



# Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

18<sup>th</sup> January 2019

## Diary

Date	Information
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	Governing Body Meeting for Site, Finance and Premises Year 9 spring History assessments during this week
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Year 9 The Big Physics Quiz
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 11,FR1, French speaking examination practice Netball Fixtures against Cardinal Wiseman School
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 10 Speakers Trust Workshop
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Holocaust Memorial Day
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 9 Holocaust Memorial Day Visit
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 11 History assessments
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Last day to purchase Year 11 Prom tickets
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 10 Science Live Visit
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	National Internet Safety Day Year 9 Curriculum Evening
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 7 Loudmouth Education and Training – Bully 4 U Netball Fixtures against St Edmund Campion School

## Notices

**Looking after our environment** – This week Year 11 pupils have been delivering assemblies on deforestation and looking after the environment. There are many actions we can take as individuals to look after our environment. This includes considering the waste that we create. We can reduce our impact on the environment by not wasting food or water, saving energy by turning off lights and other electronic items when they are no longer needed and correctly disposing of our rubbish. Litter is harmful to the environment and can cause accidents. Litter also portrays a negative image of the area. Throughout school there are lots of bins for the correct disposal of litter. Please talk to your daughter about looking after the environment and what she can do to ensure that our environment is kept clean and tidy for others.

**Mobile Phones** – A reminder that mobile phones are not allowed during the school day or while on the school site. If a pupil brings a mobile phone to school, it is recommended that they are handed into reception before school and collected at the end of the day. All phones must be switched off and remain out of sight. If a pupil is seen with a mobile phone out, the phone will be confiscated and held until a parent can pick it up.

**GCSE Art Clubs** – Fine Art after school club for Year 11 GCSE students takes place every Thursday, 2:55pm to 3:55pm. The aim of this club is to support students with their externally set assignment worth 40% of their



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final GCSE grade. Please note that all Year 11 coursework for Fine Art should now have been handed in as we prepare for their final 10 hour assessment at the end of April.

Art, Craft & Design after school club for Year 10 GCSE students also takes place on Thursdays, 2:55pm-3:55pm. This is an opportunity that will support pupils to complete their work to GCSE standards with access to a range of specialist materials, space to work freely in the Art and Design rooms, valuable extra time to refine work and additional guidance to help pupils with their coursework worth 60% of their final GCSE grade.

Please encourage your daughter to attend weekly; consent forms are available from Mrs Corser.

**Year 11 Prom Tickets are now available** – The Year 11 Prom is a fantastic highlight and celebration of our pupils' hard work and commitment while at Hodge Hill Girls' School. Tickets for this event are now available. Parents of Year 11 pupils are requested to make the appropriate payment via ParentPay before 31st January and to complete the reply slip in the parent letter sent home with Year 11 pupils.

A copy of the letter with more information is available on [this link](#).

**Year 8 vaccinations** – All Year 8 pupils have been given a form for their vaccinations. Please ensure that these are completed and returned to school as soon as possible.

**The Physics Big Quiz** – Good luck to our Year 9 pupils who are taking part in the Big Physics Quiz on Tuesday. Our pupils will be working in teams as they take part in a wide range of fun, innovative workshops and competitive science-based quizzes. With the event held at Birmingham University, the experience will also provide an introduction to universities. The Physics Big Quiz is part of the RAISE (Raising Aspirations in Secondary Education) programme, designed to support KS3 students by raising aspirations to Higher Education.

**Year 10 Speakers Trust Workshop** – We have the pleasure of welcoming the Speakers Trust, who will be delivering a workshop for 30 of our Year 10 pupils on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January. The aim of the workshop is to support the development of confidence and public speaking skills. The workshop will focus on communication skills that enable pupils to communicate clearly and with conviction. This is a new initiative that we are trialling within our school.

**Remembering the Holocaust** – A number of pupils in Year 9 pupils will be visiting Lichfield Cathedral this month to take part in the Holocaust memorial event being held there. Please encourage your daughter to reflect on the lessons of the Holocaust this month as Holocaust Memorial Day is Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> January. There will also be an opportunity for reflection on the Holocaust as part of our assembly programme.

**Science Live Conference Educational Visit** – On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February, Year 10 pupils have the opportunity to visit the GCSE Science Live Conference at the Symphony Hall. This is an excellent opportunity for our pupils to hear and be inspired by five of Britain's top scientists (Prof Robert Winston, Prof Andrea Sella, Prof Jim Al-Khalil, Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock and Prof Alice Roberts) all of whom work at the cutting edge of their specialisms. The trip also includes GCSE examination tips, inspiration for the application of science and explain opportunities study science at A level and beyond. There are currently several places available for pupils to join this educational visit. Interested pupils should see Dr Malik for a letter and more information.

