

HPFS Whole School Bulletin

Friday 11th May 2018

Issue 28

Message from the Principal

“Do your best when no one is looking. If you do that, then you can be successful in anything that you put your mind to.”

This week our students have been involved in helping us in a lot of ways. A special mention needs to go to our student receptionists who have greeted visitors, helped set up meetings, laminated, photocopied and supported other students as well as staff. Well done! The student reception role is important; it's a role of trust but also an opportunity to develop important leadership and employability skills. These skills include communication, initiative, reliability, team work and presentation.

Students from all years supported us with our interview process in PE this week. We were appointing an extra PE teacher for next year as our school grows to join our great PE team. The Sports Leaders ran the student panel and Year 8 took part in the interview lessons

A big thank-you to Ben Berry in Year 11 who has continued to stay after school this year to help set up hospitality for our parents evenings. He has been a great help to the Friends setting up the refreshments and now has taken on supporting the office to set up signage.

These students have shown us it is right to trust them to be their best selves without us watching over them closely. It is through these opportunities we learn to be independent and self improving.

Some of our Year 9s went with Mrs Harris to Banbury to join students from schools across the local area for a leadership course. We were proud of their engagement in this and willingness to take risks to learn.

Many of you will know that the Equestrian team is growing. This year many events have been cancelled due to ground conditions. However, we now for the first time have a team entry for an upcoming competition! Susie, Mia, Lily and hopefully Issy will be representing HPFS on 29th May in a show jumping competition at Bury Farm. We may have some other representatives too as individual riders in other classes. Susie is also representing HPFS at the National Arena Eventing Championships at Hickstead on 26th/27th May. We thank all our parents who are supporting this but particularly Penny for leading on this.

As a community, we would like to wish both Year 2 and Year 11 well with their GCSEs and SATS respectively. Year 11 will switch to a revision timetable that includes examinations, breakfast lectures before morning examinations, revision workshops as well as revision lessons. When students are not in examinations or revision workshops, they will be expected to go to normal lessons. For those with examinations in the afternoon – lunch will be at 12. Please remember to pre-order lunch on the Friday before and send this to kitchen@heyfordparkfreeschool.org or drop off with us at the office in the morning so our amazing kitchen team can prepare their lunches.

Nut Allergies

We have a few children in our school who have Nut Allergies. They are present in both Primary and Secondary.

Could we please ask that children DO NOT bring nuts into school in their lunch boxes so that we can protect against allergic reactions that may occur.



Dates for your diary

(Subject to change)

**Week Commencing 14th May
is Week 2 on the Secondary**

Timetable

14th May—GCSE Exams Begin

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

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

19th June-26th June—Year 9 & 10
summer exams

27th 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 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 and after 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.

YEAR 11 INTERVENTION/MASTERCLASS SESSIONS

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

YEAR 7-10 Summer examinations

Summer examinations provide a great opportunity for students to rehearse ready for GCSEs. Revision should be starting now with a little bit done each night. A timetable of what subject and topic when helps students get into good routines. We will be sending out revision booklets with topics to be covered and English will be leading on revision strategies.

YEAR 9 and 10 Mock exam Timetable

		8am - 10.15	10.45 - 12.45	1.45 - 4
Tuesday 19th June	Y9	English (1hr 45mins)	Biolgy (1hr 15mins)	Maths non Calculator (1hr 30mins)
	Y10	English (1hr 45mins)	Biolgy (1hr 15mins)	Maths non Calculator (1hr 30mins)
Wednesday 20th June	Y9	Chemistry (1hr 15mins)	Maths calculator (1hr 30mins)	GCSE PE (1hr)
	Y10	Chemistry (1hr 15mins)	Maths calculator (1hr 30mins)	GCSE PE (1hr)
Thursday 21st June	Y10	NO EXAMS (Y11 EXTERNAL)	NO EXAMS	Geography (1hr 30mins)
Friday 22nd June	Y9	History 1hr	Physics (1hr 15)	Spanish Reading (1hr)
	Y10	Geography 1hr		
Monday 25th June	Y9	History 1hr15	Physics (1hr 15)	Spanish Reading (1hr)
	Y10	GCSE PE 1hr	Spanish Writing (1hr)	
	Y10	GCSE PE 1hr	Spanish Writing (1hr)	History P3 (1hr 20mins)

Year 7 and 8 Exam timetable

		8am - 10.15	10.45 - 12.45
Tuesday 26th June	Y7/8	English (1hr 45mins)	History (1hr)
Wednesday 27th June	Y7/8	Geography (1hr)	Science (1hr)
Thursday 28th June	Y7/8	Maths Non calculator(1hr 30mins)	Spanish Writing (1h)

Thank-you to “The Friends”

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!

