



26th March 2024

Spring Term Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another exceptionally rewarding term at Hornchurch High School as we strive to accelerate academic standards. We are excited about the achievements of our students and the progress of the school. With each passing day, we witness the dedication of our students to their studies and extracurricular activities. As we continue to drive standards this academic year, I wanted to take the opportunity to celebrate every success, no matter how big or small, as we support one another in our pursuit of excellence. I must also extend my gratitude to the work of teachers and support staff who go above and beyond daily to ensure students can do their best. And thank you, parents and carers, for being an excellent partner of Hornchurch High School, supporting us so your child gets the best possible start in life.

Mind of the Student

Hornchurch High is committed to promoting positive mental health. On Wednesday, February 14th, 2024, Hornchurch High School hosted a Mind of the Student workshop for all year groups. Mind of the Student aims to instil confidence in young people to openly discuss their mental health. The workshop engaged all students in interactive sessions, providing them with valuable insights into mental health awareness. Specifically, years 7, 8, and 9 delved into discussions on depression, anxiety, confidentiality, and the impact of social media. Meanwhile, years 10 and 11 focused on managing depression, anxiety, confidentiality, and coping with exam stress. Facilitated by trained professionals, the workshop created a safe space for students to engage in discussions and explore strategies to address their mental health concerns.



First Aid

First aid is undoubtedly a lifelong skill that holds the potential to save lives. In emergencies, having the knowledge and ability to provide immediate medical assistance can make all the difference between life and death. Understanding how to respond effectively to injuries, accidents, and medical emergencies empowers individuals





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to act swiftly and decisively when it matters most. Therefore, at Hornchurch High School, we recognise the significance of equipping our students with these essential skills. We have taken proactive steps to integrate first aid training into our form time curriculum, starting with year 7 form classes. Currently, students in year 7 are learning and practicing CPR during their form time sessions every Friday. We are committed to extending this valuable training to all year groups by the end of the academic year. By instilling these life-saving skills early on, we aim to cultivate a community of confident and capable individuals prepared to respond effectively in times of crisis.



Sporting and Extra Curricular Achievements

We are thrilled to celebrate the remarkable sporting achievement of our year 11 basketball team, who clinched the title of Havering Champions with an impressive victory, securing a commanding score of 57-40! Their triumph in the Havering schools' trophy is a testament to their unwavering commitment, exceptional skill, and collective teamwork. Representing Hornchurch High School in a borough competition is a prestigious honour, and their success reflects the dedication and talent of every member of the team. Congratulations to our year 11 basketball team on this well-deserved accomplishment, and thank you for inspiring us all with your outstanding performance on the court!



Congratulations to our year 7 and 8 netball teams for their commendable performances in the borough competition. Out of all the schools participating, our year 7 team secured a notable 4th place, while our year 8 team showcased their skills and earned a respectable 5th place finish. Well done to all the players for their hard work, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the tournament. We are proud of your achievements and look forward to seeing your continued success on the netball court!

Our year 7, 8, and 9 students recently participated in the Havering trampoline competition, showcasing their skills and determination. Among the competitors, Maizy from year 9 secured a commendable 8th place, while Lou Lou, also from year 9, achieved an impressive 5th place out of 16 students. Well done to all participants for representing our school with such enthusiasm and sportsmanship!





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Our Debate Mate teams have continued to excel, recently completing their second round of debates online. We are thrilled to announce that out of the four debates we competed in, we emerged victorious in all four, marking a significant achievement for our school. A massive congratulations is in order for Connor and Mitchell in year 10, Daniel, Mia, Noah, Ashley, Amelia, Neve, and Leandro in year 9, and Nicholas in year 7. Their dedication, eloquence, and teamwork are truly commendable, and they are shining examples of the excellence we strive for at HHS. Well done to our Debate Mate teams for their outstanding performance and for representing our school with pride!



Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge | Year 10

This Wednesday (27th) our year 10 students will embark on an exciting journey as they participate in the renowned Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge. This prestigious competition provides a unique platform for young individuals to develop and showcase their public speaking skills on a wide array of topics. As our students prepare to take the stage, they are honing their oratory skills, refining their presentations, and building the confidence to articulate their thoughts and ideas effectively. The Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge not only fosters the development of essential communication skills but also empowers participants to become confident and influential leaders in their communities. We eagerly anticipate year 10s inspiring performances and the positive impact they will undoubtedly make through their speeches.

