



Hodge Hill Girls' School Weekly Parent Bulletin

25th January 2019

Diary

Date	Information
Sunday 27 th January	Holocaust Memorial Day
Monday 28 th January	Year 9 Holocaust Memorial Day Visit
Tuesday 29 th January	Year 11 History assessments
Thursday 31 st January	Last day to purchase Year 11 Prom tickets
Friday 1 st February	Staff Training Day – School Closed to Pupils
Monday 4 th February	Year 10 Science Live Visit
Tuesday 5 th February	National Internet Safety Day Year 9 Curriculum Evening (Click here for the Parent Letter)
Thursday 7 th February	Year 7 Loudmouth Education and Training – Bully 4 U Netball Fixtures against St Edmund Champion School

Notices

Are your contact details correct? – The slight dusting of snow this week reminds us that we are in winter and could be at risk of further adverse weather. The school Extreme Weather Procedure is available on [this link](#). Please ensure that you are familiar with our procedure and that you have the correct mobile telephone number in ParentPay, as this system is used for all emergency messages.

Educational Visits – Please ensure that your daughter has any medication that is referred to in her school medical records with her for educational visits. Visit staff are unable to take pupils on visits if they do not have the correct medication with them. If medical needs have changed, please ensure that the school is updated accordingly.

Remembering the Holocaust – Sunday 27th January is Holocaust Memorial Day, a time to remember the millions of people murdered during the Holocaust, under Nazi Persecution and in the genocides that followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. While we remember the victims, it is also important to acknowledge the lessons and work to remove discrimination and prejudice.

On Monday number of pupils in Year 9 pupils will be visiting Lichfield Cathedral this month to take part in the Holocaust memorial event being held there.

Please encourage your daughter to reflect on the lessons of the Holocaust this month as Holocaust Memorial Day is Sunday 27th January.

Online Homework – To continue our aim of ensuring parents have the information they need to support their daughter's education we have recently introduced an online homework system called ClassCharts Homework. All class teachers are recording the homework they set for each class alongside the due date. A brief guide



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that shows how the information can be viewed by date set or due date and filtered by class code, school year, subject or teacher is available on [this link](#).

ClassCharts Homework is available in the 'Parents' section of our school website and on [this link](#).

Pupils can access ClassCharts Homework from the 'Pupil' section of our school website and the Pupil Portal.

'County Lines' Exploitation – The term 'County Lines' has appeared in the news recently. Working with West Midlands Police we have issued important guidance for parents. The letter is available in the 'Parents' area of our school website and also on [this link](#).

Fabulous Opportunity at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery – There is a fantastic opportunity to view drawings by the famous artist Leonardo da Vinci at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery between February and May. This is a temporary exhibition that opens on 1st February celebrating the 500th anniversary since his death. A visit to this exhibition is strongly recommended by our Art Department and is suitable for pupils of all ages. For more information click on [this link](#).

Year 11 Prom Tickets are now available – The Year 11 Prom is a fantastic highlight and celebration of our pupils' hard work and commitment while at Hodge Hill Girls' School. Tickets for this event are now available. Parents of Year 11 pupils are requested to make the appropriate payment via ParentPay before **31st January** and to complete the reply slip in the parent letter sent home with Year 11 pupils.

A copy of the letter with more information is available on [this link](#).

Year 8 vaccinations – All year 8 pupils have been given a form for their vaccinations. Please ensure that these are completed and returned to school as soon as possible.

Science Live Conference Educational Visit – On Monday 4th February, Year 10 pupils have the opportunity to visit the GCSE Science Live Conference at the Symphony Hall. This is an excellent opportunity for our pupils to hear and be inspired by five of Britain's top scientists (Prof Robert Winston, Prof Andrea Sella, Prof Jim Al-Khalil, Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock and Prof Alice Roberts) all of whom work at the cutting edge of their specialisms. The trip also includes GCSE examination tips, inspiration for the application of science and explain opportunities study science at A level and beyond. There are currently several places available for pupils to join this educational visit. Interested pupils should see Dr Malik for a letter and more information.

Parents of pupils attending this trip are requested to make the voluntary contribution on Parent pay.

