



## HBK Update, Friday 15 July 2022



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the penultimate HBK update of this school year! So much to say, so much to be grateful for...

### High temperatures on Monday and Tuesday next week

As I type, the Government and DfE have not contacted schools about next Monday and Tuesday's forecast high temperatures. The Local Authority have been in contact today to say that we should therefore **expect to stay open at this time**, and take sensible precautions against the high temperatures. Almost all of the activities planned for Monday's Diversity Day will be indoors and we are looking at adaptations for those that were planned to be outdoor areas (such as using shaded areas). If we get anything from the Government or the DfE or the Local Authority, we will let you know.

### Relaxed Uniform for hot weather - message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

We will be continuing to allow students to not wear or bring their school tie and blazer in school next week as the weather is going to stay warm. The temperatures are predicted to be particularly high on Monday, which is our 'Diversity Day', when the normal school timetable is collapsed. **All students are allowed to wear their PE kit to school on Monday** in order to help them feel more comfortable in the high temperatures predicted. They do not have to wear PE socks but can instead wear thinner socks as part of our aim to combat the heat. We will also have additional water stations around the site, so please do encourage students to bring a **large water bottle** into school for the day, and a hat if they would like. Finally, we encourage students to wear sun cream, particularly on Monday for those who will be spending some sessions outside.

### Summer Ball 2022! - message from Mr Pape, Assistant Principal



On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July, we welcomed our Year 12 and 13 students to an evening of fun, dancing, singing and merriment in the grounds of Hinchingbrooke House. Students celebrated what has been a fantastic year of hard work and we keep our fingers crossed for some amazing results to celebrate this summer.

Huge thanks must go to Mrs Edwards and the Sixth Form team, Mr Howells and his AV team, all our staff who gave their time to attend and Mr Pool and our amazing grounds staff for all their efforts in making this the biggest summer ball ever!

We look forward to next year's event with much excitement, especially for the thoughts, ideas and inspiration from our new senior student leaders.



**Bösendorfer Concert**

On Wednesday evening, we held the Bösendorfer Concert in the PAC and everyone in the audience was treated to a feast of musical talent from our wonderful HBK students! Huge congratulations to all of the students who took part, and the amazing HBK Music and AV Team who made it happen!



For a taste, you can see just a small snippet of one of the performers, Nathan.

**Picnic at the House!**

It was my privilege to attend this event last night! There were so many great things going on, all evening! What a treat for the eyes and ears! Huge congratulations to every student who took part, and thanks to the staff and volunteers who made it happen!

**HBK end-of-year Legacy Celebration Assemblies! - message from Mr Pape**



This week saw the conclusion of our Legacy Award celebration events! Students from Year 7 through to Year 13 enjoyed celebration events to recognise our students' outstanding achievements across this school year. More than 230 students from across our school community were recognised through the



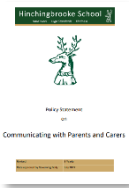
awarding of certificates and prizes that are kindly funded by our alumni and the Hinchingsbrooke Foundation. Subject prizes were awarded alongside some of our most prestigious historic awards, including the Vesey, Grindrod, Fisher, Goswell and Wakelin awards. In addition, this year's events were extra-special as we also celebrated the legacy of 50 years since our school move to its current site. Huge praise must go to all the students recognised as they continue to exemplify our school's core values of Hard work, High standards and Kindness. All students were very gracious in celebrating with our winners, which was truly wonderful to see.

Huge thanks in particular to one of our staff, Mrs Lowe, for the hundreds of hours she has spent organising the events!

## Can you help?

We are looking at methods to further recognise students for next year's events, if you are a parent, alumni, business person who wishes to find out further information on how you could help to support the recognition of our amazing students, please could you contact Mr Pape ([cpape@hbk.acesmat.uk](mailto:cpape@hbk.acesmat.uk)) for further details. Many thanks.

## New Communicating with Parents and Carers Policy – message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal



We have a new policy around communication which can be found on the school website. The policy details how parents and carers can contact the school and in turn, how we as a school communicate with parents and carers.

