



Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

21st June 2019

Diary

Date	Information
Monday 24 th June	Governors Meeting – Site, Finance and Premises Speak Out Challenge Regional Final
Wednesday 26 th June	Visit to Birmingham City University, Aim Higher Campus Experience Day
Thursday 27 th June	Year 10 Joseph Chamberlain College Taster Day
Friday 28 th June	Year 11 Leavers Assembly and PROM Visit to Sheep Wash Farm
Monday 1 st July	Full Governing Body Meeting Year 10 Work Experience Week
Wednesday 3 rd July	Year 6 Induction Day
Tuesday 9 th July	Speakers 4 Schools Lecture by Dr Michael Stich from Aston University
Wednesday 10 th July	Sports Day
Thursday 11 th July	Sports Day (Reserve)

Notices

Speak Out Challenge – Congratulations to all our pupils who have been involved in the Speak Out Challenge. This is a challenge event that has been taking place this school year. It is estimated that from the tens of thousands of pupils who begin this challenge, just 4% have been selected to go through to the regional final. This 4% includes some pupils from Hodge Hill Girls' School, who on Monday evening will be competing against other local schools in front of an independent judging panel. Good luck to our regional finalists.

Year 11 – Our Year 11 pupils have now completed their GCSE examinations and are approaching the end of their time as a pupil at Hodge Hill Girls' School. It has been a privilege to see our pupils grow and develop into the young ladies they have become. Next week we will be celebrating their achievements and time at Hodge Hill Girls' School with a special celebration assembly on Friday 28th June starting at 10:45am and finishing at 11:45am. Please ensure that your daughter is in full and correct school uniform when she attends this assembly. This is also an opportunity for our Year 11 pupils to return any outstanding revision guides, library books and locker keys to the Pastoral Office.

Friday 28th June is also the day of our school prom. Parents will have received separate letters full details on this event. Please ensure your daughter is collected promptly at 11:00pm. If your daughter is being collected by the parent/carer of another student you will need to ensure they have written consent signed by you, the parent authorising this and stating precisely who will be collecting them.

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,



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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.

Finally, we wish all our Year 11 pupils every success in their future.

Speakers 4 Schools Lecture by Dr Michael Stich from Aston University – We are thrilled to be welcoming Dr Michael Stich to our school on Tuesday 9th July for a scientific/mathematical lecture. More information on Dr Stich is available on [this link](#). The lecture will be of greatest relevance to those pupils considering A-levels in Chemistry, Maths and/or Geography, and/or those considering careers in Medicine, Geography, Chemistry or Maths. Please note that applying to attend this lecture does not mean that a pupil is committing themselves to A levels or careers in this area, it is a chance for our pupils to learn more about potential opportunities.

All interested pupils should show their interest in this opportunity via the form which their form tutors have explained to them.

Medical Information – This week all pupils have been given a letter about our periodic review of medical information. A copy of the letter is available on [this link](#). Please can you update the school with any information regarding your daughter relating to any new medical condition. If your child is currently identified with a medical condition and her needs have changed, please also contact the school so that we can update our records.

Year 11 Achieve Conference at University of Birmingham in September 2019 - All Year 10 pupils have been provided with the opportunity to apply for a place on a one-day 'Achieve Conference' at the University of Birmingham which is designed to support aspirations and understanding of the importance of working hard throughout Year 11. Places are limited and Year 10 pupils should ask their tutors for a form to apply. Attendance at the 'Achieve Conference' will be fully facilitated by the school. Successful applicants will be informed before the end of the summer term.

All Pupils, Something Different Day – Preparations are well underway for 'Something Different Day', which is taking place towards the end of term. The aim of the day is to provide new and different learning opportunities and activities. Pupils are currently invited to express a preference for which activities they are interested in. A full list of the activities is available on [this link](#). Please discuss these activities with your daughter and encourage her to take this opportunity to learn something different and try something new.

Year 6 Induction – It was wonderful to meet our new pupils and their families on Monday at our Induction Evening. We are now looking forward to meeting our pupils at our Induction Day on Wednesday 3rd July. This is a great opportunity to experience a day at Hodge Hill Girls' School, with many different lessons and activities planned. As the day will include physical activities, please ensure that your daughter is wearing suitable trainers and brings a refillable water bottle. Food and drink at break and lunch will be provided by the school, however your daughter may bring a healthy packed lunch if you prefer.

