd September	School Closed – Staff Training Day
Wednesday 4 th September	School open for all pupils
Monday 9 th September	4:30pm to 7:00pm Year 6 Open evening for potential new pupils and their families, who are applying to join secondary school in September 2020.

Notices

Congratulations – Congratulations to the 100 pupils who received the most positive behaviour points and enjoyed the rewards treat this week. Congratulations to all our pupils who received certificates at our end of term assemblies for their effort and achievements; attendance and punctuality and contribution to school life.

End of Year Reports – End of year reports have been posted to home addresses for all pupils. Please review and discuss your daughter's end of year report with her.

Summer Safety Letter – Please ensure that you read the Summer Safety Letter that has been written in conjunction with West Midlands Police and is available on [this link](#).

ParentPay – If you wish your daughter to purchase school meals in September, please ensure that her ParentPay account has credit ready for the beginning of term. Year 6 parents will have received a letter with their log in information. You can log into ParentPay to top-up accounts on [this link](#).

Taylor Shaw Loyalty Scheme – Taylor Shaw, our in-school caterers, are introducing a loyalty scheme to encourage online payments by ParentPay. Under the scheme your daughter will qualify for a free school meal after her online ParentPay account has been credited with £5.00 or more on 7 occasions. A flyer is available on [this link](#).

Free School Meals – There are many advantages to claiming free school meals. Firstly, it can ensure your daughter receives a healthy meal during the school lunch break. Additionally, our school receives important additional funding to support the learning of our pupils on free school meals. This funding is used in a variety of ways, examples include additional targeted support and mentoring, assistance with educational visit costs, access to online study resources and books. [Click here](#) to find out if your daughter is eligible for free school meals. To complete an online application form visit: www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham/apply.

Certificates – We have a number of certificates of qualifications for pupils that left our school between 2013 and 2018 that are still to be collected. Certificates of qualifications are important documents that are often



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required by colleges, universities or employers. Past pupils should contact Ms Qureshi to arrange a suitable time to collect their certificates. Any remaining certificates that are not collected will be confidentially shredded in November 2019.

Year 10 College Applications – During the Autumn Term our Year 10 pupils will be completing their college applications. In preparation for this, all Year 10 pupils should be starting to draft their personal statements. It is important that all Year 10 pupils have a completed draft ready when they return to school in September.

Year 9 and Year 10 GCSE History Summer Work – Year 9 and Year 10 GCSE History pupils have been given summer pre-tutoring to complete over the summer in preparation for the next academic year. It is important that pupils engage with this task in a meaningful way to give them the best possible advantage next year. Please support and encourage your daughter with these tasks. A copy of the work is available on these links: [Year 9](#) and [Year 10](#).

Art Summer Work – During the summer holidays pupils are requested to make their own A5 postcard showing places you have been or the fun you've had during the 6 weeks holidays. All postcards should be brought into school and will be placed on display in September. More information is available on [this link](#).

Year 11 – Examination Results Day is on Thursday 22nd August 2019. Your daughter will be expected to collect her results between 10:00am -12:00 noon from the Upper iLZ. If your daughter is unable to collect her results, she should contact Ms Qureshi in advance. Your daughter will need to provide the name and photographic evidence of the person collecting her results on her behalf. Any photographic evidence provided will be confidentially shredded in accordance to GDPR regulations once the results have been collected. More information is available in [this letter](#), which was given to all pupils at the end of their Leavers Assembly.

Spare Uniform – We are collecting spare uniform, PE kit and training shoes that we can use in emergencies. If you have any items of uniform that are either too small or that you no longer require please donate them to the Pastoral Office.

2019/2020 Term Dates – Please note the following term dates for the next school year and ensure that any holidays are booked during the school holidays.

	Autumn Term 2019	Spring Term 2020	Summer Term 2020
Term Starts	Wednesday 4 th September 2019	Monday 6 th January 2020	Monday 20 th April 2020
Half Term	Monday 28 th October 2019 to Friday 1 st November 2019	Monday 17 th February 2020 to Friday 21 st February 2020	Monday 25 th May 2020 to Friday 29 th May 2020
Term Ends	Friday 20 th December 2019	Friday 3 rd April 2020	Monday 20 th July 2020

Water Safety - During the school holidays, and in particular in hot weather, increasing numbers of children put themselves at risk of drowning. RoSPA identify that on average 40-50 children drown per year in the UK. With your daughter, review the following links that have advice on how to remain safe, when in, on or beside water.

- [Water Safety for Children and Young People by RoSPA](#)
- [Summer Water Safety by the Canal and River Trust](#)
- [Respect the Water by RNLI Lifeboats](#)

GCSE Pod – GCSE Pod is an excellent resource that is available for our pupils to use in support of their homework, to research topics they will be studying next year, to refresh their knowledge of topics that they have studied and to prepare for assessments and examinations. We recommend that pupils continue to use GCSE Pod throughout the summer. Pupils that have watched 30 pods or more during the summer holiday (20th July to 3rd September) will be awarded a positive behaviour point. An additional point will also be awarded to the five pupils in each year that have watched the most GCSE Pods during the summer holidays.

There are a number of new pods covering study skills, including interleaving to strengthen memory, retrieval practise to help students recall information and spaced learning to ensure the information sticks. These pods will be useful to all pupils. More information is available on [this link](#).

Additionally, the [GCSE Pod Parents section](#) contains lots of useful advice to help parents support their daughter with their use of GCSE pod and in the development of good study skills.

Women's Netball World Cup – The Women's Netball World Cup is taking place in Liverpool between 12th and 21st July. The England team, who are currently the Commonwealth Champions will be looking to build on this success as they compete against other international teams. The games are being broadcast by Sky and the BBC. This is a great opportunity for our pupils to watch international players and to develop their understanding of the Netball. There is more information on this tournament available on [this link](#).

