



Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

5th March 2021

Important Dates

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monday 8th – 12th March• Sunday 14th March• Monday 15th March• Monday 22nd March
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Friday 2nd – 16th April• Monday 19th April• Monday 17th May• Monday 24th May | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• STEAM Week• Mother's Day• Year 9 Assessment Week• Year 8 Parents Evening – Online appointments only.• Reading Test for Year 7 - 10• Easter Break – school holidays• School re-opens• Year 7 Assessment Week• Year 8 Assessment Week |
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It is important that you are checking your School Gateway/emails and the school website for updates from the school.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Schools wider re-opening from 8th March 2021.

Hodge Hill Girls School will be open for pupils in Year 7 and 11 on Monday 8th March, and joined with Year 8 and 10 on Tuesday 9th March and Year 9 on Wednesday 10th March. This allows for testing of all students prior to attending lessons. A separate letter has been sent via School Gateway to confirm this staggered arrival.

Message from West Midlands Police

We have been informed by West Midlands Police, that from Monday 8th March onwards there is going to be more visible policing around Birmingham City Centre. If your daughter is travelling through the city centre, please ensure that she is aware that in light of continued Covid restrictions she must make her way home promptly.

Due to government announcements changing on a regular basis you can keep up to date on the latest information by clicking on the following link: gov.uk/backtoschool

Message from the West Midlands Police: Eyes Open: new campaign launched to protect children from drugs gangs. Please click on the following link [WMP](#)





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School Information

Parent Vehicle Access

On Monday 8th March we will be reverting back to no parent access for vehicles down the school driveway in the mornings and all students will need to be dropped off outside of the school.

West Midlands Travel have posted some helpful tips when travelling by public transport. Click the link [here](#).

Face coverings should be worn by pupils when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot easily be maintained. Face coverings should be worn in classrooms and during activities unless social distancing can be maintained. This does not apply in situations where wearing a face covering would impact on the ability to take part in exercise or strenuous activity, for example in PE lessons.



CLICK HERE TO APPLY FOR
FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Free School Meals

Please ensure that you are redeeming vouchers and checking expiry dates; there is nothing we can do if vouchers have expired.

Please remember that Free School Meal provision reverts to in-school provision from Monday 8th March; please refer to the letter sent by Mrs Cooney earlier this week for full details.

GCSE Pod

The school was once again in the top 10 using schools in the country last week. We have also qualified for the National League for GCSEPod usage which features the 17 highest using schools across the whole country since 1st November.

Individual year group figures are as follows:

Year 7	95%	1146 pods; Biology, English Literature and RS
Year 8	95%	705 pods; History, English Language, English Literature
Year 9	96%	177 pods; English Language, English Literature, History
Year 10	99%	259 pods; English Literature, Maths, History
Year 11	99%	121 pods; History, Chemistry, Physics

Check out the top ten users. [Click here to view](#).

Open Theatre – Releasing Birmingham's Creativity

Click on the following YouTube link to find out about the Open Theatre group funded by the National Lottery to work in partnership with five local Art Forums across Birmingham including Hodge Hill. Click here to view and to find out how to join: [Unbounded](#)





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Parents of Year 10 Pupils

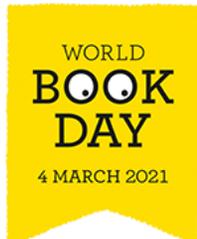
Year 10 pupils should ensure that they have a large, strong bag with them for school on Wednesday; pupils will be being provided with a range of resources to support their chosen GCSE courses for learning both at home and at school, including revision guides. Please take the time to discuss with your daughter what she has received and how these will help her. Many of these resources will be returned to the school at the end of their GCSEs and pupils should take good care of these so that others are able to benefit from them in the future.

PE House Logo Competition

The deadline for the House Logo competition has been extended to **Thursday 1st April**. A reminder that you have to design a logo that represents your house. You will need to email your entries to s.barron@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk

Reading Tests for Year 7 -10 week commencing **Monday 22nd March**. Could all students please bring their headphones during this week.

Reading Focus



All pupils have received via Class Charts, a dynamic and interactive range of videos, podcasts, raps, competitions, Author Master Classes and Live Digital Events. These opportunities celebrate World Book Day and are hosted by:

- <https://www.worldbookdaysocial.com/>
- <https://bournvillebookfest.com/schools>



The VLE library now has a wide range of fiction available for Years 7 and 8. This is free to use, with immediate effect. We have also expanded the range of GCSE Literature texts and revision guides available for Year 10.



Reading List – all books can be loaned from the VLE Library

- '101 Awesome Women Who Changed Our World'
- 'Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World'
- 'Fantastically Great Women Who Made History'

Pupils have been emailed about the VLE Library, have access to a step-by-step guide about usage and links to videos which explain a range of download options. The links to guides and videos below will help you to get started.

