



# Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

4<sup>th</sup> May 2020

## Important Dates for your Diary

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

Attention Year 10 Students entered for examinations this summer for English Literature: Please read the attached letter by clicking [Ofqual Information](#) a copy can also be found on the school website.

Year 11 students: Joseph Chamberlains College application process is currently still open this year for Year 11 students. Click the logo on how to apply now.



### **FSM update**

Edenred have been issuing vouchers in a scheme coordinated by the government. You should be receiving an email which includes a 16-digit eCode each week; details are included in this information guide:

[https://www.edenred.co.uk/Documents/DfE/DfE\\_FreeSchoolMeals\\_ParentCarerFAQs.pdf](https://www.edenred.co.uk/Documents/DfE/DfE_FreeSchoolMeals_ParentCarerFAQs.pdf)

***Please note that ecodes can now be exchanged at Aldi and McColl's as well.***

School staff have worked to ensure that we have the correct email details for the family contact who will be able to redeem the eCode; if your daughter is eligible for Free School Meals and you do not receive an email from Edenred, please contact [enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk). Please check your inbox, clutter, and junk for the emails from Edenred. We expect these to be sent to parents each Monday during the period of school closure; ***we do not currently expect vouchers to be issued for the week of the May half-term holiday so please keep this in mind when planning when to use vouchers.***

Please note that there is a huge national demand to access the Free School Meals information as per the information guide; the government is working to upgrade systems to increase capacity and you may have to wait in an online queue. If you are unable to access the relevant information, please contact the school on [enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk). Please ensure you include your daughter's name and form in the email so that we are able to support you with your query.



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## **Siblings and Free School Meals.**

Please remember that if you have more than one child you must complete a separate application for each child; please use the link on the school website for applying for Free School Meals.

***There are a number of parents who still have vouchers showing as 'live' on Edenred; this means that you have been emailed with your 16-digit eCode but have not yet redeemed it. Please check emails and check expiry dates on the eCode in order to ensure you are able to use it in the supermarket.***

If your circumstances have changed and you think that your daughter may now be eligible for Free School Meals, please follow the link on the school website to check. If you are eligible, the school is automatically informed, and we will then place orders for Free School Meal vouchers; you may be contacted by our staff to check that we have an up-to-date email address.

Edenred have recently issued this further information for parents following some difficulties earlier this week:

For Edenred distributed eCodes:

- You may have entered the incorrect eCode. Please try to enter your eCode again. If your code is still not accepted please delete the browsing history on your device – as your device may be storing the incorrect code in its memory.

If you are still experiencing problems, please use the contact details below for further support.

**For parents/carers:** [freeschoolmealparentscarers@edenred.com](mailto:freeschoolmealparentscarers@edenred.com)

Due to the low update 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.



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If you require provision **between Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May** please contact [enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk](mailto: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.

## **PACT:**

Remember to send in any work you have completed and wish to share with us. You can share any good news, photos, any **Physical** exercise you have been doing, **Academic, Creative, Teamwork** – just email it to [enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk) with **PACT** in the subject box.

- **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: ‘Aphorism’** see [PowerPoint presentation](#) and [video](#).
- **The Week Junior Magazine:** Please see the link below to the current edition of The Week Junior, including the inspiring story of Captain Tom Moore and his fundraising efforts for the NHS: [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.

- **GCSE Pod** have informed us that, as a whole school, we have watched over 25,000 pods this academic year; this is an amazing achievement and demonstrates your excellent commitment to independent learning with GCSE Pod.

This week we will give a positive merit for all pupils who watch **5** or more pods before the end of Saturday; these can include any subjects and pods that your teachers have asked you to watch or any extra ones that you are interested in watching to develop your learning further.

Many of our pupils use GCSE Pod to support their learning. GCSE Pod has produced some materials to support with Key Stage 4 to Key Stage 5 transition in a number of subjects. These resources can be accessed at <https://www.gcsepod.com/free-resources/getting-ready-for-ks5/>

- **Reading:** To support your daughter with a continued focus on reading please click on the FREE resource to use while at home. Click on the following link <https://readon.myon.co.uk/>



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➤ **Art Department Announcement:**

Art, Design & Technology classes have rotated which means that KS3 pupils will have new work set by a different subject teacher to work through. For Art & Design with Mrs Corser or Mrs Oliver additional support can be found on the Art Department Site as well as news items. <https://hodgehgs.sharepoint.com/sites/ArtDepartment>  
Change Over of Groups in Design Technology & Art by Mrs H Walsh please see attached link: [Design Technology and Art](#)

➤ **Grayson's Art Club:**

The Channel 4 series Grayson Perry's Art Club is a fantastic celebration of art and different techniques to inspire people to make things.

<https://www.channel4.com/programmes/graysons-art-club>

➤ **Aim Higher:** Please take a look at the aim higher website, there are a huge number of webinars that you can access. Click on the link to register your interest and then you will be able to watch the webinar. Some examples include student finance, introduction to higher education, how to write a personal statement and much more. [Click here](#)

➤ **Summer Internships for ages 15–18:** In STEM-Related Careers. To register and see available dates click on the link [here](#).

➤ **Science Request:** Please encourage students to use **Tassomai**, questions have been prepared in English, Maths and Science for Year 7 and 8, and Science and French for Year 9,10 and 11. All students have passwords. If they are unsure, or have forgotten then click on the password link, which will trigger an email to reset their password or they can get in touch with **Ms Sattar** or **Dr Malik**. The daily task takes approximately 15 minutes.

## Get creative:



With the next Olympic Games having been postponed from this summer to summer 2021, there is even more time to find out about how sport crosses so many boundaries and requires so many different skills. Pupils – and parents – may be interested to look at: [click link](#). There is another great designing competition with fantastic prizes as part of this - <https://www.getset.co.uk/resources/home-learning/the-mascot-challenge-home> - where pupils get the opportunity to design a mascot.

## **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.

**NSPCC**

Helpline: can be reached 24 hours a day by email – [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk) - or through its online reporting form. Its team of experts can also be called Monday to Friday 8am-10pm or 9am-6pm at the weekends on 0808 800 5000.



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[The NSPCC has also made new resources available at this link.](#)

We have updated the school website to include support for pupils and families around Safeguarding and Wellbeing <https://www.hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk/safeguarding>. This includes a link to local food banks. [Food Bank link.](#)

## **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>

### **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>