

HPFS Whole School Bulletin

Friday 24th March

Issue 24

Message from the Principal

This week has been a week when Team Heyford have come together to share information, celebrate, learn and appoint more members to our team.

Parent Drop In

On Tuesday with The Friends I ran two "Parent Drop Ins". This was an opportunity to talk with parents about what we are doing in the school, how we are responding to parental feedback from January and our plans for the next year to two years. In the afternoon I was joined by Mrs Hughes, Head of School for Primary and we were pleased to explain how we are developing the learning and curriculum so our children are confident to take risks in their learning. As a school we are trying to focus on effort and challenge to move away from creating students who are afraid to get it wrong. We all learn from mistakes and memorable learning is where we face challenge.

Conversations were varied but included the introduction of subject evenings in Secondary; full reports will be introduced this summer and information will be developed to help parents interpret the report data. We are also now starting to hold short parent information sessions, these have begun in primary and mathematics are following the English departments footsteps for Y10 parents with their "GCSE Info Session"

These drop ins gave staff and parents the opportunity to talk for the benefit of all our children over a cup of tea and great cake! It was a time to reflect on what has been done this term, refine future plans based on comments and explore ideas. As a school it was lovely to hear the feedback, both positive and even better if...

We will be running these half termly so please join us.

Staffing

We are busy at the moment appointing in staff, as a school we not only face the natural change as people move, marry or get promoted but also the need to recruit as a growing school in its early years. In January we were lucky to secure Mr Nimmo, an experienced Computer Science teacher who is joining us in April. In February we secured an experienced Head of History at both GCSE and A'level who is joining us after May half term. Last week we appointed a science teacher for September. This week Vicky Wallington was appointed as Assistant Principal for Student Welfare. Vicky has been leading this area this year and is making a real difference. She had an exceptional interview where her loyalty and passion for the school was very clear.

Like me I am sure you will wish Dr Russell great fortune in her future. Anna is a fantastic teacher whose passion for her subject and the school have made a difference to lots of children. Whilst it is very sad to say good-bye Anna deserves to enjoy married life and family life.

We have been fortunate to secure an experienced SENCO who has worked across Primary and Secondary who will be joining us in April to lead this area. Elisha Meade has been a SENCO for several years as well as supporting schools to develop their provision for children. Governors have been working hard with myself, staff and students to recruit the right staff. Our children deserve the best. Teachers resignation dates mean that they can only start at the next term after these dates if they resign before the resignation date. As I have discussed with a number of you, at times this means we may need to do things differently to ensure we can wait for the best.

I think you would all agree in school the thing that makes the biggest difference to a child's enjoyment of learning and their achievement is the teacher. It is their passion for their subject, their skill, care and commitment that inspires young people.

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Basketball Cup Final - May 14th <http://bbl.org.uk/trophy/>

Students and parents are welcome to come along as well, the tickets are £30 which includes transport. Please pay on parent pay.



HEYFORD PARK
FREE SCHOOL

BONUM COMMUNE COMMUNITATIS

Dates for your diary

(Subject to change)

Week Commencing 27th March 2017
is Week 1 on the Secondary Timetable

March 28th: Options Information Evening for Year 8 students. 5pm-6.30pm at the OM

April 6th: FoHPFS Primary movie night

Easter Half Term: 10th —21st April 2017

Inset Day: Monday 24th April 2017

May Bank Holidays: Monday 1st and 29th May

May Drop in session: Wednesday 17th 14:00-15:00 & 18:00-19:00

May Half Term: Tuesday 30th May- Friday 2nd June 2017

Inset Day: Monday 5th June 2017

June Drop in session: Wednesday 21st 14:00-15:00 & 18:00-19:00

Inset Day: Friday 21st July 2017

Summer Holidays: Monday 24th July—25th August 2017

Summer School: W/C Tuesday 29th August

Academic Year 2017/2018

Inset Day: Monday 4th September 2017

September 5th: Start of Term 1

October Half term: October 16th—27th 2017

Please continue to refer to the School Website calendar for regular updates.

Please direct any enquiries to
Parent@heyfordparkfreeschool.org

Year 10 PARENTS (or friends of parents!)

Year 10 Work Experience Week beginning 3rd July 2017. Do you or anyone you know have a work experience opportunity you could offer students in Year 10 for their week in July?

Please do let Mr Hobbs know if the answer is a yes or a maybe!

jhobbs@heyfordparkfreeschool.org

Message from the Principal cont.

Curriculum

We have had lots of positive feedback regarding the curriculum booklets in secondary. We hope you find them useful. We designed these around parent feedback on what they would like to know.

Rewards

Rewards are currently being remodelled in the school and we will be shortly launching this. Our House system will be central to this and rewards will celebrate progress, contribution, attendance and attitudes to learning. This term, those students gaining either the top scores for attitudes to learning or having made the most improvement have received emails respectively from myself and the Heads of House. We are now looking to extend this through house points contributing to the position of the House. We are really pleased that our Chair of Governors has personally contributed a fantastic House Cup which the winning house will be awarded each term.

Events

This week has seen our first parents' subject evening in the school. Your feedback is needed as we will be putting these in place for all years next year. On Thursday Y8 and Y9 were involved with a Theatre Company exploring Self Harm. Our students are very caring for each other and opportunities to help children understand some of the issues in our society help them to continue to support each other.

