



Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

15th May 2020

Important Dates for your Diary

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sunday 24th May• Wednesday 20th May• Monday 25th – Friday 29th May• Sunday 14 June 2020 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eid al-Fitr• Thank a Teacher/Staff Day• Half Term• Inspire Art competition closes |
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CHECK SCHOOL GATEWAY AND SCHOOL WEBSITE FOR REGULAR UPDATES
Parents/Carers should not be coming onto the school site

FSM update

A huge thank you to parents for their patience with continuing to navigate the Edenred voucher system for Free School Meals, and for alerting us when there have been challenges. It has undoubtedly improved, but there are still some difficulties; please continue to alert us at school by emailing enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk and we would also strongly recommend emailing your queries to Edenred on freeschoolmealparentscarers@edenred.com. We are aware that some parents have already contacted the Edenred email address and not received a response; however, this is the method of contact that we have been advised to make you aware of.

We are able to see that there are still a few Edenred vouchers which have not been claimed from earlier weeks:

£15	Redeemed	04/05/2020	02/09/2020
£15	Redeemed	27/04/2020	27/05/2020
£15	Redeemed	20/04/2020	20/05/2020
£15	Redeemed	16/04/2020	16/05/2020
£15	Live	04/05/2020	02/09/2020
£15	Live	27/04/2020	25/08/2020

Please ensure that you claim the eCodes which you are entitled to in order to support your daughter and check expiry dates carefully. We understand from some parents that there can be a delay on 'redeeming' the code and you receiving the £15 voucher; again, please contact us on enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk and also Edenred on freeschoolmealparentscarers@edenred.com if you require further support.



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If your circumstances have changed and you think your daughter may now be entitled to Free School Meals, please complete the online form on the school website; please remember that you need to complete a separate form for each child. If we receive notification in school that you are now eligible for Free School Meals, we will contact you to confirm the email address you would like us to use and place orders for vouchers to be sent directly to you from Edenred.

School Provision

Due to the low uptake of in school provision, we will only be opening the school when supervision has been booked in advance. If you wish to send your child into school, you must qualify for this provision by meeting one of the following criteria:

- Families where **all** adults in the household are Key workers, they are required in work during school hours and the children are **not** old enough to take care of themselves. In line with new guidance we will be asking parents to provide evidence that they are key workers providing their services at the time that childcare provision is being requested.
- EHCP students
- Children who would be considered vulnerable due to Social services involvement.

As you can imagine, we need to keep these numbers as low as possible to protect the children attending and the staff required on site to oversee this provision. Please can you therefore think carefully before requesting provision.

If you require provision **between Monday 18th May – Friday 29th May** please contact enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk leaving a contact telephone number and the specific supervision requirements (days, times, reasons support is required). It is essential that the provision is requested at least **48 hours** in advance so that we can ensure the correct level of staffing. Also, can you complete the survey below by **3pm** on **Monday 18th May** to indicate what days in June you require support. [Survey](#)

Attention Year 10 and Year 11: You have been sent the Summer 2020 examination timetable to check for name and examinations entry errors. Please ensure your name is correct as this is how it will appear on your certificates. If there are any errors please email Ms Qureshi on n.qureshi@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk with a PDF copy/photograph of your birth certificate. The system will be updated and the relevant awarding bodies will be notified. Please ignore the date and time of all exams as these will not be going ahead.

The deadline for these changes is Friday 22nd May 2020. If we do not hear from you by this date, changes will not be accepted. The name will appear as it is on the exam



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timetable and any charges to change personal details later will be at your cost (currently around £50 per certificate). Please email to confirm if there are no changes required.

- **Value of the month – ‘Patience’** Please discuss this value with your daughter. To support please use the following link. [Poster link.](#)
- **Thought for the week: ‘Sleep’** see [PowerPoint presentation](#) and [video](#).
- **The First News Magazine:** Please see the link for this week’s edition celebrating VE Day. [Click here.](#)

Additional Resources:

We will look to share with you some additional sites that may be useful each week. There are so many wonderful websites to assist learning at home.

The Globe Theatre Screenings:

The Tempest and A Midsummer Night’s Dream are currently being streamed for free via BBC iPlayer. The following plays; Macbeth, The Noble Kinsmen and The Winter’s Tale will all be shown for free via [YouTube](#) as part of ‘YouTube Premieres’.

South & City College B’ham:

Calling all Year 11s who may have questions about college – chat to current students and college staff online!

Get instant answers to anything around:

- Careers advice
- Which courses are available
- Next steps
- Finance
- Free bus pass
- Additional support
- Apprenticeships

To join the chat, simply head to the website from 10.00am on Wednesday 20th May and ask your questions using the chatbox on the homepage. <https://www.sccb.ac.uk/>

GCSE Pod:

Please encourage your daughter to continue to use GCSE Pod to support consolidation of previous learning and to look ahead to future learning. We are currently awarding positive points on ClassCharts for pupils who watch **5** or more pods each week. Please watch [video](#) for further information for parents on GCSE Pod. **242** pods were watched last week; it would be great if we could watch even more this week!



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If pupils have any queries with GCSEPod, they should email Miss Middlehurst on c.middlehurst@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk .

➤ **Science:**

The NPL Outreach group have come up with a new initiative to encourage youngsters to try some **measurement science** at home.

These are instructions to some experiments that can be carried out with simple equipment people are already likely to have at home. The first measurement challenge is "Break a Flake"!

To find out more visit: www.npl.co.uk/measurement-at-home

➤ **Maths Whizz:**

All students in Year 7 should be attempting to complete at least 3 progressions a week on Maths Whizz. Please try to encourage your daughter to do this as it will refresh their memory on a whole range of Maths topics and help their learning in future. So far during lockdown: **185** hours of Maths Whizz Learning - we can improve this!

