

HPFS Whole School Bulletin

Friday 16th March 2018

Issue 22

Message from the Principal

“Help others achieve their dreams and you will achieve yours”

Well done to all those representing the school at Voice in a Million. You all had a dream to attend and be on that stage and together with Mrs Beckett you helped each other achieve that dream. We are all so proud of you and Mrs Beckett for making this happen and I know you sounded amazing on stage at Wembley. It has been great to see students from primary and secondary coming together in formation to achieve something so great.

Our students and staff know that I often talk about why the geese fly in formation. If you are interested in watching and learning why and are prepared to shed a tear then use the URL below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2jPUJbeEyuI>

Geese fly in formation as it gives them 70% more capacity when flying longer distances if they fly together. They swap roles in relation to leading the formation. If a goose is ill, two other geese will stay with the goose until it recovers or dies. They then re-join their formation or another formation.

I think we have a lot to learn from geese and ask our staff and students to consider how the geese work together to achieve more.

This week we have had to stretch ourselves to offer the opportunities to our children in the midst of a flu/sickness bug. But, like the geese, our students have ensured we keep our flight going and help others achieve their dreams. So thank-you to everyone who has gone above and beyond to help others.

The Friends, our Parents Teacher Association, raise a huge amount of money for the students in our school and are instrumental in developing the ethos and community feel of our school. It is the Friends that organise the discos, movie nights, race night, pamper evening as well as summer fete and Bonfire Night. We all know to organise something takes a lot of work behind the scenes and a real team effort before and during the event. Whilst a large number of parents are fantastic and volunteer at all our events we do need parents who are willing to be part of the committee to help with planning future events. As staff we know how lucky we are to have the contribution of The Friends and recognise that without them we could not provide either these events or fund some of the opportunities and resources The Friends provide. We do not want to lose The Friends for all our children's sake. Do you think you could help? If you can please contact or Chair, Steph Woodman at swoodman@heyfordparkfreeschool.org

Secondary students are completing assessments this week and next week with the exception of year 11 who had a week of mock examinations last week. Staff will then start to mark these. We will then be feeding back asking students to make a targeted improvement and complete their flight path. '

In January we let you know about the changes in GCSE Computer Science. Ofqual has removed any marks for coursework / controlled assessment which was the practical assessment. 100% of the grade is now achieved through the theory paper. We know that many students will have started this course enjoying the practical element of computer work. However, on advice from a Specialist Leader for Computer Science we have changed the approach to ensure we effectively prepare students. All Year 11 have been provided with revision work books and we have bought in text books to support students. We will be speaking with students again to ensure they understand what the course requirements are now.

This Friday is the Pamper evening organised by the Friends. Remember to book your treatment! You can pay on the door at the Officers Mess.

Continued.....

Dates for your diary

(Subject to change)

Week Commencing

***19th March is Week 2 on the
Secondary Timetable***

***21st March—Year 8 Options
Evening 4.30pm***

***27th March—Secondary Rewards
Events***

***29th March—School finishes at
2pm for Easter Holidays***

***Easter Holidays—Dates attached
for Year 11 Revision School.***

16th April—INSET Day

***17th April—Students Return for
Summer Term***

***19th April—PSCHE, Enterprise
and STEM Day***

***10th May—Year 8 Girls HPV
immunisations***

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

***Please direct any enquiries to
office@heyfordparkfreeschool.org***

Parking

Please check the information on our website.

The developers are strong supporters of the school so we appreciate all those parents who try hard to support the changes they have to make as they create Heyford-Park. Please park courteously and in designated areas. We are all trying to keep each other and our children safe. Please support residents by parking safely.

Continued.....

As we near the end of term, I wanted to just remind you of our uniform policy. We are speaking with a number of students who do not have an appropriate length skirt or shoes that are black. We would be grateful if you could address this before the summer term starts. Anyone with any problems this should speak with our Pastoral leadership team. Can we remind you that no student should have nail varnish on for school so please save acrylics and gel nails for holidays. Well done KS4 girls though, your skilful make up does look natural! If you need to remind yourself of our uniform policy this is available on our website, under Parents, Important documents and in our Parents Handbook.

