

# Weekly Bulletin

22 May 2023 - 26 May 2023

Important Dates	
15 May-16 June	<u>GCSE Examinations</u>
29 May-2 June	May Half-term
19-28 June	New Year 11 Mock Exams
5 July	Year 6 Induction Day & Evening
10-20 July	New Year 11 Work Experience
19 July	New Year 9 HPV Vaccinations
21 July	Pupils Finish for the Summer Holidays
24 August	GCSE Results Day

## Our Community and the Cost of Living

Now more than ever, with the rising cost of living, many families are feeling the squeeze. As a school, we are actively seeking to do whatever we reasonably can to support our students and their families with these rapidly growing pressures.

We are continuing to open West Canteen to pupils every morning before school between 8:00am and 8:30am to provide a free breakfast including toast and hot drinks. Please encourage your child to attend this, particularly if they arrive early to school in the morning, as it is a supervised space with access to games and other activities.

If you are facing particular hardships, please feel free to get in touch with us here at Hodge Hill College at [householdsupport@hodgehill.bham.sch.uk](mailto:householdsupport@hodgehill.bham.sch.uk). All requests will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and we will look at what support we are able to practically provide. Previous support has included supermarket vouchers, new uniform, school shoes and PE kit.

Further information about support being provided by Birmingham City Council for the cost of living crisis can be found on <https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/livingsupport> and this may be of use to you in signposting where you can get help, support, and advice if you are affected.

We have a second-hand store of pre-loved uniform items, all washed and ready if you need them. Please get in touch with the school at the email address above if you would like to take advantage of this.

## Year 8 HPV Vaccinations

Pupils in Year 8 will receive their HPV vaccine on 19 July 2023. The vaccinations will take place on school premises, and pupils will be required to attend school as usual. They will be called out of lessons for the vaccinations. Please note that only pupils with parental consent will be vaccinated.

If you need more information about the HPV vaccine, please visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/hpv-human-papillomavirus-vaccine/>.

Should you have any questions or require further details, please contact the Immunisation Team at 0121 466 3460.

## Useful Links



[Hodge Hill College](#)



[ParentPay](#)



[MyEd](#)



[Birmingham City Council](#)



25 May 2023

### Year 11 Post Half-term Revision 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your continued support ensuring that your child is fully prepared for their upcoming GCSE examinations and that they are attending all required lessons and revision sessions.

After half-term, we will offer Year 11 pupils a personalised timetable so they are able to concentrate on examinations which they are yet to complete.

From Monday 5 June, pupils are only required to come into school when they have an examination or when a revision class is scheduled. When in school normal school rules apply and full school uniform must be worn. When at home pupils can use the time available to study and resources have been provided by all subject areas. Pupils will still be able to contact their teachers via ClassCharts.

It is vitally important that pupils are on time for all examinations as failure to attend will result in a grade not being awarded for that subject. If pupils have a morning examination followed by an afternoon examination, then they will be expected to stay in school for the whole day. For morning examinations teaching staff will be available for pupils in West Canteen from 8:00am to help with any last-minute questions. All pupils taking part in morning exams must be on site by 8:30am at the latest so these can start on time.

Thank you again for your support during this vital time.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs L Millington  
**Deputy Headteacher: Standards**

## Year 11 Examinations and Revision Classes Week Commencing Monday 5 June

Date	Breakfast Revision	Morning Exam	Break - West canteen	Period 3	Period 4	Period 5
Monday 5 June	English Language	English Language Exam		French Revision Classrooms or Maths Revision Classrooms		French Exam
Tuesday 6 June		Spanish Exam  Arabic Exam			Biology Revision Drop-in Classrooms	Maths Revision Drop-in Classrooms
Wednesday 7 June	Maths	Maths Exam		History revision Classrooms		History Exam
Thursday 8 June				Biology Revision Drop-in Classrooms		
Friday 9 June	Geography	Geography Exam		Maths Revision Classrooms	Biology Revision West Canteen	Biology Exam

