

# HPFS Whole School Bulletin

Friday 18th May 2018

Issue 29

## 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.”**

I have purposefully kept the same quote this week as last week as it is pertinent to our week. Year 7 to 10 need to be celebrated in relation to the consideration they have given Year 11 whilst in examinations and revision on the Specialism site. Our year 7, 8, 9 and 10 have moved silently around the building when changing lessons on the Specialism site to support year 11. They have quickly responded to changes we have made to support students in examinations and they have been helpful to students and staff. The staff across the school have worked as a real team supporting students in revision, at the beginning of lessons and end of examinations. There has been a real sense of community that has been brought about by each and every person.

It is then sad to have comment on an incident at Heyford Park Free School that we are ashamed of. We know each of our students and staff are normally there to ensure that we help each other if things go wrong. But last week a mistake had been made on covering a teacher that was poorly. Our procedure is that students or staff inform the Director of Learning and the office straight away and we immediately organise to cover this. However, in this instance, this did not happen as the students chose to not tell anyone. This led to a serious breach of our expectations and exclusions being put in place. Students have been spoken to remind them that if there is a problem they must tell the office. Our students are normally very responsible so this was very disappointing. Please can you also reiterate at home that if students spot an issue, or if there is a problem, they must go to the office so we can respond to this straight away. It is in this way we protect each other and those who have more developed social responsibility can support those who are still trying to develop it.

As a community, we all wish Year 11 well with their GCSEs as they enter their second week. Year 11 have switched 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](mailto:kitchen@heyfordparkfreeschool.org) or drop off with us at the office in the morning so our amazing kitchen team can prepare their lunches.



## Dates for your diary

(Subject to change)

**Week Commencing 21st May  
is Week 1 on the Secondary**

## **Timetable**

**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

**7th July**—School Fete

**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](mailto:office@heyfordparkfreeschool.org)*

## Year 11 Exams

Can we please remind students that they need to bring all relevant equipment to their exams. We are getting a lot of requests from students at the start of exams for equipment that they should have with them.

We do have Clear Pencil cases with basic equipment in them for purchase should they be required.

### 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)	Biology (1hr 15mins)	Maths non Calculator (1hr 30mins)
	Y10	English (1hr 45mins)	Biology (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)
		Geography 1hr		
	Y10	History 1hr15	Physics (1hr 15)	Spanish Reading (1hr)
Monday 25th June	Y9	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)

### Detentions

Just a reminder that detentions are an integral part of our school behaviour policy, and we ask that all parents support us with these sanctions. Detentions will be issued for either Tuesday or Thursday every week and failure to attend these detentions will result in an escalation of the sanction. Thanks for the on-going support.

Miss Wallington—Assistant Head for Pastoral

### 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).**

## Attendance

Whole School = 94.92%

Primary = 96.58%

Secondary = 93.66%

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

## **Parent Voice Drop In**

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. We want to propose that on the last Thursday of a term we finish teaching 2pm and having appointments for a year group from 2.30pm to 6.30pm. In this way those teachers who teach all children in a year can see all parents. We would still ensure each of these Thursdays would be for a single year group. Please can you email your feedback to [office@heyfordparkfreeschool.org](mailto:office@heyfordparkfreeschool.org) by **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018** to help inform our final decision.

As discussed last week we will be providing assessment feedback as requested by parents each ½ term instead of termly reports next year. The general feedback is this would be valued and help parents support learning at home.

## **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 15<sup>th</sup> 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. Last week we appointed an additional PE teacher to join our existing team and our new deputy in science.

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.

### Year 10 Art Exam Information

Year 10 Art exam is on **Tuesday 26 June**. To give students an understanding of the demands of an Art exam, Year 10 students will sit a 5 hour drawing exam. This will set out the expectations and requirements of a silent, focussed exam and will allow students to see what can be achieved in the set time. The artwork produced will form part of their Component 1, Personal Portfolio, which contributes 60% of the final GCSE grade.

Students will be given guidance after the Half Term in order to prepare for this exam.