Parents Drop In

Thank-you for those parents that attended this half term's parents drop ins in the afternoon and evening. We discussed a wide variety of areas.

We used some of our time to look at how we develop our parent voice and manage the parent drop ins next year. From these meetings we want to propose that these are done termly at the mid point. We are going to try and set up a way for parents to give us questions if they can't attend. It has been suggested that we also discuss a couple of topics that are arising from other parent conversations.

A number of parents expressed the positive feedback they are getting from their children about the new maths staff. So thank-you I will pass this on to the team. Parents are very sorry Mr Nimmo is ill but were concerned about us being able to cover this. We are currently trying to find appropriate cover but are keen to get this right. Mr Mackenzie has responded to the changes in this area from Ofqual to set appropriate work.

The Friends brought us up to date on the groundworks at the front. Earlier in the year working with parents we had agreed to get quotes and find supporters of the school who would enable us to change the grass area so it is useable throughout the year and friendly to all ages. Quotes have come in around £140K and it has been agreed by Friends to put 50% of money raised towards this as well as look at grants who often want some match funding.

Social media was a topic in the afternoon and the role of the school when things happen out of school. We explained whilst this is clearly a parental responsibility, issues with social media spill into school and we do work with students and parents to resolve these. If we feel that the police should be involved, we will contact them.

Finally, we revisited that next year we will be looking at provided termly data sheets for parents. We will be consulting with more parents on whether we provide data sheets and an annual subject evening or we provide less data sheets but provide a full report. The feeling from our parents drop in was that the regular data sheets and a subject evening would be preferred. We will seek more views.

Please come along to our next drop in on the **9th May**. Your views and voice do count and you help us prioritise our actions and shape our next steps.

Computer Science Year 9-11

Please note from Monday 19th March all **double lessons** of Computer Science lessons will be on the Officers Mess Site in SB.07.

Staffing update

We have now started to advertise for September as we will need additional staff in September as we continue to grow. We will update you as we appoint. However, we have already appointed Mrs Sarah Heywood as our Director Of Sixth Form who teaches currently psychology and health and social as well as Ms Conway in maths and business and Mrs Cochrane who will join us at the end of June for Spanish.

Attendance

Whole School : 95.06%

Secondary : 93.81%

Primary : 96.54%

'THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR BEING PRESENT: Every school day counts'.

Sixth Form News

Applications are now open for Heyford Park Free School Sixth Form.

Our final deadline for applications is Round 5 applications on the 26th April for the attention of Mrs Bolduc and Ms Healey.

All our timeframes for applications and interviews are on our website but key deadlines are:

Round 5: 26th April

As you know last year we purposely recruited staff with a level experience or relevant post 16 experience to meet the needs of our students. You will be aware that nationally A Level courses have been revised and as a school we are taking part in training alongside other schools, in relation to the new A-level specifications, over this year. As a school we feel we are now well placed to support post 16 courses with a team of experienced teachers who know our students well. Last week we appointed our new Director of Sixth Form, Mrs Heywood who is currently a deputy head of Sixth Form with 15 years of sixth form experience.

We held our second Open Evening on the 15th March where external candidates were invited as well as providing an opportunity to meet the new Director of Sixth Form

We are going to let our Year 11's focus on their exams but after these in June we will be running taster days and experience days. Our new year will start with an induction at the same time our students in Primary and secondary are experiencing summer school. Like Summer School this will not be an option but an expectation.



After our successful launch assembly with Alice from the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, letters have been given out to both year 9 and year 10 informing them of the next steps.

There will be an information evening for parents on **Wednesday 28th March** at 6pm at the Officers Mess.

