

HPFS Whole School Bulletin

Friday 27th April 2018

Issue 26

Message from the Principal

“Motivation is what gets you started, habit is what keeps you going.” (Jim Ryun)

Last week saw another one of our Personal Development and STEM days. Thank-you to the staff for organising these. It was great to see all year 10 going to the Science Museum and seeing STEM in action. Year 7 to 9 were a credit to themselves in school whether that was with Mr Hobbs’ team or Miss Gibson’s team.

In July we will be having 4 days where we Challenge students. These challenges will be around STEM, Personal Development and new experiences.

Last year some of you will remember as a whole school we undertook an Enterprise Challenge with primary growing a pound and secondary working in teams to form a company, bid for their funding and getting their business ready for the Friday Enterprise Fayre where they had to compete to make profit. All this profit either went back into the charities some teams chose to set their companies up for or into activities in school.

Challenge is important if we are to grow as human beings. Learning is about stepping out of our comfort zone with appropriate support. Without this challenge we don’t develop the problem solving skills, interpersonal skills or resilience to be successful. We are in a world where the pace of change is increasing at a rapid pace. Many of our children will be working into their seventies and living longer. Jobs that exist now will no longer exist and jobs we cannot envision yet will!

This term the challenge is to continue learning for this academic year, test ourselves by preparing for our summer exams and prepare ourselves to continue that journey addressing our areas of development. It is never too late to learn or address that area of development but it is easier if we don’t ignore things and create good habits that lead to self-improvement. There is a famous saying that asks “How do you eat an elephant? In small bites” and this is how we should ensure we challenge ourselves to improve as learners, and develop as human beings.

Year 11 making Every Day Count

This half term GCSEs start and it is important now to make every day count in relation to work in lesson, homework and revision. To support this we are continuing to offer interventions at lunch, after school and for maths before school. Please see your teacher if you want some help but some of you will be asked to attend sessions as we believe you need them.

As an extended leadership team, we have been looking at who needs a one-to-one to focus their actions over the coming days. I will be supporting teachers by doing a one-to-one meeting with a number of Y11 students and parents where we will look at your priority actions that will make the biggest difference.

Dates for your diary

(Subject to change)

Week Commencing

30th April is Week 2 on the

Secondary Timetable

2nd May—Year 7 Reports issued

9th May—Parents Voice Drop In
2pm and 6pm

9th May—Year 7 Parents Evening
4.30pm-7pm (Science Block)

10th May—Year 8 Girls HPV
immunisations

14th May—GCSE Exams Begin

15th May - Year 9 catch up
School Leaver Booster
Immunisations.

28th May-1st June—Half Term
and Year 11 Revision School

6th June—Year 9 Parents Evening
4.30pm-7pm (Science Block)

19th June-25th June—Year 9 & 10
summer exams

26th June-29th June—Year 7 & 8
summer exams

9th July—4 Day Challenge

18th July—Awards Evening

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

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

YEAR 11 INTERVENTION/MASTERCLASS SESSIONS

	7.30 – 8am	Lunch	4pm – 5pm
MONDAY		Maths	English Lang and Lit
TUESDAY		Geography	History Geography Drama
WEDNESDAY	Maths Grade 4-5	Science	Maths Grade 8-9
THURSDAY		GCSE PE	History Geography
FRIDAY			

FoHPFS

Would you be able to come and help out with events as a Friend? This can be as small or large as you can commit. The Friends run Fireworks Evening, the Summer Fete, movie nights in primary, pamper evening, discos for primary and key stage 3. Alongside this they joint lead our parent voice sessions and support school events. It would be great if you could help as everyone could share in the work but also camaraderie. Our children definitely benefit!

Please contact Kate Akkerman (kakkerman@heyfordparkfreeschool.org) for further information.

Sixth Form News

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

Our final deadline for applications for Round 6 is on the 12th May. Applications will still be accepted for 6th form intake until 31st August 2018 and should be marked 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 6: **12th May**

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

Staffing update

We are currently recruiting for September as we need additional staffing due to increased numbers in primary, science, mathematics and PE. We are very pleased that Mr Cropper will be joining us in September as a permanent member of staff for Mathematics.

Uniform

Thank you for your support with uniform. If there is an issue please can you contact your child's tutor so we can ensure all our students are supported in high standards of presentation. Please be aware our policy is that unless exceptional circumstances we will sanction non conformity to our uniform expectations with a D3.

Miss Wallington—Senior Assistant Principal

Attendance

Whole school: 94.92 %

Primary: 96.49 %

Secondary: 93.69 %

'Make EVERY DAY count - you won't ever get it back.'

Geography and History news

Geography: year 11 students: Drop down day planned for **TUESDAY 1ST MAY**. Students should get off the buses at the Specialisms campus where they will spend the day going through the pre-release material for the paper 3 exam.

History: Thank you to all who have made the interim payment for the Berlin trip. A reminder that the last £260.00 will need to be paid and you can continue making payments up until July on Parent Pay.