Any problems please email m.ainge@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk

➤ **Hegarty Maths:**

Parents/Carers remember to ask to see your daughter's 'My Scores' page to see how they are progressing.

Remember to check your school emails too and encourage each other to stay positive and to stay focussed through PACT.

➤ **InteGIRLS:** is dedicated to spreading love for mathematics among school-age girls. Their website is www.integirls.org for more information.

This year, they are hosting **the world's first free-to-enter all-girls virtual puzzle contest** between **May 29th and May 31st**. The competition will feature a set of puzzles that each team will have three days to solve. No puzzle experience is required! You can find rules and the [sign-up sheet here](#).

This is your chance **to participate in this exclusive, one-time puzzle event**. This event is targeted towards middle and high school girls, but women of any age may participate in the open category.

➤ **EAL Department:** Have produced a useful list of websites and activities for EAL pupils who are currently at home. Take a look and see what would be useful for you and your child.

- <https://flashacademy.com/resources/home-learning-project-packs/>



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Parents can visit the Educator Blog page for more ideas on home learning activities, which are shared frequently over on their Twitter page. There are plenty of ideas to keep children motivated, home PE activities for EAL pupils.

- <https://rivet.area120.com/read/#/libraryScreen>
- Reading practice has never been easier with **Rivet**, a reading app with over 2000 FREE levelled books for kids.
- <https://worldstories.org.uk/>
World Stories is a growing collection of stories from around the world. The collection includes retold traditional tales and new short stories in the languages most spoken by UK children.
- <https://teachyourchildtoread.co.uk/>
Teach your Child to Read provides you with resources in eBook format which is a real asset!

Get creative:

Learning about keyhole surgery is part of the GCSE History course. Pupils with an interest in History, Engineering and Technology might like to have a go at creating their own keyhole surgery simulator; this activity has come to us from the Smallpeice Trust who support lots of STEAM activities in schools. Please [click here](#) to watch the instructional video and [click here](#) to see written instructions showing how to build your keyhole surgery simulator.

- **RIBA Architecture:** Have created a set of engaging easy use resources for people of all ages and interests to explore architecture from home. Some of them will develop your skills or teach you something new about architecture, some you can do together as a group and some all you need is your imagination. Click on the link: <https://www.architecture.com/education-cpd-and-careers/learning/riba-national-schools-programme/learning-resources/learning-at-home>
- **Art:** Quentin Blake has a new body of work 'We Live in Worrying Times' which was due to go on exhibition to the public at Hastings Contemporary Gallery at Easter. Due to COVID-19, the gallery is closed but they are doing virtual robotic tours as featured on the BBC last week. There is a waiting list and you do have to contact the gallery to book:
 - <https://www.hastingscontemporary.org/exhibitions/>



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There are three videos including Quentin Blake talking about his work and explaining what his work is about. There is also a great video of him actually creating the work in the gallery space.

- <https://www.hastingscontemporary.org/exhibition/quentin-blake-we-live-in-worrying-times/>

This link provides information about the painting 'Guernica' by Pablo Picasso that provided the inspiration for Quentin Blake to produce his piece of work 'We Live in Worrying Times'. This painting also links to the GCSE History curriculum.

- <https://www.pablocicasso.org/quernica.jsp>
 - For pupils with a particular interest in Astronomy, Physics, Maths and/or Coding, <https://cardiffphysics.github.io/physx-resources/> includes a range of different links to be explored.
- **Art Department:** Currently in the news amazing pieces of artwork are being created from the inner tube of the humble toilet roll. Mrs Oliver has created a PowerPoint presentation to support you with this challenge from the Art Department to be creative!

Once you have created your masterpiece from the Toilet rolls, photograph them and e-mail them to the Art Department so we can share your work and celebrate the creativity at Hodge Hill Girls' School.

<https://hodgehgs.sharepoint.com/sites/ArtDepartment>



Say 'Thank you' to a member of staff at your school by sending a free ecard on the following link: <https://thankateacher.co.uk/thank-a-teacher-day/>



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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.

Wellbeing Bingo: How many Wellbeing Bingo activities have you completed so far? Let us know via enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk and remember to add the title in subject. [Click on week 3](#)

Spurgeons Young Carers: Do you have a young carer in your household? Spurgeons is a local organisation that offers support. Take a look at their [leaflet](#).

CyberFirst Courses: All of the courses are carefully designed to bring out every student's potential. You will delve into how everyday technology really works; how the systems and software that surround us are connected to each other; how information flows through networks; and how we can take sensible steps to protect our digital world. www.SmallpeiceTrust.org.uk/cyberfirst

West Midlands Regional cybercrime unit:

To support our communities during these difficult times we are running a series of online Cyber security presentations via You tube.

These are of course free of charge and suitable for staff and students.

The presentations available:

Monday	Friday
01/06/20	22/05/20
	29/05/20
	05/06/20

All presentations are 10.00am to 10.30am

See below link for details. Viewers can sign up via Eventbrite to get the relevant secure link to the presentation and get access to the included information pack.

Eventbrite link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cyber-security-awareness-training-tickets-103336109084>

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

As you will be aware through news coverage the Government is frequently updating their response to the global issue of Coronavirus. Keep up to date and follow the latest guidance during this period at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>



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- **Guidance for Parents and Carers:** Opening schools and educational settings to more pupils from 1 June click on the following [link](#)
- **The Five Ways to Wellbeing:** Click on the following Loudmouth [video link](#).

Staying Safe Online:

While your daughter is away from school take particular care to monitor her online and social media usage. Do you know who she is contacting? Are the platforms she is using appropriate for her age? Are you aware of the content/images that she is posting? Further guidance can be found on our website at this link <https://www.hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk/parents/online-safety>

STAY ALERT AND STAY SAFE