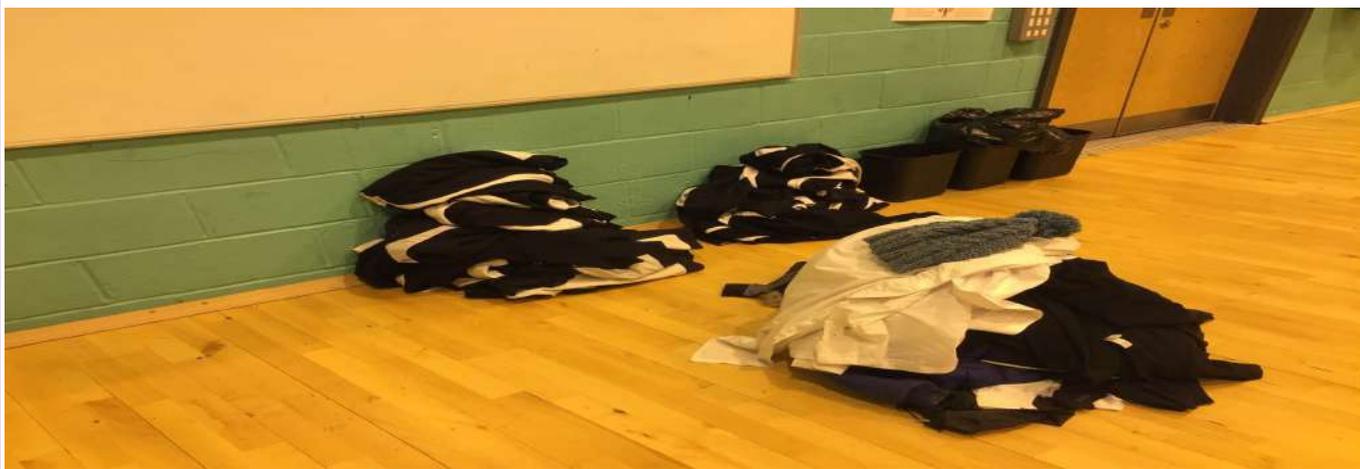
This will be a chance for you to meet Alice again and also Leigh, our advisor from BXM Expeditions. Parents of year 9 and 10 will also find that you can now pay the initial £20 registration fee, which is due by **Thursday 29th March**. Payment via Parent Pay.

I look forward to seeing you at the parents' information evening!

Miss Baines

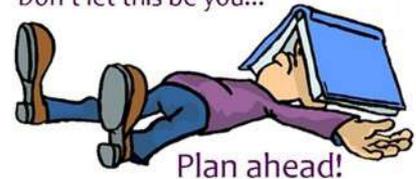
Lost Property at the Specialisms Campus

PLEASE can you find time to come to the SC and have a look through these large piles of lost property (especially large pile of hoodies and coats). Please ask for Mr Hobbs and he will let you in the room where they are being stored.



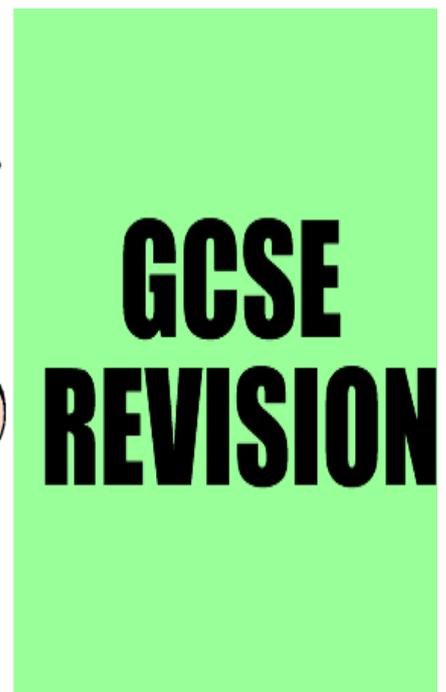
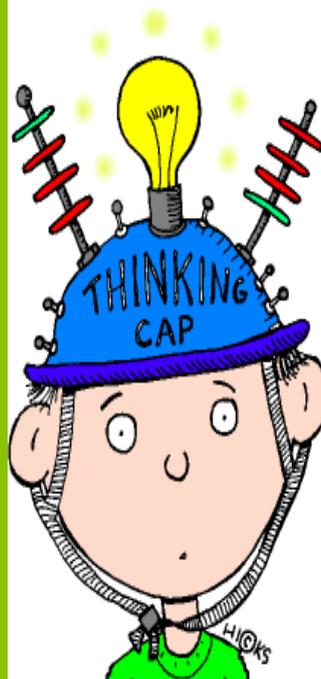
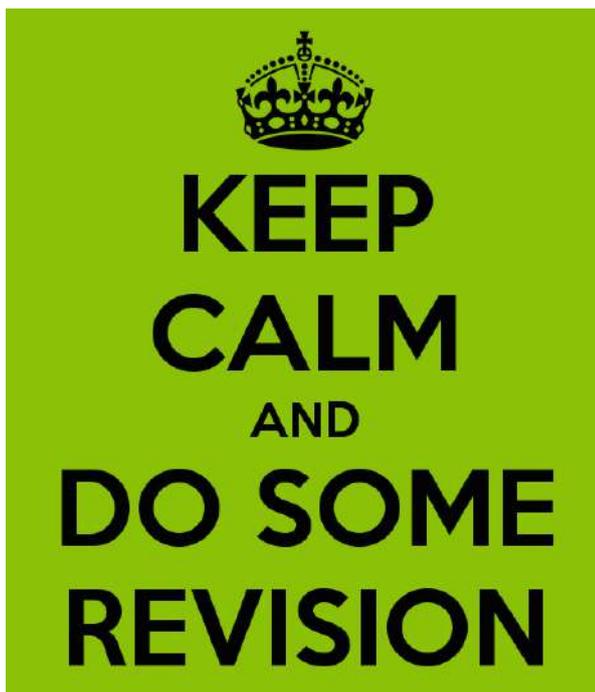


