



# Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

14<sup>th</sup> June 2019

## Diary

Date	Information
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Inoculations – Year 8 HPV & Year 9 School Leaver Booster Visit to Lloyds House Year 6 Induction Evening
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 10 Work Experience Interviews
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Governors Meeting – Site, Finance and Premises
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Visit to Birmingham City University, Aim Higher Campus Experience Day
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 10 Joseph Chamberlain College Taster Day
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 11 Leavers Assembly and PROM Visit to Sheep Wash Farm
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Full Governing Body Meeting Year 10 Work Experience Week
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Year 6 Induction Day

## Notices

**Access to School Site** – Parents are reminded that they are **not** allowed to access the school site at the beginning or end of the school day. This is to ensure the safety of all our pupils on their arrival and departure from school. If you are travelling by car to bring or collect your daughter from school, you should park in a safe location and walk to the school gate.

**Free Theatre Tickets for this weekend** – This is a great opportunity to experience a live theatre production at Birmingham Hippodrome Theatre. You have the opportunity to watch a new play by award-winning Bravo 22 Company titled Reparation Island. The play by Kevin Fegan combines storytelling, music and poetic imagery to give a rare glimpse of the veterans' world. This honest and illuminating production is performed by members of the Midlands Armed Forces Community and is directed by Christopher Elmer-Gorry. Performance times are Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June at 7:45pm and Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June at 2:00pm and 7:45pm. Email [info@thedriveproject.co.uk](mailto:info@thedriveproject.co.uk) to request the number of tickets you would like.

**Year 6 Induction** – We look forward to welcoming our Year 6 pupils and their parents/carers at our induction evening on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June. Please ensure that you bring their daughter's original birth certificate or passport with their completed the Data Collection Booklet. Invitations with details of the times and other arrangements have been sent to all parents.

The Induction Evening will be followed by an Induction Day on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, which is a great introduction to life at Hodge Hill Girls' School for all our new pupils.



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**Year 10 Work Experience** - As part of the work experience programme, your daughter may be having a work experience interview on Tuesday 18th June at 3.30pm. She will be allowed to leave school at 2.30pm, which will give her an hour to get to her placement. She will be expected to go straight to her placement in school uniform. If her employer has not asked to see her for an interview, she will remain in school until the end of the school day. She needs to use this time to prepare for meeting her employer.

**Pupil Opportunities around school** – There are a variety of opportunities for pupils to become more involved within school.

- Year 9 and Year 10 are invited to apply to be Library Prefects. Responsibilities include issuing books, helping pupils find suitable books and involvement in the development of our library. Applications should be submitted online by 24<sup>th</sup> June.
- There is also an opportunity for pupils to become Digital Leaders. Digital Leaders are pupils with a passion for IT and technology who also want to help other pupils. They will be based in the IT Lunchtime tooms. More information and applications are on the Pupil Portal.

Please discuss these opportunities with you daughter and encourage her to apply.

**NCS** - National Citizen Services, is an exciting programme suitable for our Year 11 pupils that takes place annually during the summer. There are two residential experiences: Phase 1: Adventure, with the opportunity to take part in outdoor adventure activities and Phase 2: Discovery, with the opportunity to work and learn new skills with industry professionals. Phase 3: Action is working and designing a project to make a difference in the local community. To find out more information and to apply to join a programme this summer [click here](#).

**An Exciting STEM Residential Opportunity for Pupils in Year 8 or Year 9** - Space Camp 2019 is a four-night residential STEM experience that is being held near Oswestry in Shropshire between Monday 12th and Friday 16th August. During the residential pupils will work in team towards their own High-Altitude Balloon launch and retrieval, involving predictions, payload build, helium research and footage video shows. Throughout the week there will also be specialist workshops by STEM Ambassadors, including Dr Jackie Bell from the TV series 'So You Want to be an Astronaut'.

This event, which is organised by the RAF, is free of charge and will feature dormitory boarding accommodation and is fully catered throughout. All that it requires is for parents to drop off on the 12th and collect on the 16th.

For more information and to apply for this opportunity, click on [this link](#). As places are limited, it is recommended that applications are submitted as quickly as possible.

**Women's Football World Cup** – The FIFA Women's World Cup is started on 7<sup>th</sup> June. Phil Neville's England team won their first game against Scotland and are playing Argentina this evening, 14<sup>th</sup> June and Japan on 19<sup>th</sup> June. All the matches will be shown live across BBC TV, radio and the BBC Sport website and App. This is an excellent opportunity to watch high quality football and inspirational female players from a variety of nations. More information on the Women's World Cup is available on [this link](#).

**Free Tennis in Birmingham** – There are many free activities that happen within our local parks throughout the year. Did you know that one of the opportunities on offer is tennis? At various parks there is free court hire and even free tennis coaching on offer. More information is available from [Tennis in Birmingham](#) and [Tennis in Birmingham](#).

**Barber Institute Art Classes** – Once a month on Tuesdays, the Barber Institute holds art classes for pupils aged from 13 to 15 years. These are a great opportunity to see amazing art, be inspired by real artists and try out new ideas. The art classes cost £7.00. There are two planned for this half term, Specimen Sketchbooks on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June and Felt-making 16<sup>th</sup> July. For more information [click here](#).

**Year 11 Revision Guides** - Year 11 pupils have borrowed revision guides from school for a number of different subjects. Please ensure that revision guides are returned to the Pastoral Office once exams have been completed in the relevant subjects.

