



Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

6th November 2020

Important Dates

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sunday 8th November• Week commencing 9th November• Wednesday 11th November• Monday 16th November• Friday 4th December | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remembrance Sunday• Year 11 Mock Exams all week• Remembrance Day• Governors Meeting• Training Day – School will be closed to all pupils |
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PROTECT OTHERS BY KEEPING YOUR DAUGHTER AT HOME IF DISPLAYING ANY COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

CONTINUE TO CHECK SCHOOL GATEWAY AND THE SCHOOL WEBSITE FOR REGULAR UPDATES

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Government Guidance Updates: New National Restrictions from 5th November

Information on the new national restrictions, including what they mean for working from home and business closures, why they are being introduced and the financial support available.

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

Face Masks

Your daughter **MUST** bring a face mask into school every day which must be worn as pupils move around the school building and in communal areas. Please inform us if your daughter is exempt from the existing face covering obligations, due to an underlying health condition, if so, she will continue to be exempt from these new obligations.

If your daughter has a medical condition that places her in the clinically extremely vulnerable category, she should have received a letter from her GP or the NHS advising her to shield. Please advise the school if this is the case.





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GCSE Pod: Overall usage during the period 18th – 31st October was 1076 streams and 68 downloads, with English Literature, Biology and Chemistry the most accessed subjects across the whole school. Individual year group figures are as follows:

Year 7	49%	of pupils with active accounts; 7 downloads, 109 streams; Biology, DT and Maths have been the most accessed subjects.
Year 8	82%	7 downloads, 117 streams; Combined Science, English Literature and Maths
Year 9	93%	174 streams; English Literature, Chemistry, Spanish
Year 10	96%	54 downloads, 275 streams; English Literature, Biology, Combined Science
Year 11	99%	401 streams; Biology, RS, Maths

- GCSE Pod are running parent and child webinars which may be of interest to you, particularly if you have daughters in Years 10 or 11. Please follow the links below if you would like to find out more. You and your daughter can register for the webinars via the links below:

Motivation and Mindset GCSE Pod 9th November - 5pm to 6pm
[REGISTER HERE](#)

How to Work Smarter, Not Harder GCSE Pod 25th November - 6pm to 7pm
[REGISTER HERE](#)

Achieving the Best Study/Life Balance GCSE Pod 9th of December - 5pm to 6pm
[REGISTER HERE](#)

Maths Department announcement: Maths Whizz and Hegarty Maths

Overall students have spent 2424 hours working on Maths Programs at home during this half term. This is a positive achievement as home learning plays a crucial part in your daughter's development.

Congratulations to the following students who completed the most tasks with scores of 100%

- ✓ Year 7 Hibah H
- ✓ Year 8 Alveera R
- ✓ Year 9 Nadia A
- ✓ Year 10 Lida S
- ✓ Year 11 Samira Q

Please continue to support your daughter using these programs for homework. Any problems with access please contact your daughter's Maths teacher directly by email.





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Free Maths Webinar: Craig Barton - Maths Teacher, creator of mrbartonmaths.com, diagnosticquestions.com, The Mr Barton Maths Podcast, & TES Maths Adviser is holding a free webinar for parents on how to build mathematical resilience and reduce maths anxiety in children aged 10-13 on Tuesday 24th November at 8pm. If you are interested, you can reserve a place on this page <https://bit.ly/31wGpye>.

Plus, they are throwing in free Eedi Family for a year to 10 randomly selected parents that attend too! Check out Eedi for free on www.Eedi.com

Birmingham Popular Maths Lecture Series: Would like to invite you to watch the second instalment later this month. The lecture will be delivered online via Zoom with an opportunity to ask questions at the end.

The lectures are open to students studying mathematics at A-level and advanced GCSE. The lectures are a fantastic way to get involved in the mathematical community at the University of Birmingham and many students have found they provide great content for their personal statement.

- Wednesday, 25th November 2020 at 7.00pm Speaker: Dr Sara Jabbari
- Click here for further details [BPML](#)
- Click [here](#) to register for the event

Year 10 – Supporting Your Daughter with her Learning: Parents and carers of all Year 10 pupils have received a letter via School Gateway with information about accessing our 'Supporting Your Daughter with her Learning' workshop in partnership with Learning Performance. As we all adjust to different ways of doing things in the current circumstances, this has moved to an online video; please access the video via the information provided in the letter.

