



HBK Update, Friday 4 November 2022



Can you help support our 2023 school production of Matilda? - message from Mrs E Alexander, Head of Drama

This message is a repeat of the message included in last week's HBK update. We are asking parents and carers to consider making a donation – no matter how small - to help ensure that this year's production of Matilda can go ahead – many thanks indeed to those parents and carers who have already made a donation; we are very grateful. Please see details below, in the Fundraising Appeal link in blue:



FUNDRAISING APPEAL FOR THE 2023 SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Raising funds for our 2023 School Production of Matilda to ensure we can self-fund our school productions going forward.

www.rocketfund.org

Behaviour update - a message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

In the first half term, **87% of everything recorded on Arbor was positive**. We have celebrated this with students in assemblies this week as part of an update on behaviour. Students earned 55,087 Recognition Points and 132 students from Years 7 to 11 received postcards home for achieving 50 Recognition Points. We are looking forward to awarding 'Pins' later this term for students who reach 100 Recognition Points, along with other celebration events, including 'Christmas Cheer'.

Whilst any previous negative logs will still appear on the Arbor Parent App, **we have 'reset' the system** for the new half term. This means that if a student had two negative logs last half term, getting one more this half term will **not** result in a detention. Effectively, all students start from zero in terms of negative logs leading to sanctions each half term. You should also now be able to see which lessons Recognition Points and any negative incidents have been recorded in. If there is not a lesson listed, then this means the behaviour recorded happened outside of lesson time - before school, break, lunch or in between lessons.

In assemblies this week we talked about **what great behaviour looks like** and what the components of the Hinchingbrooke Approach to Behaviour (HAB) are, focusing on the idea that "success is the sum of small efforts repeated day in and day out". Indeed, our expectations of students have not changed from previous years. The thing that has changed is the system we use to acknowledge great behaviour and to record negative behaviour. A copy of the HAB is below for your reference.



THE HINCHINGBROOKE APPROACH TO BEHAVIOUR



<p>We follow our One School Rule of Respect</p>	<p>We behave safely and responsibly</p>
<p>We show empathy and kindness towards others</p>	<p>We are proud of our achievements</p>
<p>We ensure we are ready to learn</p>	<p>We are considerate of others</p>
<p>We put our best effort into everything we do</p>	<p>We make a positive contribution to our community</p>

Finally, we talked in assemblies about being keen to get **student feedback**, through the upcoming REP and prefect meetings and the student survey.

We will also be launching the **parent and carer survey** soon and would appreciate getting your feedback on both the new behaviour system and other aspects of the school.

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

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term! We were very impressed by the way students settled in their lessons last half-term and hope that they will continue to meet our high expectations regarding **Hard Work, High Standards and Kindness**. It was pleasing to see the number of instances of **Homework-not-done** going down by the end of the half-term - we firmly believe that homework is an essential part of ensuring students' success in their learning. Here is a gentle reminder of our expectations when checking students' self-quizzing homework: [Teaching and Learning Autumn 2](#)

Year 13 Progress Report – message from Mr Pendlebury, Assistant Principal

We issued the first Year 13 Progress Report this week which included a Predicted Grade for all subjects. 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'.

Parents' Evenings Dates - message from Mr Pendlebury, Assistant Principal

Please click on the link below which details the dates for the Parents' Evenings for this school year. These events will be online using the same platform we have used for the past two years, and more detailed information will be provided approximately two weeks prior to each

event: <https://www.hinchingbrookeschool.net/page/?title=Online+Parents%27+Evenings+%26amp%3B+Online+Booking+System&pid=268>

Arbor Parent App – message from Mr Pendlebury, Assistant Principal



Thank you to those parents who have already signed up for the Arbor Parent App - we currently have 72% of parents using the App with around 1,300 logins each week. If you are still to sign up for the App, please email communications@hbk.acesmat.uk and your login details will be sent to you. We are aiming to expand our use of Arbor in the coming weeks with communications such as this weekly message being sent directly from Arbor rather than through ParentMail. This is because, going forward, we are keen to use Arbor for as many systems as we can, to minimise the use of multiple platforms.

Message from the Sixth Form Team – from Mrs Rix, Head of Sixth Form

Well done to all Sixth Formers for getting back into the swing of life this half-term! Year 13 are well under way with their UCAS applications and Year 12 are beginning their 1-2-1 discussions with their tutors.

Please could all parents make sure that if your child is absent due to sickness that you, **and not your child**, contact us (on sixthform@hbk.acesmat.uk or by phoning the school switchboard) to let us know.