**Mrs M. McMahon-Brown**

Art Department

### PE Fixtures

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May Y10 Girls Rounders @ The Warriner School – Depart 3:15pm approx. return to HPFS 5:45pm

### 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.

### Watersports Summer Residential

Many thanks to those parents and students that have confirmed attendance for the information evening next Monday. If you are able to attend, please let me know and we'll get organised with seats. I will share the key points for anyone unable to attend in next week's bulletin. If you are attending, please can you bring the student's passport and EHIC so we can begin the process of completing risk assessments and paperwork for the trip.

Please can all medical and safety questionnaires be returned to Mr Brown asap, and please ensure that the 2<sup>nd</sup> payment is made on or before the 26<sup>th</sup> May.

Look forward to seeing you next Monday.

Mr Andrew Brown—Head of Physical Education

## Outcomes Update



### **1. Year 7 Parents' Subject Consultation**

Thank you for attendance and feedback.

The turnout was 70% and we are currently analysing the questionnaires.

### **2. Year 9 Parents' Subject Consultation**

A detailed report containing the following will be sent out to parents week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> June and will run at the OM from 16:30 to 18:30.

Mr Nimmo (Computer Science) is off with illness and will unfortunately not be available for the evening. Please contact Mr Mackenzie at [IMackenzie@heyfordparkfreeschool.org](mailto:IMackenzie@heyfordparkfreeschool.org) (Line Manager of Computer Science) for further information.

Mr Cropper ([MCropper@heyfordparkfreeschool.org](mailto:MCropper@heyfordparkfreeschool.org)) and Miss Shaw ([IShaw@heyfordparkfreeschool.org](mailto:IShaw@heyfordparkfreeschool.org)) will also not be available for the parents' consultation due to prior engagement. They will however be happy to conduct the consultation either as a phone or an email conversation. Please contact them directly to arrange this.

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



## English and Spanish department news



### Miss Gibson and year 8 looking at writer's methods or techniques to convey message

We strongly encourage all year groups to revisit and learn their list of literary choices (also known as writer's methods). Year 8 provided a successful example this week within class time, however, these flashcards can be made anytime; they are essential for both the language and literature GCSEs.

A list of literary choices has been made available to all students on 'Show My Homework'. Any issues with this, please consult the public list of homework on the school website which is general and not specific to your child, or contact myself at [sgibson@heyfordparkfreeschool.org](mailto:sgibson@heyfordparkfreeschool.org).

This revision sheet is best made into flashcards, with a technical term on one side and the definition and an example on the other. Year 8 competed against one another to see who could come up with an engaging revision game – table three stormed to success by using their game for a version of 'Heads Up'.

The benefits of this 'learning by rote' will certainly come into effect during their end of year exams taking place in June – students must be able to identify and explain writer's linguistic choices and also use them during their own writing for Section B of the language papers.

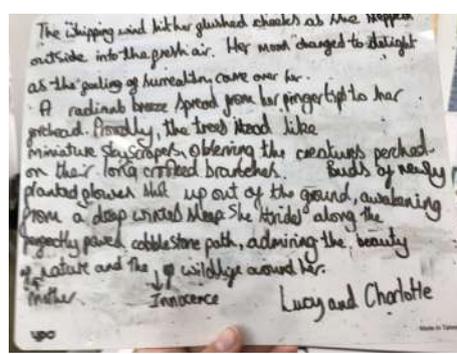
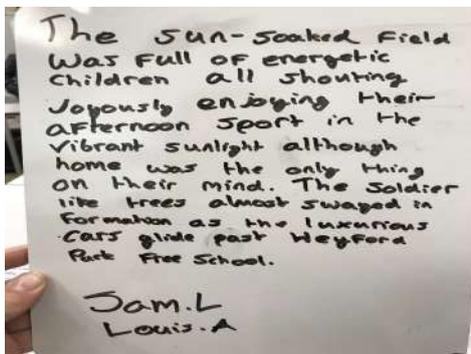
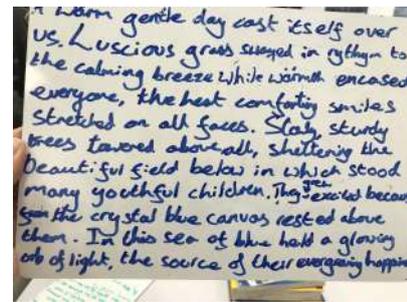
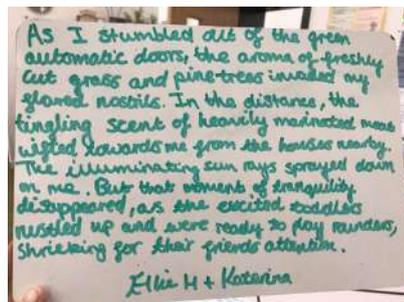
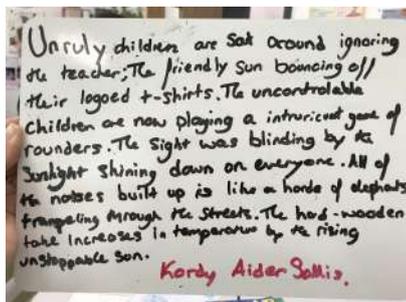


