



HBK Update, Friday 25 November 2022



Welcome to this week's HBK update!

Arbor Behaviour update – message from Mrs Tandy, Vice Principal

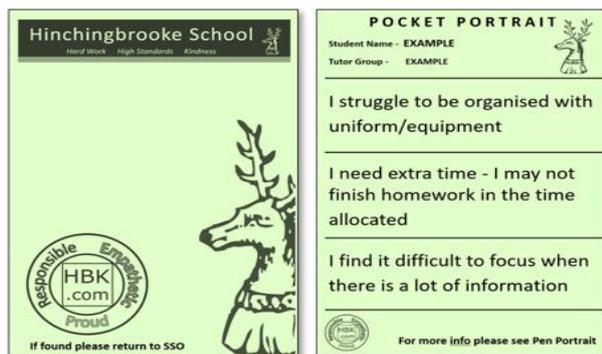
We are really pleased that as the Autumn term has continued, the majority of what is being recorded on Arbor remains positive. 86% of everything recorded since the start of term in September has been positive and just under a third of our students have not received a single negative log since the start of term in September! We do not expect students to be perfect and indeed making the odd mistake is to be expected so we are very proud of the number of students who are only earning Recognition Points!

Furthermore, we have been tracking detentions to gauge their effectiveness, as some parents and carers have expressed concern at whether detentions are still acting as a deterrent in the new system. Only 3% of students have had an average of one or more detentions per week since the start of term – this certainly suggests that being in detention is an infrequent occurrence for almost all of our students, but it is something we will keep under review.

As well as monitoring the statistics on Arbor, we will be using feedback from the staff, student, and parent/carer surveys to inform our next steps, alongside consideration of any ideas raised in the student 'REP' discussions that have been taking place this week. Already we have responded to some other feedback this term by creating 'pocket portraits' for some students to ensure that the system has reasonable adjustments for those who need this.

We have also promoted the 'Right Start' initiative with all students whereby they can borrow any items of uniform or equipment they might need **at the start of the day** without receiving a negative log. We have also ensured that students know about the many reward processes and events coming up for all those gaining recognition points and we have set up a homework club for younger students to provide additional support.

We appreciate that whilst our expectations as a school have not changed, the Arbor system represents a big change for our community, so I would like to thank parents and carers for their support as we all get used to the new system.



Are you ready for the school day? Let us help!

Right Start

- Come and get black and green pens, pencils, rubbers and rulers
- You can borrow a calculator
- We can help with your uniform

Come to Lower or Middle School Office, we can help!



HOMEWORK HELP CLUB

Wednesday lunchtimes

Last day of this term arrangements – Wednesday 21 December 2022 – message from Mrs Tandy, Vice Principal

The last day of term will be a half day. The morning will follow the normal timetable until the end of period 3. Lunch will then be from 12.20-13.00. Afternoon registration will run from 13.00-13.15, after which students can go home. Buses and taxis have been rearranged to arrive early, to accommodate the 13.15 finish time on the day. Please contact your child's form tutor if your child is unable to go home at 13.15. Students in this position will be able to remain in school, supervised, until the normal end of the day at 3.15 (but please note, there will be no school buses at this time as they will have already been to the school for the 13.15 pick-up).

As mentioned in last week's Friday HBK update, the last day of term will be a non-uniform day, with the £1 voluntary donations being in aid of charity.

Year 10 Progress Report – message from Mr Pendlebury, Assistant Principal

We issued the first Year 10 Progress Report this week. These were sent via Arbor to your registered email address but if you didn't receive this please contact - reports@hbk.acesmat.uk, stating the name of your child and we will re-issue your report. This Progress Report is also visible in the Arbor Parent App and to find the report, click on the menu icon at the bottom left of your screen and then select ' Report Cards'.

Teaching and Learning update – message from Ms Solvar-Isida, Assistant Principal

This week, we have launched an exciting challenge to all form groups from years 7 to 10: students will be challenged to **learn by heart a poem** within form time over a period of 4 to 5 weeks!

As you know, at Hinchbrook, we believe that **Retrieval Practice** is the most effective way to **make learning stick**. We get students to do this in class via the starter quizzes and through frequent references to previous learning. At home, the self-quizzing homework is the main tool to get students to revisit and consolidate learning. Retrieval practice is not just effective for learning schoolwork; we firmly believe it is effective life-skill for learning many things! Poems and/or songs are known for having a powerful and memorable impact in many people's lives, so we wanted to apply this learning technique to something that is not directly linked to the curriculum. Over the next few weeks, we will share the poems that students have chosen to learn so that you can get involved in helping them to memorise them, if you wish to.

As an example, here is one of the Years 7 and 8 poems:

A Red, Red Rose

O my Luvie is like a red, red rose
That's newly sprung in June;
O my Luvie is like the melody
That's sweetly played in tune.

So fair art thou, my bonnie lass,
So deep in luvie am I;
And I will luvie thee still, my dear,
Till a' the seas gang dry.

Till a' the seas gang dry, my dear,
And the rocks melt wi' the sun;
I will love thee still, my dear,
While the sands o' life shall run.

And fare thee weel, my only luvie!
And fare thee weel awhile!
And I will come again, my luvie,
Though it were ten thousand mile.

ROBERT BURNS

Year 10 Work Experience - message from Mr O'Shaughnessy, CEIAG Manager



Please see below a link to the information presented to all Year 10 students this week in their assembly. We were hoping to answer the impressively large number of questions being asked of the Year and CEIAG Teams in recent days. We are delighted to see so many students and their families/carers engaging with the process at this early stage and already working at finding the most appropriate placement.

Thank you for your support.

[Work Experience Launch 2023 \(LBT\)](#)

Amazing Year 13 trip to Stratford Upon Avon! – message from Miss Emery, Teacher of English, and Lead Teacher (KS5, Alternative Provision, and Teaching and Learning)

On Wednesday 23rd November, seventeen Year 13 Literature students, accompanied by Ms Emery and Ms Penning, visited the 'cultural home' of English Literature – Stratford Upon Avon. During the day, the students were able to explore the world-famous Royal Shakespeare Theatre, taking in the panoramic views of Stratford Upon Avon from the top of the tower, before embarking on a workshop with a Shakespearean actor from the RSC. During the two-hour workshop on Hamlet, the pupils delved deep into the text, exploring themes, characters, staging and interpretation of key scenes, as well as tracking the Bard's language and structure. The students were also allowed a sneak peek into the awe-inspiring main auditorium, which was set up for their current run of A Christmas Carol. The students were an absolute credit to themselves, the school, and their parents/carers. The RSC actor said they were the most intelligent group she'd ever worked with, whose knowledge of the play and characters was exceptional! Very proud moment to hear such praise for HBK students. You can see some lovely photos here:



After the workshop, a trip to Shakespeare's Schoolroom and the Guildhall was next on the itinerary. Students learnt about the history of the venue as a magistrate's court, where a young William Shakespeare often joined his father at work here. Students got a taste of schooling during this era, learning Latin and writing with quills. They didn't seem too impressed with the 6am-7am start to the Elizabethan school day though...

This week's blog

This week's blog is about 'desirable difficulties' and undesirable difficulties in teaching and learning! If you would like to read it, it's here: <https://learningisthething.com/?p=768>

Have a lovely weekend!

We are HBK.

Mark Patterson
Principal