



Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

29nd March 2019

Diary

Date	Information
Saturday 30 th March	Young People's Newsroom at School of Media at Birmingham City University
Monday 1 st April	Year 8/Year 9 Regional Final of this year's UK Mathematics Trust Team Maths Challenge
Tuesday 2 nd April	Visit - Archery Taster Session Netball Fixture against Greenwood Academy Governors Meeting
Wednesday 3 rd April	Year 9 Mindset Workshops Year 10 - Deadline for submitting Unifest applications to school
Monday 8 th April	Year 7 Parents' Evening
Thursday 11 th April	Rewards Trip for pupils with the highest positive behaviour points
Friday 12 th April	Recognition Assemblies Last day of this term and Charity Non-uniform day
Monday 15 th April to Friday 26 th April	School closed for Easter Holidays
Monday 29 th April	School open for all pupils Governors meeting - Curriculum and Pastoral

Notices

Regional Final of this year's UK Mathematics Trust Team Maths Challenge - Good luck to the four pupils who are representing our school in Monday's Maths Challenge. It is wonderful to have a team pupils from Year 8 and Year 9. Over the last month the team have been working hard to prepare for this competition during lunchtimes and after school.

Mobile Phones - A reminder that all pupil mobile phones must be switched off while on the school site. A secure storage facility is available for pupils' mobile phones. To take advantage of this pupils can hand in their phone in the morning and collect it at the end of the school day. Alternatively, pupils **must** keep their phone switched off and in their bag. Should a mobile phone be confiscated, parents will be contacted to arrange a convenient time for the collection of the phone. Confiscated mobile phones will not be returned directly to pupils.

Sweets and Lollipops - Parents and pupils are reminded that sweets and lollipops **must not** be brought into school. Thank you for your assistance with this request, which supports our aim to encourage pupils to adopt healthy lifestyle and food choices.



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Archery Taster Session – On Tuesday a number of our pupils have the exciting opportunity to take part in a ‘Give it a Go’ session on Archery. During the morning pupils will receive archery coaching, which will be followed in the afternoon with an opportunity for our pupils to put what they have learnt into practice. This is a great opportunity for pupils to try a new sport, especially as Josh Smith, who is a talented archer and member of the GB talent programme will be there to offer advice.

Year 7 Parents’ Evening – Year 7 pupils are currently making appointments for their parents/carers to meet their teachers at the forthcoming Parent’s Evening. This will be the first Parents Evening for our Year 7 pupils and is an excellent opportunity to share achievements, progress and discuss any concerns. Letters have been distributed and are also available on [this link](#).

Rewards Trip – Throughout the term pupils are awarded ‘Positive Behaviour Points’ for excellence in attitude, behaviour, effort, helpfulness, quality of work, making a positive contribution to school life etc. At the end of this term top 100 pupils are invited to celebrate their achievements. Congratulations to all pupils, who have been earned the highest number of Positive Behaviour Points to be selected for this term’s celebration and will be enjoying a visit to the Cinema.

Road Safety – The road outside our school can be busy, especially at the time when most of our pupils are travelling to and from school. The hazards of crossing the road are further increased by parked cars, which can obstruct the view of oncoming traffic. Please discuss with your daughter the importance of crossing roads carefully, looking and listening for traffic and ensuring that they travel swiftly and directly to and from school.

GCSE Pod –New science videos are available in GCSE Pod. These videos are especially useful to watch and make notes on as preparation for required practicals. These pods can be used in combination with Focus Education Software to help pupils prepare for forthcoming assessments.

770 pods have been watched over the last week, Year 10 watched most pods at 335, with Year 8 second at 211 pods. Since 1st April an average of 6.17 pods per KS4 pupil have been watched. Across all year groups, the most watched subjects have been English Literature, History and Maths. To encourage pupil engagement with GCSE pod, pupils who watch more than 10 pods in a week are awarded a positive behaviour point. Please continue to encourage your daughter to use GCSE Pod.

As a school we have invested in GCSE Pod to support your daughter’s learning because nationally it has been shown that effective use of GCSE Pod boosts pupil learning and achievement. It is recommended that to maximise their learning pupils complete activities that enable them to evaluate, apply or reflect the new learning and knowledge gained from watching GCSE Pod. One technique to ensure active learning with GCSE pod is to start by writing a list of 5 facts on a topic before watching the relevant pod. After watching the pod add to the list a further 5 new facts they have learnt. More ideas of activities to boost memory and learning are contained on [this link](#).

Out of Hours Learning – There are many opportunities throughout the week for additional support for pupils. Should your daughter wish to join our ‘Out of Hours Learning’ programme, she must return the appropriate consent form to the Admin Office.

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

Please ensure that, if you are collecting your daughter from an after-school session, you come down the drive and into Reception; this enables us to supervise pupils.

Year 11 GCSE Fine Art – Parents and pupils are reminded that there is valuable extra support available as they prepare for their external exam in A2 on Thursdays after school.

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.

Young People's Newsroom – Birmingham City University (BCU) are running a free day-long Newsday for young people who are interested in trying out some journalism on Saturday 30th March. This is a fantastic opportunity to spend a day in radio studios, setting the news agenda and being a journalist reporting news stories. The workshop begins at 11:00am and runs until 4:00pm. Places are limited and must be booked in advance. To attend BCU will need written consent from your parents or carers. For more information or to book a place email diane.kemp@bcu.ac.uk or bob.calver@bcu.ac.uk.

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](#).

Year 9 Easter Residential Opportunity – The Smallpeice Trust have places available on an exciting residential opportunity to learn about automotive engineering via engineers from companies such as Aston Martin and Jaguar Land Rover. The course also provides a great taster of life on a university campus as a student. More information is available on [this link](#).

Year 10 - Unifest – Unifest is an excellent opportunity for Year 10 pupils to apply for a place at a University summer school. The summer schools are free of charge and provide an excellent way for pupils to learn more about university life and study general, with some summer schools specifically designed for pupils interested in certain careers and study options. Interested pupils should see Ms Middlehurst to discuss their application and eligibility. Please note that the deadline for applications to be submitted to school is Wednesday 3rd April 2019. 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](#).