Tennis Did you know that you can also practice tennis for free at a local park? This includes free court hire and even free tennis coaching. More information is available from [Tennis in Birmingham](#)

Autism Friendly – We have compiled a list of 'autism friendly' activities or opportunities. This includes relaxed theatre performances or cinema screenings, quiet times for shopping, the special arrangements that are available at Birmingham International Airport and more. For more information click on [this link](#).

Summer Holiday Camps

Happy Healthy Holidays – This is a free activity programme that also provides great free meals There is a varied programme including sport, cooking, craft and much more at 100 local venues across Birmingham. For more information click on [this link](#).

Naseby Summer Programme – The Naseby Centre has a full programme of varied activities for the summer holiday. They are also taking part in the Happy Healthy Holiday's scheme, which ensures that a free meal is included. For more information click on [this link](#).

Birmingham Libraries Summer Reading Challenge – Birmingham Libraries are looking for volunteers (aged 12-24) who love books and reading. Volunteers will be introducing library visitors to the Summer Reading Challenge, which encourages children to read 6 books during the summer.

To volunteer for the Summer Reading Challenge, you must be able to do the following:

- Attend an induction on Saturday 20th July (10am to 12pm)
- Start date is Monday 22nd July. You can work up to six days per week Monday to Saturday. Shift pattern remains constant 10:45am to 3:00pm (with 30-minute break)
- Finish Date: week beginning 2nd September, with a final Saturday as 7th September; and attendance at the SRC medal presentation on 14th September is optional

For more information click on [this link](#).

Ackers Adventure Holiday Camp – A local daily holiday scheme that is running from 22nd July until 30th August. Each day includes 2 outdoor activities and a host of other fun based and creative challenges. For more information click on [this link](#).

Smallpeice Trust – There are some vacancies on summer residential courses organised by the Smallpeice Trust. These courses are a great opportunity to learn about engineering, university life, enhance applications and make friends. More information is available on [this link](#).

BOM (Birmingham Open Media) Summer Camp – A week of activities exploring art, technology and science starting on 19th August. More information is available on [this link](#).

Other Activities During the Summer Holiday

Book Bunch at Ward End Library – This is a fun and exciting reading group for young people aged from 11 to 17 years, of all reading abilities. The group meets monthly from 2:00pm to 3:00pm on the third Saturday each month. The next meetings are on Saturday 20th July and Saturday 17th August. More information is available on [this link](#).

Brindleyplace Film Festival – Now in its 8th year, this popular and completely free film festival will showcase a wide selection of fantastic movies on a big screen in Central Square between 15th to 21st July. More information is available on [this link](#).

Clayground Collective: Crater Formations at Midlands Arts Centre – On Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st July there is a fabulous opportunity for you to take part in free workshops to use the limitless power of your imagination and squishy clay to sculpt an epic lunar landscape! More information is available on [this link](#).

The Makers Meet – On Saturday 20th July there is a one-day festival for those that have the desire to create the products of tomorrow or help change the industry for the better. There are many guests from industry who will share stories, give careers advice, hold workshops and show some future technologies. This event is taking place at the Custard Factory in Digbeth. More information is available on [this link](#).

Commonwealth Social – With three years to go until the Commonwealth Games, Birmingham 2022 is marking this momentous milestone in the countdown, to what will be a once-in-a-lifetime event, by hosting the Commonwealth Social, a free family friendly public celebration in Centenary Square, Birmingham, on Saturday 27th July 2019 from 12:00 – 19:00. This is a free event that will be a fabulous festival of sport, culture and food with the people of the West Midlands at its heart, celebrating everything that makes this vibrant region special. You can find out more about our city's preparation for the Commonwealth Games by watching the video on [this link](#).

Mega Mela Family Funday – On 3rd to 4th August between 12:00 noon and 8:00pm there is a family fun day at Ward End Park. The event is free and will feature cultural, community and sporting activities, plus a huge funfair and arts, food and fashion stalls. There will also be a live music stage.

Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery – This summer there are many events that are inspired by rock music at the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery. Here are a few that may be of interest:

- [7th August - Portrait Booth: We are Metal - The Birmingham Stage](#)
- [23rd August - Friday Crafts: Rock Out Robots](#)
- [30th August - Friday Crafts: Psychedelic Swirlers](#)

For information on all the events is available on [this link](#).

Ikon Gallery Family Saturday – An excellent opportunity to be creative and spend some time making and experimenting on 3rd August. More information is available on [this link](#).

MAC, Midlands Arts Centre – There are lots of different activities and events at the MAC during the summer. Summer Smiles is a series of drop in art workshops that are free and run from 12:00 to 4:00pm in the MAC Foyer.

- 23rd July - Space Junk Jet Packs with Claire
- 27th July - Martin's Stop Motion Animation
- 3rd August - Felt Beads with Ildiko
- 10th August - Printmaking with Niall
- 18th August - Ana's Puppets
- 24th August - Helen's Fabric Sandcastle Flags
- 31st August - Milan's Joy of Bricks

More information on Summer Smiles is available on [this link](#).

For information on all the summer events at the MAC is available on [this link](#).

Quick Portraits & Portrait Demonstration – On 24th August at RBSA Gallery there is a fabulous opportunity to have your portrait drawn by an artist. Booking is essential. More information is available on [this link](#).

Wildlife Photographer of the Year - The Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition provides a showcase for the world's very best nature photography. The exhibition, developed and produced by the Natural History Museum, is visiting Wolverhampton Art Gallery from 29th June 2019 to 1st September 2019. This is part of a worldwide tour, which for the first time will be showcasing the full collection of 100 images and 45 digital shots. More information is available on [this link](#).