



HBK Update, Friday 26 May 2023



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to your last HBK round-up of this half term!

School is shut next week for the May half-term holiday.
We reopen on Monday 5 June.

Year 9 Progress Report – message from Mr Pendlebury, Assistant Principal

Earlier this week, we issued a Progress Report for all Year 9 students. This report contained the results from the recent Year 9 exams plus an Attitude to Learning descriptor decided by their teachers. If you did not receive this report, please email reports@hbk.acesmat.uk stating the name of your child and we will re-issue this report to you. You should also be able to see this report in the ARBOR parent app.

Student update video - message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

The video linked below will be shown to students (except those in Years 11 and 13) on the first Monday back after half term. It details some changes to our system around homework, whereby if a student has not completed their homework, they will need to attend a lunchtime 'homework help' session on the same day, and some changes to our uniform policy based on suggestions made at the recent student forum. <https://youtu.be/sFcn3Dsp3TE>

Results Days - August 2023 - message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal

All information regarding the results days for this summer can be found here: [Hinchingbrooke School - Examinations](#)

If your child is in Year 11 or 13 and cannot come into school to collect their results, it is vital that the student contacts us via their school email account to request an electronic set of results (results@hbk.acesmat.uk).

Public Exams and Masterclasses – message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal

Another successful week! It is great to see so many of our students entering and exiting exams feeling that their hard work has paid off! 2 weeks down and 3 to go, and we all have a week to recuperate!

Year 11 students should have received their Masterclass invitation email (sent to their school account) on Wednesday for their sessions **after half term**. If they have been invited there is an expectation that they will attend. Year 11 students are only expected in school for Masterclasses, clinics or their exams from this point on. As such they will be able to come and go according to their personal timetable and are not expected to stay in school. They are, however, expected to be in full uniform when on the school site, including for their exams. As a reminder, this includes a tie, school shoes and a blazer. Additionally, students should not be wearing excessive jewellery or false eyelashes. Year 13 must be in compliance with the school dress code for their exams.

The overview of the Masterclasses can be found [here](#). A link to the exams overview can be found [here](#).

Thank you for your continued support of both your child and the school, during this time.

Attendance Reward Trip - message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal

A selected group of students across Years 7 to 10 have been working hard to improve their attendance since February half term in order to win themselves and a friend a place on the Thorpe Park reward trip on 18th July! Those involved (specific Pupil Premium-eligible students) will be getting regular updates on their

attendance via their school email account. This is in a bid to make sure students are really tracking their own attendance and doing all they can to ensure they are in school daily. Of course, there will be special circumstances for some, which we will take into consideration. Students will also be invited to a special assembly on Monday 5th June (pm form time) to hear about what they need to do and all about the exciting trip. Thank you in advance to parents supporting students to improve their attendance. Research shows that students with good and excellent attendance have better outcomes at school and indeed are more likely to go on to better careers later in life.

Calling our Services parents - message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal

Are you currently serving in the Forces, or have you done so in the past 6 years? If so, have you let the school know? If you think we may not be aware (or you're not sure) please get in contact so we can support your family and the school can receive the premium made available from the government. Contact our Pupil Premium Administrator, Sarah Bennett (sbennett@hbk.acesmat.uk).

Year 10 Exams - message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal

Straight after half term (week beginning 5th June) Year 10 students will have a 2 week window of internal exams. Teaching staff will share with the students what they need to be revising and in which lessons their exam will take place.

Celebrating Pride Month at HBK – message from Ms Newman Diversity Champion



In June, HBK will be celebrating Pride Month. We will have various things going on throughout the month that we wish to encourage students to participate in, such as special assemblies, form time activities, film screenings, bake sales etc. On Friday 9th June we will be having a 'Rainbow Day' where students can wear rainbow **accessories** to school. They should still be in their usual school uniform but they can choose to wear some of these items to accessorize it: rainbow socks, rainbow laces, rainbow ribbons, rainbow hair pieces, a rainbow tie, rainbow jewellery, rainbow arm sleeves/sweatbands - in order to avoid any confusion, these are the **only items** students will be permitted to wear and, of course, no one is obliged to do so.

We hope students will join us in celebrating LGBT+ pride and raising awareness of the issues that people in the community continue to experience. Thanks very much for your support.

Spanish students to visit HBK in June – would you like to offer accommodation to a Spanish student? - Message from Ms Shutt, HBK Languages Department

We have been asked by St Neots English Centre to host 30 Spanish students at Hinchbrook from 19th-30th June and to offer them the opportunity to experience school life in England, and we have agreed to do this! The 30 Spanish students will shadow 30 HBK 'buddies' (lucky 15 Year 8s and 15 Year 9s!) during the school day throughout the 2 weeks and thus they will attend all of their buddies' lessons and spend breaks and lunchtimes together. We are excited to be part of this project and we hope it will be an enriching experience for everyone involved!

St Neots English Centre has also asked us if any HBK families would be interested in hosting in their homes any of the Spanish students – the details for this can be found in their letter here: [St Neots English Centre – Hosting Letter](#).

Please note: the buddy experience in school and the accommodation of the Spanish students after school and in the evenings are entirely separate – this means there is no expectation that the accommodation for the Spanish students will be provided by the families of the HBK buddies, or indeed anyone else – any family can choose to offer to accommodate a Spanish student for the two weeks. If you are interested, please follow the instructions on the attached letter and contact the St Neots English Centre directly as **Hinchbrook is not involved nor responsible for this aspect of the visit of the Spanish students**.