Safer Internet Day – Tuesday 5th February is the international Safer Internet Day. This year the theme is "*Together for a better internet*". One aim of this year's Safer Internet Day is to encourage discussion about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively. Sometimes it can be difficult to know where to begin. With this in mind to help parents, carers and young people start conversations about internet use the UK Safer Internet Centre has produced a video titles: [Your Choice or Mine - film for parents and carers available on this link](#). Why not watch this short video with your daughter and compare your responses to some of the questions and issues raised?

Further advice on starting the conversation on internet use is also available at:

- [UK Safer Internet Centre – Have a conversation](#)
- [Childnet – Have a conversation](#)

Work Experience – All pupils in Year 10 have received 'Work Experience Placement' forms. Pupils should now in the process of actively looking for their own placement by contacting local employers. The 'Work Experience Placement' forms should be completed and returned to school by **25th February**.

NHS Careers Competition – Did you know that there are 350 different careers within the NHS? Pupils in Year 8 and Year 9 have been researching many of the different careers within the NHS to produce job descriptions and adverts for their chosen career. At the end of January these job descriptions and adverts will be submitted to a national competition run by the NHS.

GCSE Pod – We remain in 2nd place for the GCSE Pod Games, a competition running until the end of February that compares similar schools use of GCSE Pod. As a school, we have an average of 32.09 pods watched per KS4 pupil since 1st November, a slight increase from last week's figure of 29.93.

GCSE Pod is available to support learning across our curriculum. History, English Literature and Biology are currently the top subjects accessed by our pupils.

Please continue to encourage your daughter continue to use GCSE Pod. GCSE Pod is an excellent resource to support learning for pupils in all years. It is especially valuable for our pupils in Years 10 and 11 to continually revise their learning and prepare for GCSEs; starting to prepare early for GCSE examinations helps pupils to reduce panic and stress while it also improves examination results

Further information for parents on GCSE Pod is available on [this link](#).

Forthcoming Examinations or Assessments

Year 11 History – Year 11 will be sitting their spring assessment on 29th January. Pupils will be tested on Britain, health and the people c.1000 to the present day. All pupils are expected to show progress from their mock exams. Thank you to all parents who spent time with history teachers at parents evening.

Year 11 Languages - In February, Year 11 pupils will be completing their mock speaking examinations in foreign Languages. While there will be some opportunities to practice within school, it is important that pupils also practice talking and answering questions at home in preparation for their mock examination.

<i>Subject</i>	<i>Day/date</i>
Urdu	Tuesday 5 th , Wednesday 6 th or Thursday 7 th February.
Spanish	Monday 11 th or Tuesday 12 th February.
French	Wednesday 13 th or Thursday 14 th February.

Year 7 and Year 8 Religious Studies – Spring assessments will be completed during week commencing 11th February.

Year 11 SEND Transition Evening - Joseph Chamberlain College will be hosting their annual SEND transition evening on January 30th, 2019. The college will be open to Year 11 students with additional educational needs, and their parents/carers. Please come along if a child in your care with SEND is considering Further Education. You will have the opportunity to:

- Tour the College
- Meet other students with SEND
- Meet our Learning Support Team
- Discuss and plan additional learning support
- Meet our Pastoral Support Team
- Meet with specialist teachers from the Local Authority

The college building is fully wheelchair accessible with ground floor step-free access, lifts to all levels, spacious disabled toilets and reserved parking bays. If you have any additional needs, please let us know so we can arrange suitable adjustments for you.

For further information, email their Learning Support Manager, June Underwood: junderwood@jcc.ac.uk. To register for the event, please visit their website: <https://www.jcc.ac.uk/events/send-evening-2019/>.

Post 16 Preparations

The following table contains a list of some of the forthcoming open events. These are a great opportunity to visit colleges and sixth forms to support post 16 choices.

College	Date of next Open Event	Website address
Access Creative College	Friday 22 nd February, 10:00am to 12.30pm & 1.30pm to 4:00pm	www.accesscreative.ac.uk/locations/birmingham/

College	Date of next Open Event	Website address
BMET	Wednesday 6 th February, 4:00pm to 7:00pm	www.bmet.ac.uk
South and City College	Wednesday 20 th March, 4:00pm to 7:00pm	www.sccb.ac.uk
The Sixth Form College Solihull	Thursday 28 th February, 5:00pm to 7:00pm	www.solihullsf.ac.uk
University College Birmingham	Saturday 26 th January, 11:00am to 3:00pm	www.ucb.ac.uk
University of Birmingham School	Wednesday 9 th January 2019, 5:30pm to 8:00pm	www.uobschool.org.uk