## Did you know? Absence = Lost Opportunity

If your child's attendance during the school year was

95%

90%

80%

75%

Your child would have lost approximately

9 days of school

19 days of school

29 days of school

48 days of school

...or they would have missed approximately

50 lessons

100 lessons

150 lessons

250 lessons

Getting your child to school really matters

## Confiscated Items

If a pupil has an item confiscated, their parents/carers can pick it up from the Main Office after school on the same day, starting from Monday 5 June 2023. If they cannot collect it on the same day, the parent/carer must pick it up on another day after school. Pupils are not permitted to collect the item.

## Housing Advice

Birmingham Children's Partnership have published an information sheet to respond to the increasing number of Housing issues presenting on Family Connect Forms. Unfortunately, BEP are not able to change families living situations but can offer advice on how families can access support: <https://bit.ly/3BQr3pZ>

## Contact Details

Please remember to inform the school of any changes to your contact details. This is important because we may need to contact you if your child is injured or taken ill, to provide you with information about trips and closures or to send you reminders and cancellations of any event. Please update and submit any new details via the Change of Pupils Details Form on the MyEd app. Alternatively, you may visit the School Office to complete an electronic/paper copy of the form.

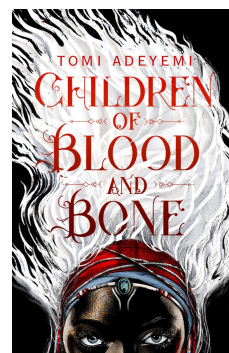
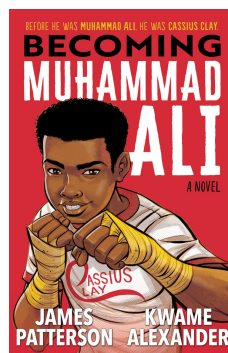
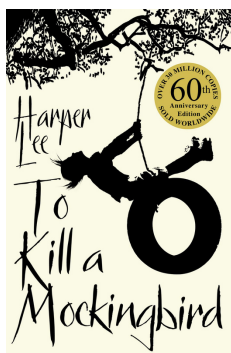
## Reading at School

Hodge Hill College offers a unique reading lesson to students in Years 7 and 8, where they acquire new vocabulary, read together as a class, and engage in various activities to ensure comprehension. Our school is dedicated to increasing reading in all subjects, with a particular focus on Key Stage 3. We have also implemented a Reading Reward badge on Class Charts to recognise students' reading efforts in all classrooms. Moreover, our school has an impressive library with books categorised by genre, including ones that celebrate diverse cultures, sci-fi and horror, dystopian novels, and non-fiction books.

## Reading at Home

We kindly request your assistance in promoting reading at home by encouraging your child to read more. Allow them to choose what to read as they will be more engaged in the story if they have selected it themselves. Reading with them, listening to them reading, and reading to them are all effective ways to foster a love for reading. Additionally, incorporating reading into everyday activities such as having your child read out the recipe while you cook or the TV listings while you watch TV is a great way to encourage reading. You can also read yourself, whether it's a newspaper, magazine, cookbook, poetry, romance or detective novel. Consider giving books as presents and suggest your child and their friends swap books to read new stories and discuss them. Finally, visiting the local library together is an enjoyable way to discover new books and keep an eye out for special author events at the library or local bookshops. Your child will undoubtedly love meeting their favourite authors.

## Recommended Reads



## Homework - Useful Links



[ClassCharts](#)



[MathsWatch](#)



[My GCSE Science](#)



[myON](#)



## The National Numeracy Challenge

The National Numeracy Challenge is a free, online learning tool designed to help you improve your everyday maths skills in manageable steps whilst building your number confidence. For more information, please visit: <https://www.nationalnumeracy.org.uk/what-numeracy/challenge>.