Learning Community | Parent Workshops

The first-ever Parent Workshop at Hornchurch High School, exploring strategies for supporting children with home revision, received positive feedback. Following its success, we organised a subsequent session titled 'Supporting my child with SEND', which was also very successful. Led by Ms. Del Rio, our SENDCo, the workshop offered practical insights for parents to consider. Attendees left with some strategies to implement at home to support their child's learning journey.

Post-16

Ayush, a diligent year 11 student at our school, recently applied to the prestigious NCS, renowned as one of the top sixth forms in both London and the UK for student outcomes. Amidst the influx of personal statements received by the admissions team, Ayush's submission stood out prominently. Their discerning eye and appreciation for excellence led them to





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personally commend Ayush, expressing, "I did want to take a moment out from this to congratulate you on your statement." This personalised acknowledgment underscores Ayush's outstanding dedication and the exceptional quality of his application.

Progress Reports Year 7-10 | Wednesday 27th March 2024

Throughout the academic year, students engage in three tracking assessments: autumn, spring, and summer. Following each assessment, teachers generate a predicted grade, a triangulation of their performance in assessments, classwork, and contributions to lessons. In their reports, you'll find a target grade - a grade derived from their KS2 scaled scores - and a predicted grade. The predicted grade reflects what they could achieve at the end of year 11 if they maintain their current level of dedication and effort over the next few years. This holistic approach ensures a comprehensive understanding of each student's academic progress and potential.

You will receive your child's Spring Progress Report later this week, please contact your child's Head of Year should you wish to discuss their progress in more detail.

<http://www.hornchurchhighschool.com/home/contact-us/>

Yr 11 Mock GCSE Results Day | Thursday 28th March 2024

Year 11s will receive their reports from the February mock examinations on this day. Students have been feeding back to their mocks but have not seen their grades yet, the focus has been on select skills and knowledge that need to be refined. On this day they will receive an *attainment grade* - what they would have actually received if it was the real examination with the real grade boundaries. As well as a *predicted grade* - what the teacher thinks they can achieve over the next 4 teaching weeks and revision sessions. This predicted grade is the grade that students will use for sixth form and college applications. We will support students further with this once we return back to school.

The summer examination series commences on Friday 10th May. The national exam timetable contains 3 contingency sessions on the afternoons of 6 and 13 June, and all day on 26 June. These sessions would be used in the unlikely event that an exam had to be moved nationally because it could not take place when planned. Ofqual has stressed that year 11 students must be in the country until 27th June, please do not book any holidays before then. The teaching and learning team will write to you separately regarding summer examinations.

Uniform Reminder

A reminder regarding uniform expectations after the Easter break:

- Black school shoes



Partnership Learning

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Home to Hylands Tennis Club



- Black socks or black tights – no white socks
- Modest skirt length, we are in a professional learning environment
- No make-up (students will be asked to remove it with make-up wipes)
- No false nails (please arrange removal prior to the start of term)
- No nail varnish
- No false eyelashes or eyelash laminations
- No jewellery (it is not advised to have a new piercing during the Easter holidays – students will be asked to remove it, irrespective of the healing process).

Uniform Swap Shop 2023-24

Acknowledging the challenges posed by the current cost of living crisis and its impact on the affordability of school uniforms, we extend a warm invitation for your support. If you have any uniform in good condition, we kindly encourage you to contribute by dropping them off in the designated boxes located in the reception area. Your generosity will play a vital role in ensuring that all students have access to the uniforms they require. Thank you for supporting students and their families at Hornchurch High.

In addition, the borough recognises the cost of living continues to rise across the country impacting residents of Havering. The council has launched a new 'Cost of Living Online Hub' that brings together all of the support available to residents:

<https://www.havering.gov.uk/costofliving>

Whole School Literacy

At Hornchurch High School, we understand the profound impact that fostering a love for reading can have on our students' academic success and personal development. As you are aware, years 7-10 engage in weekly library lessons. These sessions, held throughout the academic year, serve as dedicated time for students to engage in reading activities and exchange books, fostering both individual growth and a collective appreciation for literature. Students often read aloud to the teacher. Furthermore, to encourage regular reading habits at home, students have been provided with reading logs at the back of their knowledge organisers. We kindly ask parents to support their child's reading journey by ensuring they read for a minimum of 20 minutes each day and complete a summary of their reading. Together, let's inspire a lifelong love for reading in our students, enriching their lives both academically and personally.