**Year 11 Lockers** – All Year 11 pupils must ensure that they have emptied their locker after their final examination. All locker keys should be handed into the Pastoral Office.

**Hay fever** - As the seasons change some pupils will suffer with hay fever. Medication should be taken before school if needed. If your daughter suffers with hay fever or allergies, please ensure that any necessary medication is brought to school throughout this period.

**Year 10 Art, Craft and Design Extended Coursework Project** – Year 10 Art, Craft & Design pupils are about to start the extended coursework project required for Unit 1 of their GCSE. This element is worth 60% of their final GCSE grade. Please can we ask that all students come prepared for lessons with their A2 folders, pencils and their GCSE guide booklet. Students are expected to complete homework of at least 1 hour a week to support the development of their skills and ideas.

**Year 11 External Examinations** – Formal written examination started on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May. All pupils have been provided with a copy of the FINAL examination timetable printed on yellow paper. A copy of this timetable is also available on [this link](#).

Year 11 started study leave on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June. While they may complete their final revision at home, it is essential that they arrive in plenty of time for all their GCSE examinations. Please ensure your daughter arrives at school 15 minutes before the published start time, with all the equipment required for the examination. Morning examinations will start at 9.00AM and afternoon examinations will start at 1.00PM. If you have any questions, please contact Ms Qureshi.

Please [click here](#) to read a parent letter with important information on the arrangements for Year 11 pupils.

**GCSE Pod** – Pupils have been making excellent use of GCSE Pod as they prepare for their examinations. Since the beginning of June 1827 pods were watched by our pupils. The most popular subject was History, with an incredible 1269 Pods watched since the beginning of June.

Year	11	10	9	8	7
Pods watched	1041	459	262	59	6

Year 11 continues to have watched the highest number of pods, which reflects how useful some of our pupils are finding it in supporting their examination preparation. As anticipated usage is lower for years that have completed their end of year examinations.

Remember that learning is most effective when it is 'active'. To maximise learning please encourage your daughter to try one of these activities after watching GCSE Pod:

- Note down at least 5 key facts, dates, diagrams or quotes from the video.
- Create a mind map to join ideas together.
- Discuss they key learning from the pod with a family member or friend.

The [GCSE Pod Parents section](#) contains lots of useful advice to help parents support their daughter as they prepare and complete examinations. Especially recommended are '[Supporting your child through their GCSEs](#)' and '[How to deal with exam stress](#)'

**Attendance** – Recently we have had an increasing number of requests for holidays in term time. Pupils are expected to be in school during term time and as such holidays cannot be authorised. Please note the following term dates for the next school year and ensure that any holidays are booked during the school holidays.

	Summer Term 2019	Autumn Term 2019	Spring Term 2020	Summer Term 2020
Term Starts	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2019	Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2019	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2020
Half Term	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2019 to Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2019	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2019 to Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2019	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2020 to Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2020	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2020 to Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2020
Term Ends	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2019	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2019	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2020	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2020

**Out of Hours Learning** – Throughout the year teachers hold intervention sessions before and after school to enhance learning and achievement. As we approach the GCSE examination period, please reinforce with your daughter the importance of attending all interventions that she is expected to. This will ensure she has the best support during her examination preparations.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mathematics</li> <li>• Homework Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basketball</li> <li>• History Ambassadors</li> <li>• Homework Club</li> <li>• Science</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• History</li> <li>• Homework Club</li> <li>• Rounders</li> <li>• Science</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Art, Craft and Design</li> <li>• Cricket</li> <li>• Homework Club</li> <li>• Mathematics</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• French</li> </ul>

Subject teachers can provide more advice on ‘Out of Hours Learning’ opportunities. To join our ‘Out of Hours Learning’ programme, your daughter must return the appropriate consent form to the Admin Office. Please ensure that, if you are collecting your daughter from an after-school session, you come down the drive and into Reception as this enables us to supervise pupils.

**Birmingham Museums and Art Galleries** - To celebrate the opening of an exciting new interactive children’s gallery MiniBrum at Thinktank Birmingham Science Museum, Birmingham Museums and Art Galleries are offering all families with school-age children a fantastic Birmingham Museums Membership offer. Families are able to receive 10% off the price of a Family Membership if they purchase during May and June. For more information click on [this link](#).

You can also view their latest newsletter with details of forthcoming events on [this link](#).

### **Forthcoming events of interest**

**School of Jewellery Open Day on 29<sup>th</sup> June** – The open day offers lots of activities for families and those interested in knowing what goes on in Birmingham’s Jewellery Quarter. This will include craft orientated activities planned, from making project to technical demonstration, lightening talks to tours as well as Q&A sessions. The aim to invite our local community into the School, show them what the School of Jewellery is about and the range of educational opportunities available from short courses and evening classes to masters and PhD's.

**Wildlife Photographer of the Year** - The Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition provides a showcase for the world’s very best nature photography. The exhibition, developed and produced by the Natural History Museum, is visiting Wolverhampton Art Gallery from 29 June 2019 to 1 September 2019. This is part of a worldwide tour and for the first time will be showcasing the full collection, 100 images and 45 digital shots. More information is available on [this link](#).

**Family Saturday at the Ikon Gallery on 6th July** – This is an opportunity to visit the gallery and spend some time making and experimenting as a family with creative, hands-on activities inspired by the current exhibition. More information is available on [this link](#).

**Clayground Collective: Crater Formations at Midlands Arts Centre** – On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July there is a fabulous opportunity for you to take part in free workshops to use the limitless power of your imagination and squish clay to sculpt an epic lunar landscape! More information is available on [this link](#).