## B.Y.O.B - Bring Your Own Bottle



**B.Y.O.B.**  
BRING YOUR OWN BOTTLE

As part of our move towards sustainability, single-use plastic cups are no longer available in school.

All pupils must take responsibility for bringing in their own reusable water bottle.

**HH** Hodge Hill College

**care** | courtesy  
achievement  
respect  
excellence

## Medical Appointments During the School Day

To ensure your child does not miss out on learning, we strongly advise that non-urgent appointments at the GP, dentist or optometrist are made out of school hours.

If your child has a hospital or specialist appointment, please notify the school in advance. You may do this by sending a photo of the letter via MyEd or bring it to the School Office where a copy will be sent to your child's AC and AAC for authorisation.

## Detentions

Hodge Hill College operates a detention system. If your child is late, misbehaves or doesn't hand in their homework on time, they will be given detention at lunchtime or up to 30 minutes at the end of the day. You will usually get a text or an in-app message on MyEd to inform you. Please ensure your contact details are up to date. For more serious matters, staff can issue an hour's detentions after school without giving parents/carers notice.

## What the Law Allows

- Teachers have the power to issue detention to students (aged under 18)
- Schools must make clear to students and parents/carers that they use detention (including detention outside of school hours) as a sanction
- The times outside normal school hours when detention can be given (the 'permitted day of detention') include:
  - any school day where the student does not have permission to be absent
  - weekends - except the weekend preceding or following the half-term break
  - non-teaching days – usually referred to as 'training days', 'INSET days' or 'non-contact days'
- Parental consent is not required for detentions
- As with any disciplinary penalty, a member of staff must act reasonably given all the circumstances

The Government's summary on behaviour and discipline in schools can be read online at: <https://bit.ly/39yoRFb>.

## ParentPay

### Cashless Payments

We operate a biometric cashless catering system in school. In addition to school meals, we do not accept cash payments for trips or uniform (ties, badges and hijabs).

### Activation

If you are yet to activate your ParentPay account, please do so as soon as possible. If you would like another copy of the activation letter with your username and password, please call us on 0121 783 7807 or send a message via MyEd.

### Outstanding Balances

If you have an outstanding balance on ParentPay for your child, we would appreciate if you could arrange for it to be paid immediately by logging into your account.

If you would like assistance with activating your account or adding credit, please visit the School Office between the following times (term-time only) along with your debit card:

- Tuesday to Thursday: 3:00pm-4:00pm

## Medication

It is the responsibility of parents/carers to provide the school with sufficient and up-to-date information about their child's medical needs and be involved in developing and reviewing their child's individual healthcare plan.

If your child has any medical needs or is required to take medication during school hours and you are yet to inform us of them, please visit the School Office to complete a Parental Medical Consent Form and drop off any medication you would like us to keep in school.

If your child has asthma, we advise that they always carry an inhaler on them. Please drop an inhaler at School Office for us to keep in case of emergency and complete the consent form.

## Uniform & Standards

As part of the school's continued drive to improve standards, we would like all pupils to consistently adhere to the expectations on appearance, conduct and equipment. We are a professional environment and as such, we need all pupils to look smart, professionally conduct themselves and come equipped for their learning.

If a pupil does not meet the standards consistently, they will sit a 30-minute detention. We must have your support to raise our standards collectively. Please can we remind you that pupils are not permitted to wear nose studs and patterns and lines are not to be shaved into hairstyles or eyebrows.

If there are any problems in acquiring uniform, please contact the school and we will endeavour to work with you to address these issues. Such cases will be treated with due sensitivity and confidence.