Success for Year 9 students at The Scholars Programme Graduation – message from Mrs Gratton, Head of Mathematics and Associate Principal



I am delighted to share the well-deserved success of some of our students as they graduated from The Scholars Programme at Cambridge University last week. Year 9 students completed seven tutorials with a subject expert PhD researcher, from Cambridge University, where they explored nature through the ecoGothic in German and English Literature and Culture. They completed a challenging 2000-word final assignment, which was marked according to demanding criteria and given a university-level grade. Nine of our students obtained a 2:1 classification and a further two students, Kian and Eddie, were awarded the highest grade of a 1st class!

The Scholars Programme, run by award-winning university access charity The Brilliant Club, helps students aged 8-18 develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to progress to the UK's most competitive universities and succeed once there. Indeed, our students have learned to use essay writing skills that are expected at undergraduate level! During the tutorials, our students were challenged to think and work on this unique area of postgraduate research. Students were supported through this programme by Mrs Bennett and me. Congratulations to Shelby, Kian, Ollie, Valentim, Alexander, Cat, Alex, Eddie, Charlie, Esme and Liliana!



Lost Property @ HBK



We will soon be adding to the website area a catalogue of photographed items that are currently in our lost property area. This time we have chosen to show some of the coats and jackets, PE bags and cycle helmets. Please contact us on lostproperty@hbk.acesmat.uk if you recognise an item and we can return it to your child after half term.

Please can we take this opportunity to say how important it is that all items brought into school are named. Since this new system of lost property at Hinchingsbrooke has been up and running we have noticed how quickly we can reunite items with their owners provided they are named, usually on the same day! Naming saves so much time and naming items also helps with students' worries about losing their belongings. Please visit the lost property area on the school website [Click here](#).

HBK Lost – HBK Found – HBK Reunite

HBK Year 12 Careers Fair – message from Mrs K Farrington, Sixth Form Administrator

This was our first post-pandemic Careers Fair! The event, held 17 May in the afternoon, was attended by over 20 different exhibitors from a wide range of sectors including universities, the military and the NHS. We used 5 of our beautiful rooms in the House to host the event: The Inner Hall, The Outer Hall, The Assembly Room, the Pedigree Room and the Chapter House. All 225 Year 12 students participated (unless they were absent from school on the day); as well as visiting the stalls, they attended a talk in the PAC covering full time university degree study and degree apprenticeships from the University of Hertfordshire and the University of East Anglia. In the evening over 80 parents and carers attended the same presentation, which was followed by a Q&A session. Our Oxbridge candidates were also spoken to by staff from Cambridge University Murray Edwards College about the unique university application process and tips for interviews for these esteemed institutions.

The buzz in the House was electric and feedback has been very positive with great ideas on how to grow the experience for next year. "It was class!" said one student.

To support the event and as an ongoing resource, a small area upstairs in the House, called the Career Corner, has now been kitted out with 100s of prospectuses and other materials to help aid students who are thinking about their Post-18 journeys.

Event stalls: Cambridge University, Nottingham Trent University, University of East Anglia, University of Hertfordshire, The London Interdisciplinary School, Sheffield Hallam University, Ben Burgess, Cambridge Precision Engineering, Urban & Civic, PEM Cambridge Accountancy Firm, Ensors Chartered Accountants, Ministry Of Defence Recruitment, CRC Cambridge Regional College, Webtec, Cambridgeshire Police, Lab Corp, Moulton College, The Aim Group, Caterpillar, DCRS Ltd, Oxford Brookes, Murray Edwards College, NHS Careers, EPM HR & Administration, College of Animal Welfare, RWE Nuclear and Electric Power Generation.



Exciting local area Art Competition for 15-18 year-olds! - message from Ms Macon-Cooney, Art Department

We have been invited to tell our HBK students about this exciting local Art competition that is open to young people aged 15 to 18! If your child may be interested, please see the details here:

[BAM Project Art Competition](#)

Year 10 Work Experience – Message from the HBK Careers Team



From June 19th and following the exam season, 300+ of our Year 10 students will embark on what can be one of the more powerful learning experiences of their school life! Thanks to the fantastic efforts of the whole school community this two-week placement will commence on Monday, June 19th. The students, families, carers, colleagues, local business and voluntary community have really made a significant contribution to making this happen and we are very grateful to everyone!

To ensure all students have a meaningful career-based experience, we have created a set of resources allowing students, parents and carers to explore a variety of potential pathways - these can be used at any time over the two weeks by all of the students - not just those unable to secure a full two-week placement.

The resources include several 'live' employer-engagement opportunities. These resources will be available to all students on Teams and via the school website. HBK Colleagues are looking forward to witnessing and hearing about the fantastic contributions of our students to the local community.

Virtual and Live Work Experience opportunities – Message from the HBK Careers Team



One of our careers partners, 'Spring Pod', has just released a number of free live and virtual Work Experience opportunities for students of various ages.

The aim is to allow students to gain an insight into careers they may be considering or to explore other options.

Please see further details here - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CXV5BKzWlr4hMhBnD-Jcbnr3vJdqJqBE/view>



News from HBK Leisure!



HBK Leisure are pleased to announce that in partnership with Regeneration Fitness we are now able to offer a Personal Training service for those looking to take their fitness training to the next level. The Personal Trainers at Regeneration Fitness can create tailored exercise programs that help you achieve your fitness goals,

perhaps to build muscle or maybe to lose weight.

For more details, please contact them at www.regenerationfitness.co.uk with the offer code of “HBKLeisure”

This week's blog

This week's blog can be found here: [The problem with telling young people, 'Just do your best!' – Learning is the thing](#)

We are HBK.

Mark Patterson
Principal