Don't let this be you...



YEAR 11 EASTER REVISION SCHOOL

WEEK 1	
Tuesday 3 rd April	Statistics 9am – 3pm on OM
Wednesday 4 th April	Mathematics 9am – 2pm on OM History 9am – 2pm on SC
Thursday 5 th April	Geography 9am – 12pm on SC
Friday 6 th April	English Lang 9am – 1pm on OM Science 9am – 3pm on OM
WEEK 2	
Monday 9 th April	V Certs Health & Fitness 10am to 3pm
Tuesday 10 th April	English Literature 9am – 1pm
Thursday 12 th April	Drama 10am -3pm on SC
Friday 13 th April	GCSE PE 9am – 3pm on SC



English and Spanish department news

As we approach the formal GCSE examinations, it is vitally important students revise regularly (aim for 1 hour a day).

English language exams dates are:

8700/1 Explorations in creative reading and writing	1h 45m	05 June 2018	am
8700/2 Writers' viewpoints and perspectives	1h 45m	08 June 2018	am

Excellent revision could include:

Attending Monday after school revision sessions

GCSE revision book (Aiming for Grade 5 OR grades 6-9 which ALL students have been given in year 10) or any AQA approved language revision

Creating a list of language techniques with clear examples and memorising these (for example similes, rule of three, etc.)

Using revision websites suggested by your teacher (for example BBC Bitesize, GCSE Pod)

Reading interesting articles online (the Guardian, The Times)

Completing past papers or improving on mock papers following your teacher's advice and feedback

English literature exams dates are:

8702/1 Shakespeare and the 19th century novel	1h 45m	22 May 2018	am
8702/2 Modern texts and poetry	2h 15m	25 May 2018	am

Excellent revision could include:

reading the texts studied again (Romeo and Juliet, An Inspector Calls, A Christmas Carol, the 15 poems)

creating a bank of key quotations and then memorising them

watching film or stage adaptations of the texts again

Completing past papers or improving on mock papers following your teacher's advice and feedback

Using AQA approved revision guides for the texts studied (many available on line like Amazon, in book stores or even charity shops)

Spanish exam dates are:

8698/LF Listening	35m	06 June 2018	am
8698/LH Listening	45m	06 June 2018	am
8698/RF Reading	45m	06 June 2018	am
8698/RH Reading	1h	06 June 2018	am
8698/SF Speaking test	25 mins	24 th and 25 th April 2018	all day
8698/SH Speaking test	35 mins	24 th and 25 th April 2018	all day
8698/WF Writing	1h	14 June 2018	am
8698/WH Writing	1h 15m	14 June 2018	am