- <https://onehub.learningperformance.com/files/z3rsdti4>

The password to access the video has been sent out via School Gateway and the video will be available until Friday 27th November. After you have accessed the workshop, we would encourage you to provide us with feedback by completing a short evaluation [Click Survey](#)

We will be sharing some tips from **Learning Performance** for supporting learning with parents over the next three weeks; this first one is '[An exam survival guide for parents](#)' which may be of particular interest to parents of Year 10 and Year 11 pupils.





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Additional Resources:



Remembrance Sunday: Download and print out a poppy to colour in for Remembrance Day on 11th November. Take a photograph of your poppy and send it in to r.corser@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk to display them on the Art site. [Download it here](#)

Don't forget to wear your poppy.

- **Anti-Bullying week** Monday 16th – Friday 20th November. This year's theme is United Against Bullying.
- **Value of the month – November 'Courage'** Please discuss this value with your daughter. To support please use the following link. [Poster](#) and [30-day courage at home](#).
- **Thought for the week: 'Conspiracy'** see [PowerPoint](#) presentation and [video](#).
- **Job of the Week: Playworker.** Click on the link for more information [Social Sector details](#)

Now is your chance to 'Make Your Mark!'

Make Your Mark is an opportunity for 11-18-year old across the UK to have their say and begin their democratic journey by voting on the policies they want to introduce or change. The issues you vote as the most important will be debated by Members of Youth Parliament. They will campaign to influence the UK Parliament and their local representatives, ensuring that the views of young people are listened to by decision makers.

This is your opportunity to influence decision makers who can make a real difference on the issues that matter to you. Make Your Mark is one of the most important and influential ways young people can take part in a democratic process.

- **You have until 30th November to cast your vote!**

Make Your Mark is British Youth Council campaign, supported by the UK Parliament. Below is a link to the Make Your Mark ballot. Voting is easy! Just select the one UK-wide issue and one local issue that is most important to you.

Cast Your Vote Now!

- <https://www.ukparliamentweek.org/en/make-your-mark>

The Smallpeice Trust have made available a number of STEM challenges again. Pupils and families who are particularly interested in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics may wish to have a go at these at home:





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The Circuit Challenge - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s7fy27G9s1l&feature=youtu.be> with written instructions available at https://www.smallpeicetrust.org.uk/downloads/The-Circuit-Challenge_Leonardo-Engineering_At_Home.pdf

The Sensor Challenge - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zVPjLyhB89s> with written instructions available at https://www.smallpeicetrust.org.uk/downloads/The-Sensor-Challenge_Leonardo-Engineering-At-Home.pdf

The Microscopy Challenge - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z4p_pL7Pa-E with written instructions available at https://www.smallpeicetrust.org.uk/downloads/The-Microscopy-Challenge_Siemens-Healthineers-Engineering_At_Home.pdf

The Satellite Challenge - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TXeA-3Y7WUY&feature=youtu.be> with written instructions available at https://www.smallpeicetrust.org.uk/downloads/The-Satellite-Challenge_Thales-Engineering_At_Home.pdf

The Hologram Challenge - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iGgVmaxDzKI&feature=youtu.be> with written instructions available at https://www.smallpeicetrust.org.uk/downloads/The-Hologram-Challenge_GE-Engineering_At_Home.pdf

Tomorrow's Engineers: Do you like a challenge, are you good at problem solving? Then consider a career in Engineering. Tomorrow's Engineers have launched The Big Quiz to introduce students aged 11 to 16 to consider a career in engineering with a prize fund available for schools to spend on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) accessories or equipment. Click on the following links for more information on how to enter.

- [What is engineering](#)
- [Parents' guide to engineering](#)

The quiz is open until **Thursday 12 November 2020**. Students can access the link below:
<https://neonfutures.org.uk/>

Art: 'Draw My Town' is the catchy name of Illustrator and Cartoonist Ben Poultney. Born and raised in the middle of England, he has been drawing since he was a small child and has created colouring in sheets to download. Click on the free link

- <https://drawmytown.com/colouring-in-prints-free/>
- Click the [Black Country picture](#) as an example.