This term The friends are organising the Summer Fete – can you help. Our children love this event and you would be adding to the community feel of our school. **Please contact Kate Akkerman (kakkerman@heyfordparkfreeschool.org).**

Parent Voice Drop In

On Wednesday the Friends organised with us the Parent Voice Drop in. This is an important opportunity for us as it is a chance to shape priorities based on parent feedback. This week we talked about our plan in response to parents requests in secondary for regular assessment data. From next year we will publish termly and Mr Mackenzie is working with a company to ensure you can get this data on line. Many parents have thanked us for changing PRD Days to subject evenings but have asked us to find a way to overcome the challenge of enabling them to see all teachers. They recognise in a small school where there may only be one teacher of a subject. We went out to look at what other small schools do and will be sending out a consultation regarding a model going forward that allows all parents to see all teacher. This would involve on the last Thursday of a term finishing at 2pm and having appointments for a year group from 2.30pm to 7.00pm. In this way, those teachers who teach all children in a year can see all parents.

Sixth Form News

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

Applications can now be received until the 23rd August. We are pleased we have reached our target number but would be willing to consider students who meet our criteria and would value small classes and the opportunity to be part of a new sixth form.

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 11s 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.

Staffing update

We are currently recruiting for September as we need additional staffing due to increased numbers in primary, science, mathematics and PE. This week we appointed an additional PE teacher to join our existing team. Next week we will be interviewing for our final team member for science.

I am sorry to say Mr Nimmo is still unwell. Mr Dutton has stepped in to help us. Mr Mackenzie and Mr Dutton are working on the ICT / computing courses to ensure they are effective. Mrs Dolan has been preparing Y11 for their GCSE. We thank them both.

There are a number of rumours about who is leaving. We only have one member of staff who has resigned as they are returning home to their family. As a school that is growing each year, we have to appoint new staff; this does not mean that people are leaving.

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.

Attendance

Whole School = 94.96%

Primary = 96.56%

Secondary = 93.72%

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

PE News

Y8 Rounders @ The Cooper School, **Tuesday 15th May** 1600-1730 (approx.) Please let us know which students will be collected from TCS.

Y7 Quadkids Athletics @ North Oxon Academy, **Thursday 17th May** 1600 – 1730 (approx.) Students will be back at the SC approx. 1800.

Teamsheets and details will be on the noticeboard in PE by Friday.

Reminder

If students are unable to take part in PE lessons due to illness or injury they must bring a note to excuse them from the lesson **and** their PE kit so they can still take part in the learning activity.

If students are unable to change safely due to injury then please let us know.

Physical Education during Y11 GCSE Exams

All PE lessons will take place outdoors from next Monday, students should be prepared for 'British summer time' and come equipped for their lessons as appropriate.

Sun Awareness Week – Monday 14th May to Sunday 20th May

Leading up to the British Association of Dermatologists Sun Awareness Week, and following on from the beautiful Bank Holiday Weekend weather, North Oxfordshire School Sport Partnership continues to campaign for Sun Awareness, following our previous accredited support of the Melanoma Fund.

The campaign was designed to tackle melanoma, one of the UK's most common cancers in young people, by helping to develop and support sun protection practices for all those who work outdoors with children.

Just a few serious sunburns can increase everyone's risk of melanoma by 80%. With 86% of melanomas attributed to excessive sun exposure, and levels of melanoma rising in the UK, sun protection habits need to change.

To encourage this change, North Oxfordshire School Sport Partnership has a Sun Protection Pledge, which is promoted and endorsed by our team at all our outdoor events, as well as through our direct support of PE and Sport in Schools.

#StaySunSafe

Watersports Summer Residential

Please can parents confirm attendance for the information evening on Monday 21st May at 6pm. Please email Mr Brown abrown@heyfordparkfreeschool.org asap to confirm you will be attending.

Mr Andrew Brown

Head of Physical Education

News from the science department

Exam fever is about to hit Heyford Park Free School, and hit us hard. For year 11, the bulk of GCSE exams begin next week and, for the rest of secondary, summer exams are just around the corner!

Revision is a regular topic of conversation, with lots of time being spent in all subjects on teaching our students effective revision techniques and helping them to plan their revision time.

