



HBK Update, Friday 3 March 2023



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to your HBK weekly update!

Homework – message from Mrs Solvar-Isida, Assistant Principal

Thank you as always for your support in ensuring students complete their homework regularly and to a good standard! We were very impressed by the percentage of students who **completed all of their homework (or missed the equivalent of no more than 1 a week)** last half-term:

90% of year 7; 88% of year 8; 83% of year 9; 88% of year 10; 92% of year 11; Only 4 year 12s and 2 year 13s received 5 incidents and no more than 6.

It is worth remembering that before we introduced the current homework model, we estimated typical homework completion to be around 55%. At Hinchingbrooke, we strongly believe in the importance of homework for students' progress and can clearly see the impact this is having on students' knowledge and confidence in their subjects. Therefore, we feel that we are on an exceptional path and we thank you very much for your support: **THANK YOU!**

Easter School, Applications Closes Today! Message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal

If you wish to attend easter School for RPE (Year 10) or a range of subjects in Year 11 please ensure you sign up **by 5pm TODAY**.

Year 10 Easter School: <https://forms.office.com/e/M3kSCM0xtt>

Year 11 Easter School: <https://forms.office.com/e/VPfmsTqwY>

Tree planting at HBK

I am delighted that Brampton-based charity 'Creating Natures Corridors' got involved at Hinchingbrooke and helped plant an amazing total of 600 plants around the school on Monday 27 February. A big shout-out to Vhari Russell, an HBK parent, who facilitated and coordinated the event! It was a wonderful atmosphere and our students thoroughly enjoyed themselves getting stuck into this important work, alongside our HBK gardener, Marie Brooks! We very much hope to do it again soon! Here are some lovely photos that we took on the day:



Creating Natures Corridors is a Brampton-based charity that was created in memory of its founder's brother who died of sudden adult death syndrome. The charity's goal is to plant 10,000 trees and hedging plants per annum. Creating Natures Corridors will only be planting in the UK and is keen to start in Cambridgeshire as it is the least wooded county in the country. This week the charity came into the school and planted 810 trees and hedging plants to help increase our bio-diversity and improve our wooded areas where we have lost trees and plant new hedgerows. All the plants were funded by the charity and planted by students and a group of volunteers.

<https://www.creatingnaturescorridors.co.uk/>

Student Open Forum - message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

Thursday lunchtime's student forum was well attended and lots of constructive conversations took place. We will be sharing the feedback below with students in assembly next week and will continue to hold student open forums every half term.

Student Forum Feedback			
Kindness High Standards Hard Work	<p>Uniform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More clarity over school shoes vs trainers • We want to wear more jewellery and make up / nail varnish / hair dye • We want to wear leggings / shorts under skirts in winter and fluffy socks • We want a sweatshirt or cardigan instead of a blazer • We want a polo shirt instead of a school shirt • Why do we wear a Scottish tartan skirt? We want a pencil skirt / more flattering style • Skirts seem to be a bigger focus than untucked shirts 	<p>Toilets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You shouldn't need a pass to go to the toilet during lessons – you could leave your phone in the classroom • Toilet access should be equal – girls get to go during lessons more than boys • The queues are big at break and lunch – can we have more toilets • Can there be additional cleaning – people stuff rubbish such as food in there • Can sanitary products be available in the toilets? • Can smoke detectors be installed? 	<p>Behaviour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we have a reminder in the first instance before a negative incident is logged? • Detentions means we miss out on clubs • Staff are not consistent – e.g. around punctuality • Why can we not bring chewing gum into school? • Ties always get stolen – could we have normal ties instead of clip-on ties? • Can there be more leniency? • Can we do more to tackle bullying?
	<p>Homework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too much homework / takes too much time to complete • We like online tasks (History) as it's different to SQ 	<p>School Food</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The food is too American • The food is too expensive • People push in the queue • Not enough time to get food and eat it before the bell 	<p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too many muddy areas around school – health and safety risk • Can we have more REP meetings • Can we have lesson changeover time?

The Friends of Hinchingsbrooke House Annual Talk and Dinner - message from Mr Wheeley, Teacher of History and Vice Chair of the Friends of Hinchingsbrooke House



You are warmly invited to the next FHH talk and lunch! We are very lucky to have secured a prestigious speaker who has agreed to introduce us to the realities of the Tudor Court, and the world that the Hinchingsbrooke Cromwells would have experienced. Please do book your places, and feel free to bring along interested friends!

The Tudor Court and the Cromwells of Hinchingsbrooke

Talk to be given by Dr Paul Cavill of Pembroke College, Cambridge

Sunday 26th March 2023 at Hinchingsbrooke House - 11.45am arrival, to begin at 12 noon

To be followed by Lunch and topical readings

Menu

Roast Beef and all the trimmings (or Vegetarian alternative)

Strawberry Cheesecake

Tea & Coffee

£20 per person

To confirm your place, pay and advise of any dietary requirements, please email: bdettehowells@gmail.com

Please book by Wednesday 15th March.



We currently have a number of support staff vacancies at HBK.

For more details and application details, please visit:

www.acesacademies.co.uk/vacancies

This week's blog

This week's blog is about the benefits of teachers providing verbal feedback and doing 'live' marking in class. If you would like to read it, here it is: [The benefits of verbal feedback and 'live' marking – Learning is the thing](#)

Mark Patterson
Principal

A poster for Hinchingsbrooke House Sunday Fairs. The background is a photograph of the large, historic stone house with multiple chimneys and a bay window, set on a green lawn under a blue sky with light clouds. The text is overlaid on the image in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

**Hinchingsbrooke House
Sunday Fairs
1st Sunday every month
March to October
11-4pm**

March 5th	April 2nd
May 7th	June 4th
July 2nd	August 6th
Sept 3rd	October 1st

A wide variety of crafts, gifts and food stalls in the House and Grounds. Entry £2