



Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

11th September 2020

Important Dates

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Monday 14th SeptemberMonday 26th – 30th October | <ul style="list-style-type: none">FGB meetingHalf term |
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School Notice

CONTINUE TO CHECK SCHOOL GATEWAY AND SCHOOL WEBSITE FOR REGULAR UPDATES

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Protection against COVID-19

You will be aware that cases of coronavirus have started to rise again both nationally and locally. We would like to encourage pupils to wear a mask as they move around school buildings or in communal areas, when not in use pupils should store their mask in a sealable plastic bag. They must be put on and taken off correctly with clean hands. Masks do not need to be worn outside or in lessons. **They should not be worn in PE.**

Do not send your daughter into school if she displays the following symptoms:

The NHS guidance indicates that the main symptoms of Covid-19 include:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you have noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Please remember to:

- Keep your distance if you go out (2 metres apart where possible)
- Wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds with running water, soap and sanitiser.
- Do not leave home if you or anyone in your household has symptoms.
- Follow the guidance on safer travelling on public transport and remember to wear your face mask.



Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

11th September 2020

What to do if your daughter displays symptoms

From Monday 14th September the government guidance will have been updated.

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

HANDS

Keep washing
your hands
regularly

FACE

Wear a face
covering in
enclosed
spaces

SPACE

Stay at least 2
metres apart -
or 1 metre
with a face
covering or
other
precautions

School Information

- **Have your contact details changed?**
- **Have your daughter's medical or dietary information changed?**
- **If your circumstances have changed and you think your daughter may now be eligible for Free School Meals, please apply on the school website or contact Reception if you need any support with this process.**

School Office:

In the interests of adhering to social distancing you should only visit the school office if it is absolutely necessary. Please be aware that only one person of the family will be allowed in at any time. We ask that all queries are emailed to enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk or you can call on 0121 464 3094.

Reminder for Parents/Carers: Pupils should arrive promptly at their allocated time. Supervision of pupils only starts when pupils are on school site at their bubble start time. School staff are unable to intervene off the school site and, therefore, request that parents and pupils adhere to social distancing on the journey to school.



Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

11th September 2020

Subject Information

GCSE PODS: 837 pods were watched on GCSE Pod over the summer holidays, with English Literature, History and Combined Science the most accessed subjects. In term-time, pupils are rewarded for watching 10 pods each week with a positive point on ClassCharts; please encourage your daughter to watch the pods which support her learning.

- **Value of the month – 'Respect'** Please discuss this value with your daughter. To support please use the following link. [Poster link](#).
- **Thought for the week: 'Power'** see [PowerPoint presentation](#) and [video](#).
- **GCSE Pods:** Click on the link for Parent Resources
 - <https://www.gcsepod.com/free-resources/parent-resources/>

Exam Results Helpline now available until 18th September:

The Exam Results Helpline, delivered by the National Careers Service, will provide additional support to students and their parents as they consider their next steps. Callers to the helpline will have direct access to experienced careers advisers who can advise on the different options available to them including T levels, A levels, GCSEs, BTECs, apprenticeships and other vocational options. Support will also be available on topics such as clearing, university, gap years and the autumn exam series.

- **Phone:** 0800 100 900
- **Opening hours:** Monday to Sunday from 8am to 10pm

Big Bang Fair

This year due to the current situation the Big Bang Fair was cancelled at the NEC in March. However, in July the event was held virtually via the Big Bang website.

There were a range of speakers presenting over a broad range of Science topics, and Year 9 students were encouraged to take part. Students were asked to enter a competition to write a report about the sessions they had participated in. The best 3 reports were chosen, and those students were presented with gift vouchers earlier this week.



Well done to: Lubnaa H, Alina I, Ruqayyah A

ART: The Never Such Innocence Competition is now open for entries.

This year's theme is 'The Unheard Voices of Conflict: Stories from Around the World'.



Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

11th September 2020

With successful entries from Hodge Hill Girls' School in the past why not enter and share your reflections on conflict or give a voice to those who may not have one. Entries can be in the form of poetry, art, speech or song.

Some examples of an 'unheard voice' could include: A personal family story relating to conflict, the feelings of a service child who has a parent deployed, the perspective of people from a defeated army, refugees fleeing from their homes, young people caught in the midst of conflict, or if animals could speak - what would they say? Feel free to be creative with how you interpret the theme!

The competition will run from **Friday 4th September 2020 - Friday 19th March 2021**

Talk to your Art teacher, go to the Art Site on Pupil Portal or click on the link for more information. <https://www.neversuchinnocence.com/2020-21-competition>

Interested in the Arts in Hodge Hill? Then why not take a look at the Number 11 Arts Forum to see what is going on locally. <http://www.number11arts.co.uk/>

Art Department Announcement: Year 8 are working on a project considering sustainability and the environment within their Art lessons. As part of this project they will be recycling envelopes to create their own sketchbooks. Please support your daughter by saving envelopes received without any personal details on them and sending them into school with her on the days she is timetabled to have Art.

Thank you.

PE Challenge: The PE department has created a new challenge to replace after school clubs. Each month the PE dept will release a new task card with new challenges on it. Pupils can access this on pupil portal and ask their PE teacher for their task card to start the challenge. Once a task has been completed a parent/carer can sign over the square as evidence (or your PE teacher depending on which task). At the end of the month pupils are to hand in the task sheet and can get certificates and points for their House. Please see [PowerPoint](#) for details.

Safeguarding and Wellbeing

We are aware that this may be a worrying time for adults and children. We have therefore extended the resources on our website around Safeguarding and Wellbeing.

Your emotional and physical well-being is very important to us. Take the time to look at these links as a family and we hope you are able to make use of any suggestions made.

Additional ideas and guidance can be obtained from:

- o <https://www.mindkit.org.uk/5-ways-to-wellbeing/>



Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

11th September 2020

- <https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/for-children-and-young-people/coronavirus/supporting-your-teens-wellbeing-during-coronavirus/>
- When you just need to stop and breathe <https://www.calm.com/breathe>

Staying Safe Online:

All parents/carers need to be aware of what their daughter/s are accessing when online. Young people often access sites that are not appropriate for their age.

- Parents and carers may wish to visit <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/presentations-for-parents/> for videos and further ideas on how to keep children safe online.
- **Childnet:** offers a toolkit to support parents and carers of children of any age to start discussions about their online life, to set boundaries around online behaviour and technology use, and to find out where to get more help and support. <https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>
- **Internet Matters:** provides age-specific online safety checklists, guides on how to set parental controls on a range of devices, and a host of practical tips to help children get the most out of their digital world. <https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/11-13/>

Further guidance on staying safe online can be found on our website at this link <https://www.hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk/parents/online-safety>

Thank you for your continued support through these challenging times.