



HBK Update, Friday 19 January 2024



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to this week's HBK update!

Fire and Emergency Procedures Update – message from Mr Pinder, Vice-Principal

Students have now been briefed on our Emergency Procedures Plan (lockdown). This plan is used if we need to keep all students inside the buildings due to an incident within or close to the school grounds – for example, a gas leak, an intruder or a dangerous dog or other animal on site etc... We will be carrying out a drill to test these procedures next week on Thursday 25th January after lunch.

Marking and Feedback Trial – message from Mr Pinder, Vice-Principal

We are working with a new education company to trial a product which can support the marking of work, providing personalised feedback, follow-up tasks and questions for students. The data can then be used by teachers to help match the lesson content to what the students need most. This personalised approach could be a real benefit to students and their progress. The trial will initially be with year 10 Science classes, starting with Triple Science classes next week. If the trial is successful, we will look to roll it out in some subjects (cost is an issue that we are exploring in our discussions with the company). It is very early days; we will keep you informed.

News from the Sixth Form – message from Mrs Rix, Head of Sixth Form

Many thanks indeed to those year 11s who have applied to join us in September 2024. We are in the process of looking through all application forms and will soon be in touch regarding interviews. These are planned to take place between 29 January and 9 February.

GCSEPod: An essential tool during a students' learning journey – update from Mrs Gratton, Head of Maths and Associate Principal



It was fantastic to see so many students successfully using GCSEPod last term, and to hear news of how the content and quizzing helped them with their studies. Following further tutor activities in the last fortnight, all students should now have full access to this brilliant resource, found by

clicking this link: <https://www.gcsepod.com/>

[GCSE Learning and Revision | GCSEPod](https://www.gcsepod.com/)

An award-winning digital publisher for 28+ GCSE/IGCSE subjects. We are dedicated to improving the working lives of teachers and making GCSE learning stick.

www.gcsepod.com

We have provided a parent toolkit to answer the common questions, and this can be found by following the link on the landing page of the school website: <https://www.hinchingbrookeschool.net/>

Please do encourage your child to make regular use of this great resource – even in the car on the way to a club/match/training, or on the bus! Regular use and especially utilising the Check and Challenge quizzes, will make a huge impact on their understanding of the courses we have here. As an added incentive, we once again have our competition running with recognition and prizes awarded to students in each year group!

ARBOR parent/carer App – message from Mr Elias, HBK Information Services Manager



We'd like to thank you for the fantastic uptake of our Arbor Parent App! One of the features we'd really like to encourage use of is the facility for parents to keep their contact information up to date. It's easy to forget to contact all the relevant people when, for example, we move addresses and change phone number, but hopefully

the Arbor Parent App can take some of the burden out of this process when it comes to updating your child's school record.

The below link will take you to guidance on how to do this. Do have a look!

[Parent App Guidance](#)

Year 9 Sports Leaders – Panathlon Swimming Gala at the London Aquatics Centre – message from Mr Finlayson, HBK HUNTS Schools Sports Manager

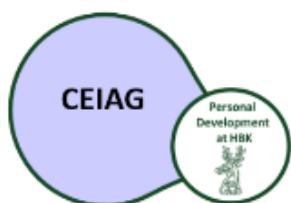
On Wednesday 17 January, 14 Year 9 Sports Leaders visited the London Aquatics Centre to assist with a SEND Panathlon Swimming Gala - Panathlon is a national charity which gives young people with disabilities and special educational needs every year the opportunity to take part in competitive sport.

The leaders supported young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities from schools in London at the Swimming Gala. They communicated effectively with the participants and helped to put them at ease when in the water. The leaders were amazing throughout the event and were a credit to the school. They even managed to watch Team GB Diving train before the event!

The event organiser was very impressed – we received glowing feedback about our students! Indeed, we are hopeful that they will be invited back to assist with the National Finals event later in the school year!



Years 10-13 Career Pathway Advice – message from Mr O'Shaughnessy, CEIAG Manager



Many of our students, with their carers and families, are looking at the options available following school. The Government are promoting their updated online resources available here - <https://www.skillsforcareers.education.gov.uk/pages/young-people>

Artwork Project Update – message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

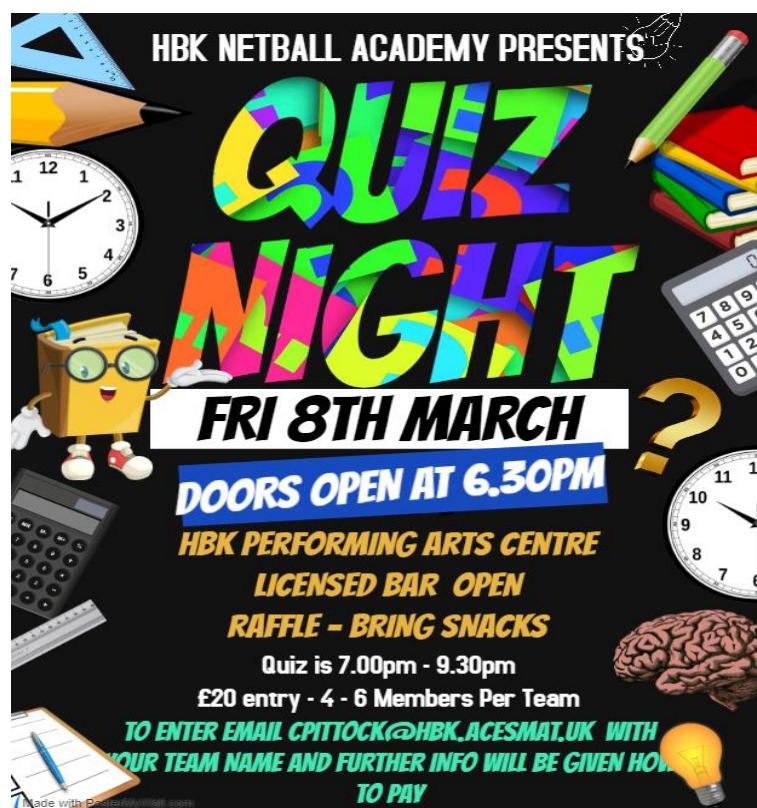
Our Outtoreach artwork project has continued this week with a new 'Ecosystems' corridor going up in the Geography building.

HBK Netball Academy Quiz Night – Friday 8 March 2024

Do you fancy testing your general knowledge? If so, you may be interested in getting a team together and joining our HBK Netball Academy Quiz Night in the PAC at Hinchingbrooke School.

Please email Caroline Pittock cpittock@hbk.acesmat.uk with your team name (£20 for a team - maximum of 6 per team) and payments details will be sent to you.

All proceeds go to HBK Netball Academy.



This week's blog

This week's blog is my take on 'What Went Well, Even Better If...' marking. If you would like to read it, it's here:

<https://learningisthething.com/?p=1246>

Wishing you a lovely weekend!

Best wishes
Mark Patterson