Technology can be a great help of course – there is a wide and varied selection of websites, apps and videos that have been carefully designed to help students go over the topics covered in lessons, check their understanding and test themselves to see how much they remember.

The downside of technology, in particular mobile devices like smartphones and tablets, is the huge potential for distraction; Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook and Whatsapp are just a few of the apps whose constant notifications can pull our focus away from the things on which we know we should be concentrating.

However, did you know that just the **presence** of your mobile phone can reduce your cognitive capacity? Several independent studies over the past 4 years have all shown that having your phone on the table near you, in your pocket or even in a bag in the same room can reduce your attention span, ability to concentrate and solve problems.

So what's the solution? Try some of the following when revising to help you avoid distractions and work more effectively:

- * Turn off notifications and put your phone in another room when revising.
- * Set yourself time targets (25 to 45 minutes are the most effective) and don't do **anything** other than focus on your work until your time is up.
- * Reward yourself for a successful focus session – take a 5 minute break to check your phone or get a drink or snack.

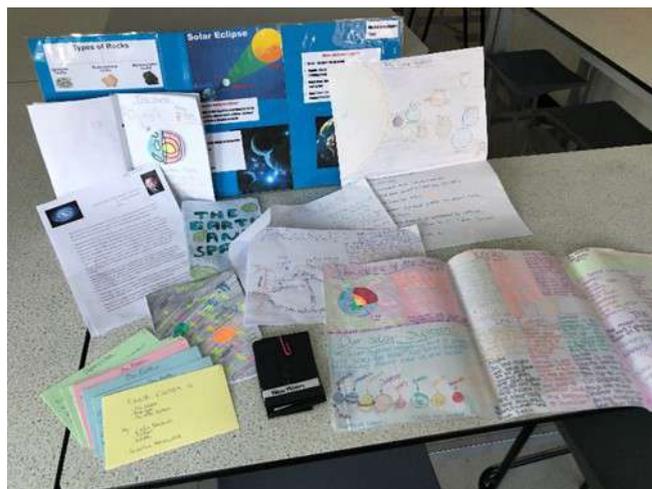
For more advice on revision, battling procrastination and the perils of nomophobia (that's "no mobile phobia"), contact Mr Mackenzie by smoke signal or carrier pigeon.

