



HBK Update, Friday 5 July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

It's been a jam-packed week this week meeting our new cohort of Year 6 students for the first time and meeting their parents and carers for Wednesday's information evening, celebrating the music of the Beatles in a phenomenal concert, the Year 11 Prom and we still have the Sixth Form Ball to look forward to this evening. A tremendous amount of organisation and planning goes into putting these events on, and they play such an important role in enriching the experience our students get from being part of the Hinchingbrooke Community, so thank you to everyone who has been involved, particularly our students who have acted as guides and mentors this week, in addition to our Head Students who delivered a great speech on Wednesday evening! They represent our school with such pride, it is a pleasure to see! See below for a selection of photos from the various events.

We love watching the array of transport students arrive at the prom in. It was particularly special this year watching the parents of many of our students bringing them in cars they had decorated with bows and ribbons and many of the dads dressed up for their part in shirts, ties and blazers. We have included a few of these photos – special moments which will be treasured!

We have more celebration events to look forward to next week with the Legacy Assemblies each day and Sports Day on Wednesday.

A reminder that we expect students to be in full uniform in the last few weeks of term. There are a lot of trainers being worn currently. Please can you ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform when they leave the house. If there are genuine issues, please contact your SSO.

The last day of term is **Friday 19 July** and students will be finishing school at **1.15pm**. Students will have periods 1 to 3 as normal (including break), followed by lunch at 12.20pm. Students will have afternoon registration at 1pm before being dismissed at 1.15pm. School buses have been altered to allow students to travel home at the revised time, however anyone using public transport will need to check the timetables. If any student is unable to get home, please contact the Head of Year so that arrangements can be made to supervise them until 3.15pm.

The last day of term will be a non-uniform day raising money for the Little Princess Trust to add to the fantastic fundraising Ms Cowburn has been leading on. Students can pay their £1 on the gate when they arrive at school.

Have a great weekend!

Celebrating Hinchingbrooke

In this new section we will take the time to celebrate an area we excel at here at Hinchingbrooke. This week we will focus on our curriculum!

Did you know...We have one of the widest curriculum offers at both Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 in Cambridgeshire and beyond? In Key Stage 4 there are 28 different GCSE and equivalent courses being run. This includes options such as Astronomy, ASDAN, Computer Science and Hospitality and Catering. In Key Stage 5 we offer a huge range of subjects - 31 in fact, which include options such as Criminology, Music Technology and Photography. Being such a large school we are very fortunate to be able to offer such a wide selection. Being part of ACES also means there are lots of subjects which encourage creativity, and a high percentage of students opt for subjects which fall into the creative faculty. Students in Key Stage 3 also benefit from a wide range of discreet subjects including Dance, PSCE, Food Technology and, for some students, Forest School. There are options here to meet every skill and passion!

Summer Term Voucher Scheme – Cambridgeshire County Council - Miss Nightingale, Vice Principal

We will once again be running a voucher scheme for the summer holidays. For each eligible pupil, we will be issuing two supermarket vouchers for a total value of £75. We are continuing to work with Wonde (E-voucher) as

our voucher supplier. Eligibility remains the same in previous rounds including support for post 16 bursary students and for those students who have now left schools in year 11 and year 13. Every eligible pupil will receive two vouchers, each for £37.50, one by the end of the day on **Saturday 20 July** and the other by the end of the day on **Saturday 10 August**.

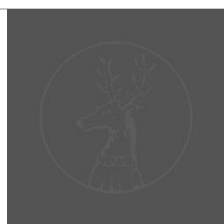
[Parent Letter \(CCC\)](#)

[FAQ Parents – May Half Term Holiday Voucher Scheme CCC](#)

We will be providing cover during the holidays for any voucher queries – parents need to email holidayvoucherscheme@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

Results Days – Miss Nightingale, Vice Principal

All information regarding results days have now been updated on our website, including the post exams services. This can be found [here](#)



[Results Day Information 2024](#)
www.hinchingbrookeschool.net

Year 10 Summer Tuition – Miss Nightingale, Vice Principal

Many thanks to those of you who have requested places. Payments are due by **5pm this evening** to secure your place. Letters confirming places with all details will be sent out next week.



Oxford Trip of potential applicants – Mr Wheelley, Oxbridge Coordinator

Earlier this term Mr Wheelley (Oxbridge Co-ordinator) took a group of Year 12 students on a visit to Oxford University. The students are all considering making a UCAS application to either Oxford or Cambridge later this year so this trip gave them a great opportunity to meet admissions staff, explore the colleges, and partake in an interview preparation session.

The visit was kindly hosted and funded by Brasenose College; Hinchingsbrooke has been working alongside Brasenose in supporting applicants for over ten years, and the college now proudly boasts 80% state-school entry. We're thankful for their support and collaboration in helping our students take their exciting next steps!