## Next Week's Lunch Menu

<h1>Lunch week 2</h1> <p>All our ingredients are locally sourced and delivered fresh by local suppliers. Our eggs are free-range and Red Lion stamped, our fish is sustainably sourced and MSC approved and our meat is British Red Tractor accredited wherever possible.</p>		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>MAIN MEAL</b> From £1.90	LAMB BURGER SERVED WITH MINT YOGHURT	CHICKEN SAUSAGE WITH MASH & GRAVY	HOMEMADE BEEF LASAGNE	CHICKEN FAJITA	FISHCAKES SERVED WITH SWEET CHILLI SAUCE	
<b>PLANT BASED / VEGETARIAN</b> From £1.90	CHEESE & ONION PASTY	VEGETARIAN SAUSAGE & MASH & GRAVY	MAC 'N' CHEESE	VEGGIE SAMOSA WITH YOGURT & MINT SAUCE	SAUSAGE ROLL	
ALL SERVED WITH SEASONAL VEGETABLES & POTATO OR RICE DISH OF THE DAY						
<b>STREET FOOD</b> FROM £2.35	HOT & SPICY CHICKEN PANINI	VARIOUS CHICKEN BURGER IN A BAP WITH LETTUCE & MAYO	CHICKEN GOUJONS IN A NAAN BREAD WITH SALAD	SPICY LAMB WRAP WITH SALAD	TANDOORI CHICKEN WRAP WITH SALAD	
<b>TAKEAWAY TUBS</b> FROM £1.75	PIRI PIRI CHICKEN WINGS	FISH FINGER WRAP WITH SALAD & SALSA	CAJUN CHICKEN WINGS	FRENCH BREAD PIZZA WITH WEDGES	BBQ CHICKEN WINGS	
<b>PIZZA SLICE</b> FROM £1.45	MARGHERITA	MARGHERITA OR BBQ CHICKEN	MARGHERITA OR SPICY CHICKEN	MARGHERITA	MARGHERITA OR BBQ CHICKEN	
<b>JACKETS</b> From 0.95p	TRY OUR DELICIOUS FILLINGS FOR 35p EACH					
<b>DESSERTS</b> 0.95p	JAM & COCONUT SPONGE	STICKY TOFFEE APPLE	LEMON CHEESECAKE	LEMON DRIZZLE CAKE	CHOCOLATE BROWNIE	

**Meal Deal**  
Main Meal  
With Vegetables  
And Dessert

**£2.40**  
All Of Our Main Meals,  
Sandwiches & Desserts Are  
Freshly Made On Site Every Day

## Free School Meals

### Who is eligible for Free School Meals?

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

### Apply for Free School Meals

We encourage you to apply for Free School Meals through the online service found on our website: [www.hodgehill.bham.sch.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.hodgehill.bham.sch.uk/freeschoolmeals). You can also telephone (0121 783 7807) or come into school and complete a Free School Meals application online with a member of staff if you prefer.

Please make sure you have the National Insurance Number with you for the named person who receives either working tax credit/child tax credit and we will be happy to help.

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# 12 Top Tips for BUILDING CYBER RESILIENCE AT HOME

As a society, we're increasingly using technology and tech services in the home. Digital assistants which can adjust the heating or turn lights on and off; streaming services for shows and movies on demand; games consoles; smart speakers; phones; laptops ... the list goes on. As we introduce each new gizmo to our homes, however, we increase the level of threat from cyber criminals. It's essential, therefore, that we learn to become more cyber resilient in relation to the devices and digital services that the people in our household use.

## WHAT IS 'CYBER RESILIENCE'?

Cyber resilience focuses on three key areas: reducing the likelihood of a cyber attack gaining access to our accounts, devices or data; reducing the potential impact of a cyber incident; and making the recovery from a cyber attack easier, should we ever fall victim to one.

### 1. PASSWORDS: LONGER AND LESS PREDICTABLE

The longer, less common and predictable a password is, the more difficult it becomes for cyber criminals to crack. The National Cyber Security Centre's 'three random words' guidelines are ideal for creating a long password which is easy to remember but hard to guess.

### 2. AVOID RE-USING PASSWORDS

When you use the same password across different logins, your cyber resilience is only as strong as the security of the weakest site or service you've signed up for. If cyber criminals gain access your username and password for one site or service, they'll definitely try them on others.