Finally half term assessments are occurring across secondary currently as they did previously in February and December. These assessments are rigorous and based on national expectation, Y9 and 10 take GCSE papers or part papers and we do mark them in line with national criteria. This is a change but we want students, staff and parents to have an accurate assessment. It is in this way we can celebrate strengths but also respond to areas in need of development. You will be aware that nationally the bar has been raised with the changes in GCSE and I know we want our students to be prepared to achieve their best. Staff are using these assessments to design the next half terms work to target skills. We are really pleased that between December and February we saw children doing better as they practice exam skills. A number of students have said that they appreciate the practice. In the summer term we will give students the experience of formal examination conditions to build their confidence in managing exam room anxiety!

Reminder - GCSE Options evening – Tuesday 28th March 2017

Just a quick reminder that on Tuesday evening between 5 and 6.30 pm we will be holding our options information evening. This is for all year 8 students, who will be making option choices this year. We suggest that it would be useful for students to attend with their parents/carers.

The evening will provide an opportunity to talk to staff about both the process and the subjects available to study at GCSE. We will expect all of our year 8 students to be in an informed position to choose their options by Tuesday 4th April. The information evening and the booklets provided will give you additional information and activities to complete to ensure the options chosen are absolutely right for your child.

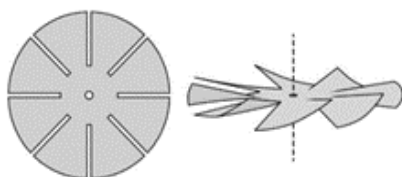
We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday. If for any reason you are unable to attend please let your son/daughter's tutor know and they will get the information booklets passed to your child on Wednesday.

Building Turbines

Power stations produce electricity by using a turbine to make generators spin.

Last week 7RAF were tasked with building a model turbine.

Given nothing more than Mr Scott's used meat pie dishes they were able to fashion their own rotor blades which rotated around a drawing pin driven by a head of steam.



Reward trip

Wednesday April 5th; Students who meet attendance and attitudes to learning criteria will be invited on a reward trip to Banbury Bowl for a round of bowling and food. Alternatively students can take part in a variety of sports art or music activities during periods 2- 4 that day.

Year 7 Football Trophy final V The Banbury School; Wednesday March 29th—Kick off 4pm Venue to be confirmed.

Maths Assessments

As you are aware, the Maths department will be conducting its ½ term assessment for all year groups week beginning Monday 27th March, as follows:

Thursday 30th March Year 7
Friday 31st March Years 8 & 9
Thursday 4th May Year 10

A Maths set will be required for this assessment.

In line with good practice for Maths, the assessment will be based on the new GCSE specifications. Students are encouraged to conduct revision on www.mymaths.co.uk (the Six Boosters folders contain all the specifics), using their personal login details. Furthermore, students can also do revision during lunch times with Mr Rugoobur or Mrs Handley. Please don't hesitate to contact us should you require further information.

Thanking you for your valuable support.

Mathematics Department

ARugoobur@heyfordparkfreeschool.org

The Maths department would also like to take this opportunity to thank all year 10 parents for their attendance and valuable feedback following the parents' consultation of Thursday 23rd March.

GCSE Science Mock Exam

Following the Easter holidays our Y10 science students will be sitting a mock examination. This is a formal assessment that will be taken by thousands of students up and down the country. The examination board, EDEXCEL, will mark the paper for us and report results on 14th September. Students will not be given a GCSE 9-1 grade but they will be told where they fall compared to all the students nationally. These results are designed to help us understand how our students are progressing on the GCSE course, and identify where their strengths and weaknesses are. They are not a guarantee of GCSE performance.

Biology 2nd May (9.30am) 1 hour long paper worth 50 marks

Chemistry 3rd May (9.30am) 1 hour long paper worth 50 marks

Physics 4th May (9.30am) 1 hour long paper worth 50 marks

Students will need: pen, pencil, ruler (mm), eraser, protractor and calculator.

The exam papers will be assessing the following topics:

Topic	Study Guide	Topic	Study Guide
CB1 Key Concepts in biology	<i>Section 1 Pg. 11-19</i>	CB2 Cells & Control	<i>Section 2 Pg. 20-25</i>
CB3 Genetics	<i>Section 3 Pg. 26-31</i>	CB4 Natural Selection & Genetic Modification	<i>Section 4 Pg. 32-48</i>
CC1 States of matter	<i>Section 11 Pg. 97 -99</i>	CC2 Methods of separating and purifying substances	<i>Section 11 Pg. 100-104</i>
CC3 Atomic Structure CC4 The Periodic Table	<i>Section 10 Pg. 79 - 81</i>	CC5 Ionic Bonding CC6 Covalent Bonding	<i>Section 10 Pg.84 - 88</i>
CP2 Forces & Motion	<i>Section 17 Pg. 145-155</i>	CP3 Conservation of Energy	<i>Section 17 Pg. 156-163</i>
CP4 Waves	<i>Section 18 Pg. 164-167</i>	CP5 Light & the Electromagnetic Spectrum	<i>Section 17 Pg. 168-171</i>

Finally, we have been introducing students to an online learning programme called 'ActiveLearn'. Follow this link: <https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com/> Students know their *username* and *password* and can complete a variety of tasks which will help them memorise key facts. Students are given immediate feedback and help to support their learning. Students have been very engaged with this alternative approach to learning in the classroom.

Curriculum booklet

A curriculum booklet has been written for each year group, for each subject, providing subject specific information for the remainder of this academic year. They can be found on the secondary, curriculum page of the website and will provide information on the subject content, the assessment style and regulations, the books, resources and websites to support study and revision and some suggestions for extra curricular activities and family activities. They have been produced with parents in mind so that they can support their child/children with their studies having knowledge on the curriculum content and assessment. We hope you find these useful.

Lost Property

There are a number of un-named clothing articles in lost property at the Specialisms Campus.

Polite reminder:

Dogs are not allowed on school premises unless they are registered assistance dogs. Thank you.