The Cambridgeshire Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) – message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal

The Cambridgeshire HAF Programme is next operating over the Christmas holiday period. Eligible pupils, in receipt of income-related FSM, can attend a participating holiday scheme for up to 16 hours **for no charge**. An EVoucher (via Wonde) will be issued on 7th November direct to parents and the [Christmas HAF Parent Letter](#) outlines how to book places. More details can be found here: [HAF Parents webpage](#) | [Publicity Poster](#)
Please direct any questions to The Cambridgeshire HAF Team: HAF@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Free School Meals – Breakfast Scheme - message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal

A reminder that any child who gets Free School Meals can now get a free breakfast from the Food Court each morning before school. The menu choices are:

Option 1: Cereal or toast with jam and a bottle of water

Option 2: Bacon or breakfast sausage petit pan with a bottle of water

Option 3: Bacon or breakfast sausage petit pan with a fruit juice carton

Year 11 Mock Exams and the National Tutoring Programme - message from Ms Nightingale, Vice-Principal

These will take place between 14th and 25th November. Students have already received their personalised timetables, which confirms the exams they are taking, where these will take place and their seat number. Please ask your child if they have received this email via their school email account. If they haven't, please email the Exams Manager,

Mrs Grantham: agrantham@hbk.acesmat.uk. If there are any issues with the timetable, again Mrs Grantham is the person to liaise with. More information will be shared with the students next week regarding early lunches and expectations during the exam season.

The National Tutoring Programme will be paused for the two weeks of the mock exams; it will restart in the week beginning Monday 28th November and continue until the end of term. Students who have secured a place on the programme have made a great start this week despite a few teething problems!

Remembrance Sunday Services in Huntingdon

Armistice Day Service – Friday 11 November at 10.55am

The school will be sending a small delegation of students and staff to attend a short service which will take place on Armistice Day, near the Thinking Soldier War Memorial on the Market Square. A two-minute silence will be observed at 11.00am and the school have been invited to lay a wreath.

Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade – Sunday 13 November at 10.35am

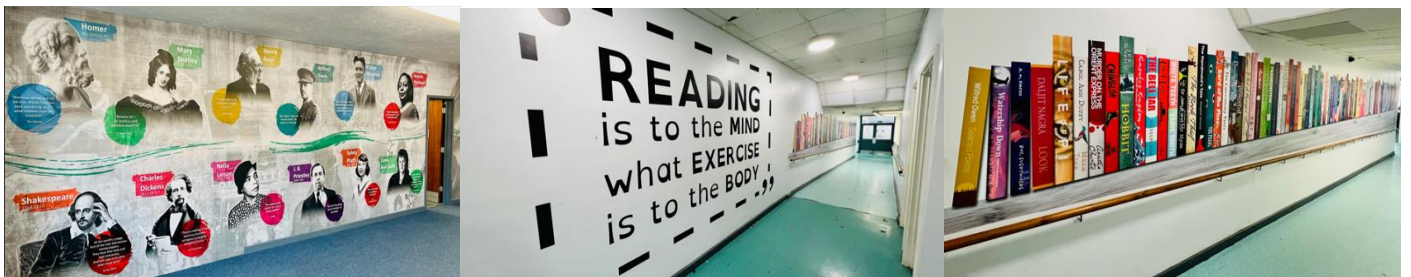
The Military Parade and RAF Band will form up in Malthouse Close car park (off Princes Street) and at 10.35am, will march along Princes Street to the Market Square, where there will be a Service of Remembrance.

At 11.00am a two-minute silence will be observed, followed by the laying of wreaths at the Thinking Soldier War Memorial. At the conclusion of wreath laying, the Parade will leave the Market Square at approximately 11.15am and proceed along the High Street where a salute will be taken by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire at the junction of St Benedict's and Chequers Court. The Parade will continue along the High Street and St Mary's Street before dispersal at Malthouse Close Car Park.

Both of these events are open to the public and all are welcome.

Improving the look of HBK – message from Mrs Tandy, Vice-Principal

More artwork has appeared on the walls in Middle School and Lower School this week as part of our ongoing building improvement programme! You can see it here:



Vacancies at HBK

HBK currently have a number of support staff vacancies. Please click on the links for more details:



[Cover Supervisor](#)
[Educational Visits Coordinator & Administrator](#)

This week's blog

This week's blog is entitled 'The Problem with ... Teaching to the Top'. If you would like to read it, it's here: <https://learningisthething.com/?p=743>

Have a great weekend!

We are HBK.

Mark Patterson
Principal