World Food Day Competition deadline 27th November.

Create a piece of art to highlight the amount of food that is wasted and ways to reduce it. Work creatively to any size, from an art history period and use materials of your choice. Your competition entry must have your full name and form on it.





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- <https://friendsoftheearth.uk/food-waste>
- <https://www.widewalls.ch/magazine/food-in-art-history>

School Information

Free School Meals: If pupils who are eligible for Free School Meals are self-isolating, their entitlement to FSM remains. Food parcels are available for self-isolating pupils in receipt of FSM; please contact school reception by telephone or email (enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk)

School Office:

Due to the national lockdown and guidance regarding not undertaking unnecessary journeys, parents and carers must not visit the school site unless specifically requested by a member of staff. Please contact school reception on 0121 4643094 or email enquiry@hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk should you need to get in touch with school.

Notices

Uniform Reminder for ALL pupils:

- Students should be wearing either the black school microfleece **OR** the Burgundy Hoodie with their PE uniform on days when they have PE. We highly recommend that this is purchased with the colder months upon us.
- They should not be wearing non-school uniform sweatshirts at any time. Please can we also remind parents that if opting to wear black leggings/tracksuit bottoms instead of the school tracksuit bottoms (with the school logo) these should be **PLAIN** black, they should not have white lines, branded logos or any other writing on them.
- **School lunches:** please can we ask that you continue to support the school by not allowing your daughters to bring crisps, energy drinks, chocolate, or sweets in to school. Packed lunches should comprise of heathy food only.
- **Water:** Students are asked to bring enough plain water in to school to sustain them throughout the day. This should be carried in a suitable container e.g. plastic water bottle. Due to the current situation, we are unable to allow students to use the water fountains.

Safeguarding and Wellbeing

Warm Home Discount Scheme You could get £140 off your electricity bill for winter 2020 to 2021 under the Warm Home Discount Scheme. The money is not paid to you - it is a one-off discount on your electricity bill, between September and March.





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You may be able to get the discount on your gas bill instead if your supplier provides you with both gas and electricity. Contact your supplier to find out.

- <https://www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme>

Keeping your daughter safe online:

All parents/carers need to be aware of what their daughter are accessing when online. Young people often access sites that are not appropriate for their age. Click on the school website for further guidance on staying safe online.

- <https://www.hodgehgs.bham.sch.uk/parents/online-safety>

Check your security and privacy settings

- Adjust privacy and safety settings to increase security and control the personal data you share. Look for the 'privacy and security' or 'settings' on the app or website.
- [Review the security settings](#) on your 'smart' devices. If your device is using a default or easily guessable password, change it.
- [Set up two-factor authentication](#). This is a free security feature to stop unwanted people getting into your accounts. You will receive a text or code when you log in to check you are who you say you are.
- [Update your devices](#). Using the latest version of software and apps can immediately improve your security.

There are three simple actions we must all do to keep on protecting each other



Wash hands

keep washing your hands regularly



Cover face

wear a face covering in enclosed spaces



Make space

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

National Lockdown – HELPING TO KEEP BIRMINGHAM SAFE

Stay Alert, Stay Safe.





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If your child develops symptoms associated with Covid-19 whilst at **home**, please keep them at home and follow the process outlined below. If your child develops symptoms associated with Covid-19 whilst **at school**, we will isolate them immediately, providing the support and reassurance they will require. We will contact you and require that you collect them immediately from school. Please take them straight home and follow the same process outlined below.

Step One: CONTACT

the NHS and request a COVID-19 Test from them online or by calling 119. Do not visit your GP, pharmacy, hospital or other healthcare provider. Call 999 if emergency care is needed.

Step Two: ISOLATE

Your child should isolate for 10 days after symptoms appear and other people in your household should isolate for 14-days.

Step Three: TEST

Get a test. Keep your child at home until she gets her results.

Step Four: RESULTS

You should receive your results within 72 hours. If the test is negative, your daughter and household may stop isolating although they must not return to school until they are well. **Please inform us of a negative test result immediately.**

Step Five: A POSITIVE TEST RESULT

If your child tests positive for Coronavirus, contact tracers will contact you to inform you of the isolation regulations you will need to follow. **Please inform us of a positive test result immediately.**