### Miss Marin and year 9 looking at outdoors learning to improve descriptive writing skills

Descriptive writing is using creativity and imagination to write a story. Whilst some students find this process empowering and enjoyable, some do struggle with ideas and the process of creating their own piece from scratch. Year 9 students have been learning about the requirements for their GCSE paper 1 and, as part of this process, we looked at excellent descriptive pieces about setting.

We agreed a series of successful strategies published writers use and then wanted to replicate some of these in our own writing. So, what better way of getting some inspiration than joining primary students outside during their lunchtime play on a sunny day?

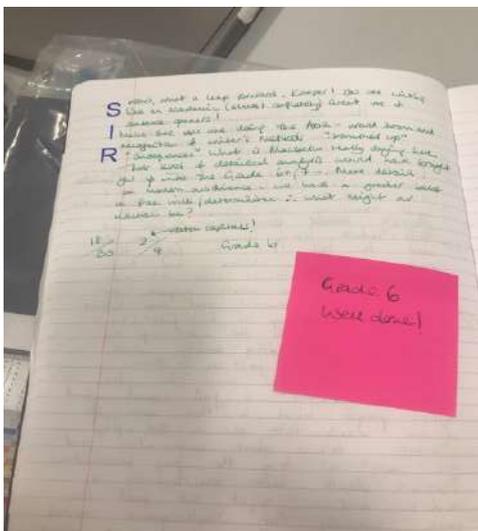
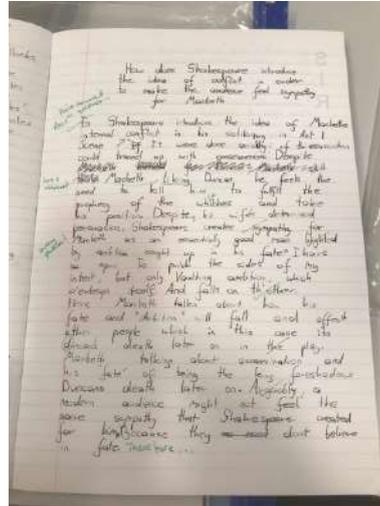
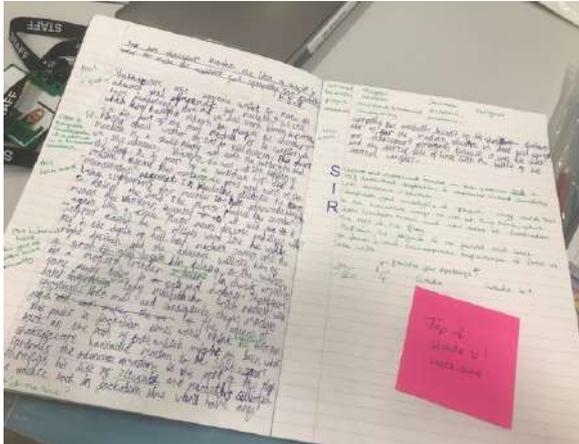
Pairs of students observed, wrote and improved their work using effective examples of similes, metaphors, adjectives, adverbs and the senses. Student feedback highlighted that they really enjoyed being outside, benefitted from working collaboratively and loved using the mini-whiteboards. The quality of the work produced was excellent too which makes me a very proud teacher! A special well done goes to Kordy and Aiden, Lucy and Charlotte and Sam and Louis who have created some beautiful images. Don't take my word for it; have a look for yourself.