Parents of pupils attending this trip are requested to make the voluntary contribution on Parent pay.

**Work Experience** – All pupils in Year 10 have received 'Work Experience Placement' forms. Pupils should now be in the process of actively looking for their own placement by contacting local employers. The 'Work Experience Placement' forms should be completed and returned to school by 25<sup>th</sup> February.

**NHS Careers Competition** – Did you know that there are 350 different careers within the NHS? Pupils in Year 8 and Year 9 have been researching many of the different careers within the NHS to produce job descriptions and adverts for their chosen career. At the end of January these job descriptions and adverts will be submitted to a national competition run by the NHS.

**GCSE Pod** – We are currently in 2nd place for the GCSE Pod Games, a competition running until the end of February that compares similar schools use of GCSE Pod. As a school, we have an average of 29.93 pods watched per KS4 pupil since 1st November.

Please continue to encourage your daughter continue to use GCSE Pod. GCSE Pod is an excellent resource to support learning for pupils in all years. It is especially valuable for our pupils in Years 10 and 11 to continually revise their learning and prepare for GCSEs; starting to prepare early for GCSE examinations helps pupils to reduce panic and stress while it also improves examination results

Further information for parents on GCSE Pod is available on [this link](#).

### Forthcoming Examinations or Assessments

**Year 9 History** – Year 9 will be sitting their spring assessment on w/c 21st January. All pupils are expected to make progress from the grade they received in the autumn term. Please encourage your daughter with effective revision.

**Year 11 History** – Year 11 will be sitting their spring assessment on 29th January. Pupils will be tested on Britain, health and the people c.1000 to the present day. All pupils are expected to show progress from their mock exams. Thank you to all parents who spent time with history teachers at parents evening.

**Year 11 Languages** - In February, Year 11 pupils will be completing their mock speaking examinations in foreign Languages. While there will be some opportunities to practice within school, it is important that pupils also practice talking and answering questions at home in preparation for their mock examination. **More advice on what pupils will need to do in their MFL exams is available on [this link](#).**

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Day/date</i>
Urdu	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> , Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> or Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> February.
Spanish	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> or Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February.
French	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> or Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> February.

**Year 7 and Year 8 Religious Studies** – Spring assessments will be completed during week commencing 11<sup>th</sup> February.

### Post 16 Preparations

This week it was great to welcome Joseph Chamberlain College who came to school to interview our Year 11 pupils that have applied to study there. There are many colleges in Birmingham that offer a variety of different courses. It is recommended that pupils have at least 3 college offers of places so that they have options to choose from when their results are known.

The following table contains a list of some of the forthcoming open events. These are a great opportunity to visit colleges and sixth forms to support post 16 choices.

College	Date of next Open Event	Website address
Access Creative College	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February, 10:00am to 12.30pm & 1.30pm to 4:00pm	<a href="http://www.accesscreative.ac.uk/locations/birmingham/">www.accesscreative.ac.uk/locations/birmingham/</a>
BMET	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February, 4:00pm to 7:00pm	<a href="http://www.bmet.ac.uk">www.bmet.ac.uk</a>
Joseph Chamberlain Sixth Form College	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> January 2019, 6:00pm to 7:30pm	<a href="http://www.jcc.ac.uk">www.jcc.ac.uk</a>
South and City College	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January, 4:00pm to 7:00pm	<a href="http://www.sccb.ac.uk">www.sccb.ac.uk</a>
The Sixth Form College Solihull	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> February, 5:00pm to 7:00pm	<a href="http://www.solihullsfsc.ac.uk">www.solihullsfsc.ac.uk</a>
University College Birmingham	Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> January, 11:00am to 3:00pm	<a href="http://www.ucb.ac.uk">www.ucb.ac.uk</a>

College	Date of next Open Event	Website address
University of Birmingham School	Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2019, 5:30pm to 8:00pm	<a href="http://www.uobschool.org.uk">www.uobschool.org.uk</a>

**Year 11 SEND Transition Evening** - Joseph Chamberlain College will be hosting their annual SEND transition evening on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The college will be open to Year 11 students with additional educational needs, and their parents/carers. Please come along if a child in your care with SEND is considering Further Education. You will have the opportunity to:

- Tour the College
- Meet other students with SEND
- Meet our Learning Support Team
- Discuss and plan additional learning support
- Meet our Pastoral Support Team
- Meet with specialist teachers from the Local Authority

The college building is fully wheelchair accessible with ground floor step-free access, lifts to all levels, spacious disabled toilets and reserved parking bays. If you have any additional needs, please let us know so we can arrange suitable adjustments for you.

For further information, email their Learning Support Manager, June Underwood: [junderwood@jcc.ac.uk](mailto:junderwood@jcc.ac.uk). To register for the event, please visit their website: <https://www.jcc.ac.uk/events/send-evening-2019/>.