PSHE

PSHE is a school subject through which pupils develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they need to keep themselves healthy and safe, and prepare for life and work in modern Britain. Evidence shows that well-delivered PSHE programmes have an impact on both academic and non-academic outcomes for pupils, and this is our aim at Heyford Park.

Our aims in delivering PSHE to our secondary students are to develop skills and attributes such as resilience, self-esteem, risk-management, team working and critical thinking. Our three core themes are: health and wellbeing, relationships and living in the wider world (including economic wellbeing and aspects of careers education).

Last week we were able to have a day off our usual timetable with years 7-9 as we put on our termly PSHE unit of work. All year groups get to cover a variety of topics but it was our Key Stage 3 last Thursday and on this occasion topics were split:

Year 7 - Alcohol and Drugs awareness.

Year 8 - Physical, mental and emotional health, including diet and exercise.

Year 9 - Bigotry and Diversity.

The students got really involved in the day and we were once again very pleased with their attitude towards discussing and getting involved in these topic areas.

Mr Hobbs

Year 8 Options

Thank you to all students in year 8 for returning their options forms. We have managed to place the majority of students in their top three option choices. For students who haven't been placed in their top three options, conversations will be taking place with individual students and parents will invited in to confirm alternative choices. There are many benefits from being a small school however one of the disadvantages is that we are unable to run a range of options subjects where there would be only a few children in each group.

Miss Wallington

Attitude to Learning

Congratulations to students across all houses who were recognised on Friday afternoon last week for their outstanding attitude to learning. McGuire, Bader and Lindh each celebrated the top five per year by rewarding students with celebratory pizza, cakes and various other treats.

Attitude to learning is not about grades gained and attainment, but the can-do, 'inquisitor' attitude that we try to foster in every student here at HPFS. A huge thank you to the students that propel the learning of themselves and others around them; lessons thrive on positive input.

Miss Gibson

Outcomes Update



1. Year 7 Parents' Subject Consultation

A detailed report containing the following will be sent out to parents week beginning 30th April :

- Percentage Attendance
- End of Year Target Grade
- End of Year Forecast grade
- Attitude to Learning Grade
- Homework Grade
- Subject Overview and Grade Descriptors
- Subject Teacher comments

This report aims to facilitate conversations between parents and subject teachers. Please note that Drama and Music will be combined as Performing Arts. Since Ms Beckett teaches both subjects, this should make appointments easier, ie, one appointment for both Drama and Music is better than two separate appointments.

The subject consultation evening is on **Wednesday 9th May and will run at the OM from 16:30 to 18:30.**

As you are aware, we are a small school and some staff teach all the students. This is such the case for Art (mmcmahon-brown@heyfordparkfreeschool.org) , Drama and Music (SBeckett@heyfordparkfreeschool.org) , and, Geography and Ethics (PBaines@heyfordparkfreeschool.org) . Please contact Ms McMahan-Brown, Ms Beckett and Ms Baines for these subjects respectively if you cannot get an appointment for your child. These staff will be happy to respond to parents through email or phone calls. In regards to Spanish, Ms Shaw is unfortunately unavailable on Wednesday 9th May. Ms Shaw will be contacting parents either through emails or phone calls (IShaw@heyfordparkfreeschool.org). Mr Nimmo is currently off due to poor health. Please email Mr Mackenzie (IMackenzie@heyfordparkfreeschool.org) who will organise for you to receive an update on your child's progress in computer science upon Mr Nimmo's return.

Please note that the report will be sent through your child. Should you require the report to be posted to you, please contact Mr Rugoobur (ARugoobur@heyfordparkfreeschool.org).

Parents will be informed through email about the particulars of our booking system by week beginning 30th April.

2. Year 9 Parents' Subject Consultation

A detailed report containing the following will be sent out to parents week beginning 4th June :

- Percentage Attendance
- End of Year Target Grade
- End of Year Forecast grade
- Attitude to Learning Grade
- Homework Grade
- Subject Overview and Grade Descriptors
- Subject Teacher comments

This report aims to facilitate conversations between parents and subject teachers.

The subject consultation evening is on **Wednesday 6th June and will run at the OM from 16:30 to 18:30.**

For further information, please contact Mr A Rugoobur (ARugoobur@heyfordparkfreeschool.org)

News from the Office

There have been 2 sets of keys found. One has a "Jessica" keyring and the other has an "FCB" Barcelona Keyring. Both are currently in the front office at the Officers Mess. If they are yours, please come and collect.

Gentle Reminders

If your child is off sick, please call the office and leave a message. A call needs to be made for everyday that they are off unless a doctor's note is provided to say they will be off for a certain amount of time.

If you need to take your child out of school during term time, you must fill in an Emergency Leave Request form. This can be found on the school website or a copy can be obtained from the main school office.

Holidays during term time

As a school we have noticed a recent increase in families taking holidays during term time. This has an effect not only on students' attendance, but also on the workload of the teaching staff. We, as a school, will shortly be looking at ways to deter this from happening in future. If you have any suggestions as to how this may be done, please do contact Miss Wallington with your ideas.

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