### Miss Whitcombe and her fantastic drama work

This term, I have most enjoyed working with Years 7, 9 and 10 on exploring Shakespeare's plays. With year 7 we have been taking a very practical approach and performing extracts and following the Royal Shakespeare Company's processes for exploring character. This has allowed the students to write in detail about focused sections of the text and develop a real understanding of A Midsummer Night's Dream in performance.

In Years 9 and 10, the students have considered a more conceptualised approach to the text - exploring whether Macbeth has freedom of choice or is locked into a pre-destined fate. This has resulted in a leap forward in the sophistication of written work. In particular, Sebastian Tredwell and Max Rowlinson in Year 10, Zach Singer and Kasper Cibcinski in Year 9 all provided a thoughtful and detailed approaches to the character and the play.



### Miss Shaw and year 7 are learning vocabulary around free time and hobbies

Y7 are designing their own Spanish theme parks at the moment and a lot of effort and imagination are clearly being used as they are beginning to take shape. Special mention goes to Beth, Elena and Olivia as they are always going the extra mile with their work using a range of resources to extend their work.



### Library notice

If you need to return your library book, could you pls do so as soon as possible? The library is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at lunchtime. Alternatively, you could extend the deadline so you get to keep your book for longer.

Please do come and have a look at the wide selection of new titles we have- you might find something you'll really enjoy. Miss Marin, Miss Whitcombe and Miss Morrish would love to recommend you some really good books!

We are also looking for some student librarians to help us run the library so, if you're interested, please come to speak to one of us.

### In other news...

As we approach the formal GCSE examinations, it is vitally important students revise regularly (aim for at least 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<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> April 2018 all day**  
**8698/SH Speaking test 35 mins 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> 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:

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](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.)

## **Stars competition 2018**

It's that time of year again when HPFS host their own version of the X Factor and The Voice, with students from across the school auditioning and performing in front of a panel of judges to win HPFS STARS 2018. Entry forms are available from Mrs Beckett and need to be returned by Friday 25 May

Encourage your Star to step up to the microphone...

Mrs Beckett

## **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

## **Berlin Trip**

Please can parent of children that are going on the Berlin Trip return the forms that were sent out by Monday 21st May. These need to be given to Mrs Rhymes.

Also, the full balance for the Berlin Residential needs to be paid by 15<sup>th</sup> June and that there is an information evening at the OM at 5pm on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June for parents and students.

## **Students off site during break/lunch**

We are very pleased with the vast majority of students who make the journey between our 2 sites sensibly; they are a credit to the school.

However, we wish to repeat the school expectation at this time that NO students are allowed to go to other students houses or anywhere else other than making the walk from one site to another. Students continue to be allowed to use the shop on the way if they wish as long as they are not late arriving at the site they should be at.

## **Year Book 2018**

Year 11 students have worked incredibly hard on a compilation of pictures and memories from the whole of their HPFS journey. To secure your yearbook, find the item on **ParentPay (any issues contact [sgibson@heyfordparkfreeschool.org](mailto:sgibson@heyfordparkfreeschool.org))**. These should be delivered in preparation for the Leavers' Assembly on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June where students will get them signed.

For **£14**, over **36 pages of photos and memories** can belong to every Year 11 student, along with 4 pages for signing and autographs from all of their friends, peers and staff.

To send in further last-minute photos/memories please contact [hpfsyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:hpfsyearbook@gmail.com) and [alicefwalder@gmail.com](mailto:alicefwalder@gmail.com).

## 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