<https://www.vlebooks.com/vleweb/documents/vlereaderhelp.pdf>





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<https://www.brownsbfs.co.uk/videos/vlebooks-how-to-download-ebook-to-apple-device>

<https://www.brownsbfs.co.uk/videos/vlebooks-how-to-download-an-ebook-to-pc-or-mac>

<https://www.brownsbfs.co.uk/videos/vlebooks-how-to-use-the-online-reader>

Remote Learning

Thank you for all your ongoing support with your daughter's remote learning. Over the next fortnight, teachers will be nominating their top '**lockdown learners**' in each subject and all nominated pupils will receive a certificate to recognise their efforts. We will also hold a prize draw for all nominated learners with the lucky winner in each year group receiving a 'Love2Shop' voucher.



It is British Science Week, and we will be marking this – as in previous years – as 'STEAM Week' at school. 'STEAM' stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics; pupils will be participating in a number of STEAM-related activities in lessons and a range of curriculum enhancement activities will also be provided for them.

STEAM week KS3 - What Are 'E-Textiles'? Click of the following [PDF](#) for more details.

The Great British Bake Off: Junior Bake is looking for the UK's Best Young Bakers aged 9 -15 years. Applications close on Sunday 28th March 2021. Enquiries: <https://junior.take-part.co.uk/>. See PowerPoint for further details [here](#).

Job of the week in the Health sector: [District Nurse](#). Click on the link for further details.

Thought for the week: 'Culture' Click on the link [Secondary presentation 'Culture'](#) also view the <https://vimeo.com/thought4theweek/culture> link.

Value of the Month: 'STRENGTH' click to view poster.

SEND

Birmingham City Council have provided a range of really useful information and advice on supporting your child with SEN and provided key contact numbers in the links below.

- ['We're here to help'](#)
- [Information and Advice Coronavirus](#)
- [Top Ten Tips to help your child](#)





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As your daughter returns to school, if you wish to contact the SENCO at Hodge Hill Girls School to discuss any issues or pass on any information, please email s.clews@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk

Birmingham School Health Support Service are currently running virtual drop-in sessions to support pupils with a range of health issues. If you would like to access the drop-in service, please see the links below.

- [Birmingham School Nurse drop-in session](#)
- [Attending your appointment by video](#)

Newly Arrived Pupils (NAPs) - March examinations

Year 10 and Year 11 students will be sitting exams in March. Students will be given a full detailed exam timetable in the upcoming weeks. We would like to thank parents in advance for their support of students as they prepare for these important internal exams.

Bilingual Dictionaries - Please remind your child to bring these.

NAP Review Meeting

Advanced notice that this year's Newly Arrived Review will be held on **Tuesday 23rd March** from 3.14pm 4.30pm online via School Cloud. This will give you further information and details about how your daughter is progressing with her studies and a chance to ask questions. The meeting length is approximately **10 minutes**. Please visit <https://hhgs.schoolcloud.co.uk/> or click on the parent tab (then choose Parent's Consultation Evening) found on the homepage of the school website to book your appointment.

Here is a short guide on '[How to book an appointment using School Cloud](#)'.

Flash Academy

Newly Arrived pupils have completed **51** lessons and learnt over **251** words in a little over two weeks. This is a phenomenal effort and will make a positive impact on their learning. Please keep encouraging your child at home to access the Flash Academy platform. If you have not seen your child's account, please ask them to see it and show you how it works.



Safeguarding, Wellbeing and Support

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 daughter or family can find support through the organisations below:





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Support for families

Useful websites:

- [Action for children](#)
- Barnado's: [Believe in children](#) | [Children's charity](#) | [Barnardo's](#)
- Birmingham Parent Carer Forum [PDF](#)
- [Child Bereavement UK](#)
- [Child Line](#)
- Forward Thinking Birmingham click on link for further support contacts: [FTB](#)
- Kooth: <https://www.kooth.com/>

Upcoming Live Forums: Please note the upcoming Live Forums on Kooth for young people to access during March are as follows: -

- Wednesday 10th March – Disability Awareness
 - Friday 19th March – Pursuing Happiness
 - Monday 22nd March – Spring'ing into Action
 - Wednesday 31st March – Social Takeover: Easter Fun
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- Mind: <https://www.mind.org.uk/>
 - [Muslim Youth Helpline](#)
 - NHS Support looking after a child or young person's mental health [NHS link](#)
 - NSPCC at www.nspcc.org.uk or call their national helpline 0808 800 5000.
 - Partnership for Children: www.partnershipforchildren.org.uk
 - Pause: School website - [Pause | Hodge Hill Girls' School \(hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk\)](http://Pause | Hodge Hill Girls' School (hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk))
 - Women's Aid: [Home - Women's Aid](#)
 - YoungMinds: [Looking after your mental health](#)

Keeping your daughter safe online

It is important to have regular conversations about staying safe online and to encourage children to speak to you if they come across something worrying online. Talk to your child about the importance of creating a safe online environment, including keeping any log-in details and passwords safe. For further support you can log onto gov.uk.

Where can I go to report something, I am not happy with?

- Parents
- Teachers
- Friends
- Police
- Online web report button