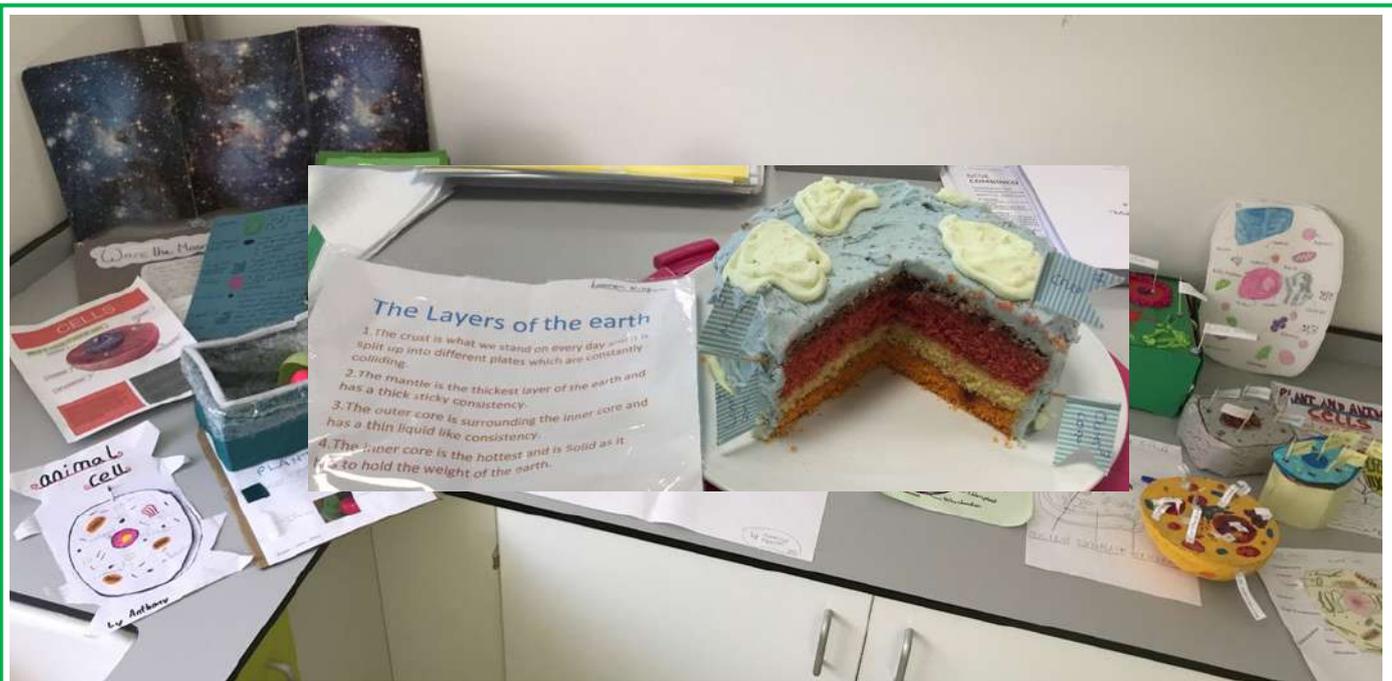
Student shout outs

Year 7 students have gone above and beyond with their homework effort in recent weeks. Mr Mackenzie's group turned in some fabulous pieces after finishing the Earth topic, and Ms Wallington's classroom is still full of colourful (well-labelled) cell diagrams and models from her group.

Special mentions for outstanding effort go to the following students:

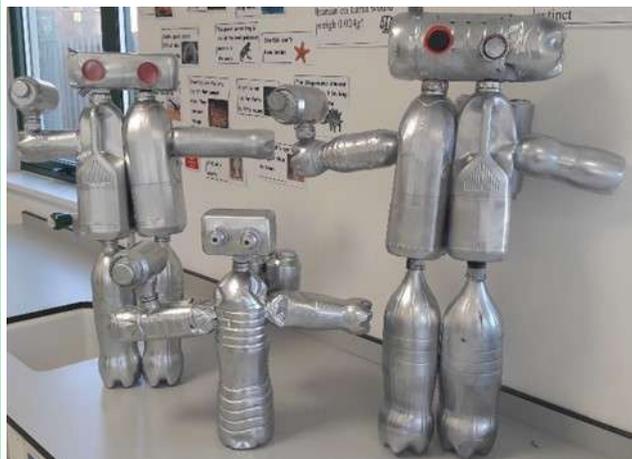
Lauren King, Mia-Mai Geary Daniels, Holly Graham, Harrison Taylor, Layla Newman, Ellie Jones, Ellena Petrova, Josh Hearson, Emily Sutcliffe, Neave Clare-Smith and Izzy Leman. Taylor Johnson, Hazel Durow, Rebecca Hiles, Reese Corn, Troy Moore, Jessica Saunders, Isaac Saint, and Hannah Al-Ani.





Ms Wyspianska's year 8 class produced a load of rubbish whilst working on their recycling projects!

Special mentions for Mark Webb, Chris Weston, Ollie Carter, Milo Brooke-Little, and Jake Davis.



In year 9, a big shout out for extra effort in class and outstanding work should go to Nishat Nailah, Hailey Chan, Spencer Davies-Monk, Sam Denison, Charlotte Hiles, Lucy Palmer, Cerys Jeffery, Connor Duggan and Ellena Howarth.

In year 10, a big well done for persistence and not giving up when balancing chemical equations should go to Tristan Corn and Ethan Jenkins. Robbie Heath and Alwyn Haggert deserve a special mention for their excellent practical technique in physics.

Keep up the great work and good luck preparing for your exams!

Mr Mackenzie

Exam Pencil Cases - £2:00



Pencil cases available from both receptions and Mrs Morrish's Shop - £2:00 each.

Contains:

- 1 x Clear pencil case
- 1 x Ruler
- 2 x Biro's
- 1 x Pencil
- 1 x Sharpener
- 1 x Eraser

Hello from FoHPFS!

As I am sure you are aware, we will be having our annual Summer Fete on Saturday 7th July 12-4pm and we need your help!

If anyone could spare any of the following it would be much appreciated:

FROM PRIMARY

Soft toys

Jars which can be filled with anything from Sweets or Marbles to mini cars!

FROM SECONDARY

Any Bottles

Soft toys (if your kids still have them!)

Any of the above can be handed in after the half term holiday to the school office.

We really appreciate all the help and support we get from parents and staff.

However, we always need volunteers to help us run big events like these. If anyone would like to volunteer please feel free to email

Kate, our chairwomen at katherinelmoore@hotmail.com.

Thank you! And have a great weekend.



News from the Office

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 a negative 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 address 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