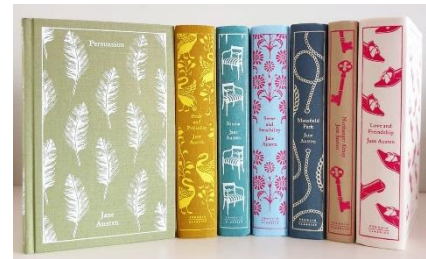
We have also successfully introduced our Whole School Word of the Week initiative. This program aims to enrich the vocabulary of our students, not only enhancing their writing skills but also bolstering their oratory abilities. Every Monday, a new word is shared via the whole school bulletin, accompanied by its word class, definition, and example sentences for





contextual understanding. Students are actively encouraged to integrate this word into their conversations and written assignments across all subjects. Furthermore, for each instance where the word is appropriately and accurately used, students will earn one ClassChart point as a testament to their linguistic proficiency. We are excited to witness the positive impact of this initiative on our students' language development and academic achievements. A huge well done to the winners from last half term who received a classic clothbound book:

Year 11 - Umar
Year 10 - Josh
Year 9 - Finley
Year 8 - Jedric
Year 7 - Derrick



Upcoming Parents' Evenings 2024

Please find below the Parents' Evening dates for your son/daughter. These dates have been scheduled following a data drop, providing you with the opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions about your child's progress.

Parents' Evenings 4-6.30pm	
Year 8 – Parents' Evening	Tuesday 23 rd April 2024
Year 7 – Parents' Evening	Tuesday 7 th May 2024

Summer Term Start 2024

The first day of summer term will start on **Monday 15th April 2024** with students **arriving at 8:15 for an 8:30 start**. The student gates will be open from 8:00am which can be found on the corner of Hartland and Broadstone Road, please do not enter via the car park/reception. The school day starts promptly at 8:30. Our breakfast club starts at 8am.

Last Day of Term

The final day of this autumn term is **Thursday 28th March, when students will be dismissed by 12.00 noon** for staff to attend an end of term review meeting. The final day is business as usual in terms of lessons periods 1 and 2. To celebrate students concerted efforts to meet our high standards students may wear non-uniform and donate £1 however, all other expectations still apply. Mr Lockwood will write to you separately regarding non-uniform day.

The term dates for 2023/24 and 2024/25 are published on our website should you wish to plan future holidays. They are both attached at the end of this letter.





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From all of us here at Hornchurch High may I wish you and your family a very Happy Easter and Eid Kareem to all those celebrating. Thank you once again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Ms S Madhvani
Headteacher



Partnership Learning

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Home to Hylands Tennis Club



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Term Dates 2023_2024

Hornchurch High School

School Term and Holiday Dates 2023 - 2024



September 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
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October 2023						
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November 2023						
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December 2023						
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January 2024						
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February 2024						
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March 2024						
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April 2024						
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May 2024						
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June 2024						
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July 2024						
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August 2024						
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	School Holidays
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	Bank Holidays
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	Staff PD Days non-pupil days
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Autumn Term	
Tuesday 5th September	Start of Term (Y7)
Wednesday 6th September	Start of Term (ALL)
Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October	Half Term
Tuesday 19th December	Last Day of Term

Spring Term	
Monday 8th January	Start of Term
Monday 19th February to Friday 23rd February	Half Term
Thursday 28th March	Last Day of Term

Summer Term	
Monday 15th April	Start of Term
Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May	Half Term
Tuesday 23rd July	Last Day of Term





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Term Dates 2024_2025

Hornchurch High School

School Term and Holiday Dates 2024 - 2025



September 2024						
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October 2024						
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November 2024						
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December 2024						
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January 2025						
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March 2025						
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April 2025						
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May 2025						
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June 2025						
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	School Holidays
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	Bank Holidays
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	Staff PD Days non-pupil days
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Autumn Term	
Tuesday 3rd September	Start of Term (Y7)
Wednesday 4th September	Start of Term (ALL)
Friday 25th October to Friday 1st November	Half Term
Thursday 19th December	Last Day of Term

Spring Term	
Monday 6th January	Start of Term
Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February	Half Term
Friday 4th April	Last Day of Term

Summer Term	
Tuesday 22nd April	Start of Term
Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May	Half Term
Friday 18th July	Last Day of Term

