



## HBK Update, Friday 22 March 2024



Dear Parents and Carers

Another busy week as we speed towards the Easter break. Lots for students to get involved with and lots of amazing achievements, some of which you can read about below. It reminds us of what a fabulous school Hinchingbrooke is: there is always so much going on and that so many of our amazing students make the most of the various opportunities.

A reminder that the Easter holidays start next Friday (29 March) so the last day is Thursday 28. This is a full school day, finishing at 3:15pm. We expect all students to be in full school uniform, so if there are any issues, please remind your child to report to

their Student Support Officer (SSO) to get loan uniform or a note.

Thank you for your continued support of the school and wishing you a fabulous weekend!

### Message from ACES Academies Trust

Further to our parent communication on 7 March 2024, we have now created a FAQs page which can be found on the ACES website or by clicking [here](#). If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch by emailing [questions@acesmat.uk](mailto:questions@acesmat.uk)

### Years 10, 11 and 13 Mock Exams – message from Miss Nightingale, Vice Principal

Both Year 11 and 13 have now completed their last set of mock exams, and teachers will be returning their papers and marks as soon as they have been moderated in departments. This is then an opportunity for the students to look at what they have done well and what they still need to focus on in the time remaining. Practical exams start next week and languages speaking exams take place after Easter. There is lots of support on offer, so remind your child if they are in Years 10-13 to listen out for the revision sessions offered by departments, in addition to the Nightclub for Year 11 (3:15-5pm Monday – Thursday) and the up-and-coming Easter School. We are here to offer support!

### School Bus Bay - dropping off and picking up - message from Mr Pendlebury, Assistant Principal

We have noticed recently some students being dropped off in a morning or picked up in the afternoon in the Bus Bays. We ask that if you are dropping off or collecting students to **not use the Bus Bays** as this area is needed for the school buses so they can safely enter and exit the site. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation with this.

### World Speech Day at HBK: Interhouse Debate Competition – message from Miss Spikesley, Head of English

We were thrilled to hold our first interhouse debate competition in celebration of *World Speech Day*. Our first competitive event since before lockdown, it was fantastic to see debate thriving again at Hinchingbrooke and seeing so many students getting involved in such an important skill.

The quality of speech was incredibly high as teams argued on topics such as 'This House believes that books are better than technology' and 'This House believes cancel culture should be cancelled.' Students were awarded marks on structure, content, rebuttal, vocabulary and delivery and our wonderful student judges assisted in making the process as fair as possible. We were also delighted with the amount of student support from those who came along to watch the debates. With only 10 points separating our finalists, it really was a great quality competition, and, after a scintillating final between Montagu and Cromwell on the topic of 'free speech,' Montagu ultimately prevailed as winners.



Our wonderful team of debaters and student judges



Our student judges



Our patient audience!



Patrick F in full verbal joust mode!



Mr Roberts during the teacher debate round!

**Easter Holiday Activities and Food Programme: 2 - 12 April 2024 Reminder – message from Mrs Bennett, Pupil Premium Administrator**

Eligible pupils, in receipt of benefit-related FSM, can attend participating holiday schemes for up to 16 hours for free; a daily meal and enriching experiences with peers will be on offer. An eligibility voucher and booking code was sent by email/text to eligible parents/carers on Friday 1 March and reissued weekly thereafter if unopened. For further information, please visit the [HAF Programme webpage](#) and [HAF Parent Letter](#) and [Poster](#).

**Sixth Form – message from Mrs Rix, Head of Sixth Form**

We are delighted to announce that our new Head Students are Rhys Gill and Agatha Leach. These appointments were made following a tough process which involved many stages. We also appointed 5 new Deputy Head Students this week. Many congratulations to the successful candidates - Kye Griffin, Leslie Appiah, Blake Daniels, Lucy More and Dongli Chen. We look forward very much to working with all of the new appointments after Easter.

If you are a parent of a year 13 student, please remind them that we have an abundance of revision materials for them to use in the House, as well as guidance on revision techniques. The Montagu Room is open from 8am until 5pm every day for revision purposes - we welcome anyone who wants to arrive early and stay late!

**HBK Sporting Fixtures – message from Mrs Stevens, PE Department**

**County Panathlon Finals:** A team of Hinchingsbrooke students represented Huntingdon in the Panathlon Xtend County Finals. There were 8 different events with points being scored for each event. At the end of the competition, Hinchingsbrooke finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place out of 8, winning a black medal. This meant that Hinchingsbrooke finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place out of 40 schools in the competition.

Congratulations to all our representatives who had great fun on the day!



**Year 8 District Netball Finals:** This week saw the culmination of the season for the Year 8 netball A and B teams district finals. With 7 games to be played in a round robin format, it was all to play for. The A team started with the advantage of knowing that they had been unbeaten all season and carried on with victories over local rivals St Ivo, Sawtry, Abbey and Longsands. The B team also started their campaign strongly with victories over St Ivo A and B, Abbey and Longsands B, beating Sawtry to gain revenge for their only loss in a previous match. The A team eventually won all 7 of their games with the final one being against Hinchingbrooke B who gave a good account of themselves by keeping the A team to their lowest scoring game of the tournament. Team A finished in first place as District Champions with the B team finishing in a very respectable 4<sup>th</sup> place!

Team captains Grace and Felicity were both fantastic leaders on court instilling the dedication and commitment required when representing the school. Congratulations to all players. Next stop the Netherlands for the 2024 Netball Academy Tour. #HBK Proud



**World  
Theatre Day**

**Are you interested in  
being in a Drama group outside of  
school?**

Huntingdon Youth Theatre will be holding a free workshop to promote their theatre company.

**Wednesday 27th March 2024**

**PAC 13:20-14:00**

Sign up outside the Drama Office by Monday 25th March

World Theatre Day – message from Mrs Alexander, Head of Drama

**SIGN UP OUTSIDE THE DRAMA OFFICE  
BY  
MONDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

**We are HBK!**