### 3. USE A PASSWORD MANAGER

A good way to juggle different passwords for every site or service you use is to have a password manager. This software stores all your passwords for you, so you simply need to remember the master password. LastPass, Dashlane, 1Password and Keeper are all excellent password managers.

### 4. BACK UP YOUR DATA

Keep a copy of your data using OneDrive, Google Drive or another reputable cloud-based storage solution. If it's extremely important or sensitive information, you could even decide to keep more than one back-up version – by saving it to a removable USB drive or similar device, for example.

### 5. ENABLE MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION (MFA)

Multi-factor authentication is where you need access to your phone (to receive a code, for example) or another source to confirm your identity. This makes it far more difficult for cyber criminals to gain entry to your accounts and your data, even if they do manage to get your username and password.

### 6. CHOOSE RECOVERY QUESTIONS WISELY

Some services let you set 'recovery questions' – such as your birthplace or a pet's name – in case you forget your password. Take care not to use information you might have mentioned (or are likely to in future) on social media. More unpredictable answers make cyber criminals' task far harder.

### 7. SET UP SECONDARY ACCOUNTS

Some services provide the facility to add secondary accounts, phone numbers and so on to help with potentially recovering your account. Make sure you set these up: they will be vital if you're having trouble logging in or if you're trying to take back control of your account after a cyber attack.

### 12. STAY SCEPTICAL

Cyber criminals commonly use various methods, including emails, text messages and social media posts. Be cautious of any messages or posts that are out of the ordinary, offer something too good to be true or emphasise urgency – even if they appear to come from someone you know.

### 11. KEEP HOME DEVICES UPDATED

Download official software updates for your household's mobile phones, laptops, consoles and other internet-enabled devices regularly. Security improvements and fixes are a key feature of these updates – so by ensuring each device is running the latest version, you're making them more secure.

### 10. CHANGE DEFAULT IOT PASSWORDS

Devices from the 'Internet of Things' (IoT), such as 'smart' home appliances, are often supplied with default passwords. This makes them quicker to set up, but also less secure – criminals can identify these standard passwords more easily, so change them on your IoT devices as soon as possible.

### 9. CHECK FOR BREACHES

You can check if your personal information has been involved in any known data breaches by entering your email address at [www.haveibeenpwned.com](http://www.haveibeenpwned.com) (yes, that spelling is correct!). It's useful if you're worried about a possible attack – or simply as motivation to review your account security.

### 8. KEEP HAVING FUN WITH TECH

Consider our tips in relation to the gadgets and online services your household uses. Protect yourself and your family, and don't let the bad guys win: devices are not only integral to modern life but also a lot of fun – so as long as you keep safety and security in mind, don't stop enjoying your tech.

## Meet Our Expert

Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that adults and children alike become more aware of the risks associated with technology, as well as the many benefits.



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Source: [www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/top-tips-for-staying-secure-online/three-random-word](http://www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/top-tips-for-staying-secure-online/three-random-word) | [https://haveibeenpwned.com](http://https://haveibeenpwned.com)





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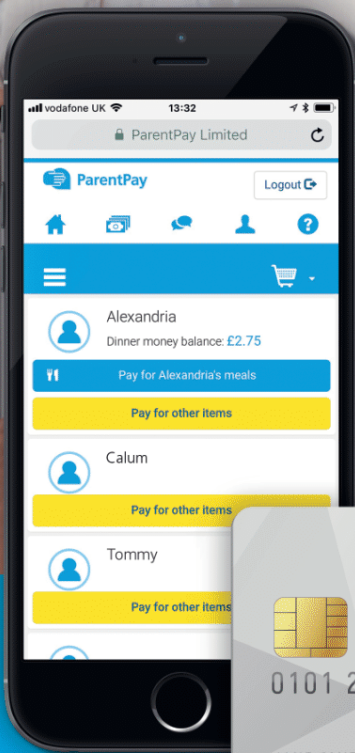
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