Summer Surveys – Mrs Tandy, Vice Principal

Many thanks to everyone who responded to the recent parent carer survey. We will be sharing the results of these at the start of the Autumn term once they have been analysed and discussed by the Senior Leadership Team. Overall, we had 1300 responses from students, parents, carers and staff, which is a good response rate. For this round of surveys we introduced an added incentive of a prize draw for both the student and parent/carers surveys. The winners from this draw are Sophie Read in Year 7 and Mrs Medlow - congratulations!

Year 11 Prom – Mr Pape, Assistant Principal

Last night, we welcomed our Year 11 students to their amazing Prom. Our students enjoyed an evening of dancing, singing and partying in the grounds of Hinchbrook House.

Our Year 11 team celebrated with them as we enjoyed live music, House VIP area, a rotating photo booth, disco dancing and casino amongst other fun activities. As always, there were some very extravagant and humorous entrances with super cars, classic cars, limousines, tractors and even a helicopter! The evening finished with a spectacular fireworks display!

A big thank you to everyone involved - we now look forward to welcoming our Year 11s back for their results in the summer as they move onto the next stage of their educational adventures.



Year 13 Celebration Event

Last week was our Year 13 Celebration Event. This lovely evening is a chance to congratulate the outstanding achievements of some of our students who have made excellent progress in their Level 3/A level subjects this year. We also had the opportunity to formally thank the super work of our outgoing House Captains, Deputy Head Students and Head Students. Well done everyone- you are a credit to the school!



Sixth Form Open Evening 2024

We are already getting a lot of interest from the parents of Year 10 students who would like to join our Sixth Form in 2025. Our Open Evening this year is on the 26 September from 5pm till 7pm. Early next term we will be sharing more information about this event and the updated prospectus will be also available at that time.

Early Closure 26 September 2024

In order to prepare for the Open Evening, the school will be closing early on the 26 September. The day will begin as usual, but break will run from 11am to 11.30am (i.e. extended by 10 minutes) to allow students to get a more substantial meal. Following that, Period 3 will be slightly shorter (11.30am to 12.20pm) and Period 4 will run from 12.20pm to 1.20pm. Students will be dismissed at 1.20pm and buses / taxis will be arranged to take them home at this time.

Music Department News – Mrs Cooke, Teacher of Music

On Saturday 29 June, 17 students from Year 7 to Year 12 participated in the Hunts Phil's production of 'Carmen'. Congratulations to all those involved; what a wonderful first experience of the glorious world of opera!



On Tuesday 2 July, the Music Department staged 'HBK Presents The Beatles'; a tribute to the Fab Four. With almost 200 participants, including our Year 5/6 Transition Choir, the Pop Choir, Orchestra, Community Choir, GCSE and A Level groups and more, it was a truly memorable evening. Culminating with a joyful rendition of 'Hey Jude' and a standing ovation.

What a wonderful way to mark a successful year for Music at HBK. As one parent said, "Thank you so much for giving them this fantastic opportunity and for giving us all such a wonderful evening and happy memories to last forever." Huge congratulations to all involved!



A big welcome to students joining HBK next year – Mr Milner, Head of Transition



This week we welcomed our next cohort of Y7 students during the Y6 Taster Days. There were some understandably nervous, but excited faces on Tuesday morning as the students, decked out in the current primary school uniforms made their way through the various school gates. Over the 3 days, HBK Students and staff worked together to ensure that our newest students felt welcome and part of our community. They took part in a wide variety of informative and fun activities, ranging from subject Taster lessons, form times, assemblies and a sporting extravaganza despite the light drizzle on Wednesday afternoon. We are all very excited to welcome them again in September when they truly will be a full part of the HBK Community.

GCSEPod – HBK are national champions – Mrs Gratton, Head of Maths



GCSEPod National Champions!

July 5th, 2024

I am delighted to share with you that our students have gained 1st place in the GCSEPod Games! Beating all other schools using GCSEPod, we are so proud of their achievement.

The competition between year groups has been hotting up with a GCSEPod tutor activity boost on the most commonly misspelt words. Close to 1000 questions on spellings have been correctly answered in the last week. Year 7 are currently in the lead.....

Each fortnight we share the names of students excelling in their use of GCSEPod. A well-deserved congratulations to **L Hall** in Y7, **C Ritchie** Y8, **A Shields** Y8, **A Gopinath** Y9 and **R McElhone** Y9. Each are top of their year group in their use of the two main features of GCSEPod! For the first time, **Montagu House** is leading the House competition. As the end of year total of House points gets closer, these points could make the difference to final House standings.

I was thrilled to celebrate three students' achievement in recent assemblies. The GCSEPod Access company got in touch to recognise the fantastic achievement and efforts of **S Machhe**, **S Teixeira** and **A Vardhi** and sent book tokens to award! Well done all.

If your child isn't active on GCSEPod, please do encourage them to get logged in. It's a fantastic learning companion and makes a huge difference to understanding and performance.

<https://www.hinchingbrookeschool.net/page/?title=GCSEPod&pid=1005>