[Communication with Parents and Carers Policy](#)

## Final day of Term, Thursday 21 July - message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

We will be holding a non-uniform day on this day, arranged by our Sixth Form Charity Captains. Students wishing to come to school in non-uniform are asked to make a donation of £1 on the gate as they arrive at school. All donations will be passed on to the Teenage Cancer Trust. **Please don't forget that we will be finishing at 1.15pm next Thursday, as previously advertised.**

Therefore, the final week, in terms of uniform, shapes up like this:

Monday - PE kit for Diversity Day

Tuesday and Wednesday - regular school uniform but no ties or blazers

Thursday - non school uniform day

## Staff leavers at the end of the summer term

We say goodbye to some staff who leave us at the end of this term: (in no particular order, the date they started at HBK is in brackets) Mr Mudoh, Maths (January 2022); Mr Cooke, Vice-Principal (September 2013); Ms South, DT/Food (February 2018); Mr Turnbull, PE (September 1991); Ms Harris-Clements, RPE (September 2020); Ms Gray, Languages (September 2021); Ms Akielan, Drama (October 2005); Mr Jones, Science (September 2019); Ms Zander, Geography (September 2019); Mr Durrant, 2<sup>nd</sup> in Geography (September 2013); Ms Haynes, Science (January 2018), Mr Sedgwick, SENDCo (September 2021). All of these colleagues leave with our gratitude and our best wishes for their next chapter.

I would like to pay particular tribute to those colleagues from the group of staff above whose contribution extends over considerable time: thank you to Mr Durrant, who has given us nine fantastic years of endeavour and dedicated commitment to geography; thank you to Mr Cooke, who has helped to considerably strengthen the school during his nine years here – the way we have approached Behaviour, for example, and our strongly-positive ethos, owe a lot to Mr Cooke's vision and work; Ms Akielan, who has led Drama with distinction for almost 17 years, transforming Drama to be the outstanding subject area that it is today; and Mr Turnbull, who has given his whole working life (so far) to HBK – a faithful servant, a great leader and a great friend to many, it would be hard to overstate Mr Turnbull's extraordinary contribution to PE and Sport at this school over 31 years. Yes, that is 31 years! Huge thanks to the one and only Mr Jason Turnbull.

## Summer Holidays Free School Meals Voucher Scheme

For the summer holidays, Cambridgeshire Council are continuing to work with Wonde (E-voucher) to provide vouchers for families who receive free school meals during term time. Eligibility remains the same in previous rounds including support for Post 16 bursary students. Each eligible pupil will receive two vouchers as follows:

- a first £37.50 supermarket voucher by the end of the day on 22<sup>nd</sup> July
- a second £37.50 supermarket voucher by the end of the day on 12th August

These will arrive as usual via your phone or email address.



### **Year 10 Tutoring Opportunity – message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal**

Over 50 students have signed up for the chance to receive free tutoring over the summer holidays. Those who have been allocated places will receive confirmation of the time (11am-12 noon), the week and the subject before the end of term. A letter with all the relevant information will also be sent out to ensure you know who to contact if there are any issues and how to ensure you are prepared for online sessions. Thank you to parents who have supported their child to take this opportunity.

### **Results Days - Summer 2022 - message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal**

A reminder that the Key Stage 5 (A Level, AS and Level 3 Vocational) results day is **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August**, and Key Stage 4 (GCSE and Level 2 Vocational) is on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August**.

On both occasions students in Years 13 and 11 will be invited on site to collect their results at 9am in Hinchingsbrooke House. Due to the rising numbers of COVID-19 we ask that only students collecting results come onto the site at these times. Parents should contact us via the communications email or [sixthform@hbk.acesmat.uk](mailto:sixthform@hbk.acesmat.uk) if appointments need to be made.

Sixth Form course changes - Year 11 students wishing to attend HBK Sixth Form and needing to change their courses are advised to come into school on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August between 10am and 2pm to speak to a member of the Sixth Form Team in Hinchingsbrooke House.

Year 12 and 10 students will be emailed their results via their school email address by 11am on each day.

### **Year 7 Oracy Workshops - message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal**

A huge well done to our Year 7 students who took part in the Oracy workshops on Tuesday of this week! They were really engaged and learned lots of techniques designed to build their confidence.

Unfortunately, the Friday workshop had to be cancelled last-minute because the presenter could not attend. We will reorganise this for September.

### **This week's blog**

This week's blog asks the question, 'Is school about more than exam results?' If you would like to, you can read it here: [Is school about more than exam results? – Learning is the thing](#)

Best wishes

**Mark Patterson**