Excellent revision could include:

Lunch time revision with Miss Shaw

using revision websites such as BBC Bitesize and Spanish revision world

using AQA Higher or Foundation revision books (available online on Amazon)

<http://www.languagesonline.org.uk/> (free online practice of vocabulary and audioclips. Click on GCSE)

<https://en.duolingo.com/course/es/en/LearnSpanish> (hundreds of words to revise in a fun way)

http://www.spanishrevision.co.uk/gcse/gcse_index.htm (free revision exercises, in GCSE topics for listening and reading)

<http://www.asisehace.net/> (lots of activities for GCSE topics, including videos and podcasts. Choose Intermediate Level)

<http://www.audiria.com/> (click on the topic and you can listen to a range of podcasts, they have different exercises to complete such as gapfills, translations, True/False, etc.)

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Super star students in year 10 and year 11

We love teaching all our students but would like to recognise the effort and excellent attitude to learning demonstrated consistently by the following super stars:

Year 11

Lysia- excellent engagement with Romeo and Juliet leading to insightful comments and excellent class discussion of the summer 2017 exam question

Lukas- great revision and good application of exam techniques as discussed in class

Declan- good timing during mock exam and answering every question by giving relevant information

Hermione- writing a good speech explaining what good education means to her

Matthew, Ellie, Alice, Amber- for being brilliant all the time

Laura and Megan H- for working so hard in Spanish

Year 10

Ben C. for his consistent engagement with the text and input into class.

Harleigh and Georgia for their high-level interpretation of key scenes

Kieron D. for a conscious effort in revision which has positively impacted on his understanding and input.

Will K.- for broadening his vocabulary

Abi W.- for being consistently hard working

Years 7-9 Takeaway Homework winners

Here in the English Department, we are thrilled to celebrate the success of our students both within their individual classes and in a public forum during school assemblies. It gives us great pleasure to publicly congratulate the following students for their extended effort in producing exceptional pieces of homework menu for Term 3:

Year 7

1st Taylor Johnson & Hannah Al-Ani & Chi Ling Lee

2nd Isabella Leman

3rd Olivia Thompson
Deane

Year 8

1st Alice Cullimore and Amy Wright

2nd Milo Brooke-Little

3rd Bruno Manellari

Year 9

1st Place: Lucy Palmer

2nd Place Lucas Barber

3rd Place: Hannah Deane and Georgia

We look forward to these students continuing to be an inspiration; not only propelling their own learning, but that of others around them."

Miss Sian Gibson



Examination Invigilators Vacancies

We are seeking to appoint committed and understanding invigilators to join our team. If you are looking for an interesting and challenging role in the school environment and can work flexible days/hours throughout the year, as well as being able to commit to the 6 weeks of summer exams, then we would love to hear from you! Full training will be provided for those with or without experience.

Further details can be found on our website.

EQUESTRIAN TEAM

If you would like to join the team, please express your interest by handing Mr Brown/Mrs Wallington/Mr Hobbs your name and parent email address on a piece of paper addressed to Issy Dunn so they can hand it to her as she is head rider or alternatively email one of the teachers with your name and email so they can forward details to her. You will need access to transportation to get you to venues. The team is open to anybody who has a pony they can compete on. There are benefits to being in the team such as mentions in the newsletter, on the website and in assemblies. There are dressage and jumping competitions and an entry fee of £8 to cover the cost of a NSEA badge. If you have any questions please email one of the named teachers so they can pass on your queries to Issy.



During the run up to our GCSEs the Year 11 students will be holding several fundraising events in aid of our 2018 School Prom.

In order to help us raise funds, we would like to kindly ask all parents and teachers to help us by donating towards

‘Pennies for Prom’

Pennies for Prom’ - How You Can Help

We would like all parents and teachers to kindly donate the pennies from their net salary payment each month for a period of either 1 or 3 months.

The donation will be between 1p and 99p each month, so your small change each month will definitely make a BIG change to our prom.

Please speak to one of the Year 11 students or the office staff for further information and a ‘Pennies for Prom’ form.

Thank you in advance for your help and support.
The Year 11 Students