Pupil Digital Leaders – Digital technology is an important part of daily life for our pupils. With this in mind, we have launched a new opportunity within school to develop and share digital knowledge and skills. Pupils in all years are currently invited to apply to be a Digital Leader. Becoming a Digital Leader is a fabulous opportunity that in addition to enhancing digital skills, it supports the development of confidence, communication and other employability skills, and will enhance college and employment applications. Interested pupils should complete an online application form, available on the pupil portal before the closing date of 30th June. Please discuss this opportunity with your daughter and encourage her to apply.

Year 10 Taster Day at Joseph Chamberlain College – This is a fabulous opportunity for pupils to learn more about college life and courses that they may wish to study when they leave Hodge Hill Girls' School. During the day our pupils will take part in a programme of activities and lessons that reflects the subjects/courses they recently chose in preparation for the day.

Year 10 pupils should arrive at school by 8:15am on Thursday 27th June, and they will return to school by 2:45pm. A lunch will be provided by the college for all pupils.

Sheepwash Farm Visit – A group of pupils are visiting Sheepwash Farm to develop their understanding of farming, how crops are grown and the process that crops go through in preparation for sale at our

supermarkets. With a strong STEM focus during this trip, our pupils to learn more about farm machinery, renewable energy and how this is an important part of the modern farming industry.

Access to School Site – Parents are reminded that they are **not** allowed to access the school site at the beginning or end of the school day. This is to ensure the safety of all our pupils on their arrival and departure from school. If you are travelling by car to bring or collect your daughter from school, you should park in a safe location and walk to the school gate.

First World War Centenary – From 2014 until 2018 there were many activities to remember and commemorate the First World War. This included many events held within school and nationally. One project, 14-18 NOW was the UK’s arts programme for the First World War centenary, which featured many different ways to learn and understand the sacrifices made during the First World War. This is an excellent resource that supports learning in History, Art and other subjects 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.

GCSE Pod – This year we have seen a significant increase in the use of GCSE pod by our pupils as can be seen in the table below.

Year	11	10	9	8	7
September 2018 – June 2019	11,555	12,846	4,360	6,954	1,206
September 2017 – June 2018	7,671	3,966	608	0	1

While GCSE Pod is great to support learning and examination preparation, it is also a wonderful platform for pupils to research topics that they will be covering in the future. This is especially relevant to our Year 9 pupils, who will be starting their GCSE courses in September and for our Year 10 pupils, who will be completing their GCSE assessments in the next academic year.

Hay fever - As the seasons change some pupils will suffer with hay fever. Medication should be taken before school if needed. If your daughter suffers with hay fever or allergies, please ensure that any necessary medication is brought to school throughout this period.

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

Out of Hours Learning – Throughout the year there are various opportunities for pupils to enhance their learning by attending before and after school clubs. The table below identifies our current out of hours learning opportunities.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mathematics • Homework Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basketball • History • History Ambassadors • Homework Club • Science • Value Voice Crew 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • History • Homework Club • Rounders • Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art, Craft and Design • Cricket • Homework Club • Mathematics 	<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.

Women's Football World Cup – The FIFA Women's World Cup is started on 7th June. Phil Neville's England team have now played all of their group games and are through to the next phase of the competition. As the competition progresses, we expect to see more outstanding football and nail-biting games. This is an excellent opportunity to watch inspirational female players from around the world. All the matches are shown live across BBC TV, radio and the BBC Sport website and App. More information on the Women's World Cup is available on [this link](#).

Free Tennis in Birmingham – There are many free activities that happen within our local parks throughout the year. Did you know that one of the opportunities on offer is tennis? At various parks there is free court hire and even free tennis coaching on offer. More information is available from [Tennis in Birmingham](#) and [Tennis in Birmingham](#).

Birmingham Museums and Art Galleries - To celebrate the opening of an exciting new interactive children's gallery MiniBrum at Thinktank Birmingham Science Museum, Birmingham Museums and Art Galleries are offering all families with school-age children a fantastic Birmingham Museums Membership offer. Families are able to receive 10% off the price of a Family Membership if they purchase during May and June. For more information click on [this link](#).

You can also view their latest newsletter with details of forthcoming events 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.

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 29 June 2019 to 1 September 2019. This is part of a worldwide tour and for the first time will be showcasing the full collection, 100 images and 45 digital shots. More information is available on [this link](#).

Family Saturday at the Ikon Gallery on 6th July – This is an opportunity to visit the gallery and spend some time making and experimenting as a family with creative, hands-on activities inspired by the current exhibition. 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 squish clay to sculpt an epic lunar landscape! More information is available on [this link](#).