HAPPY EASTER

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Dear Parents & Carers,

Spring has arrived and this lifts our spirits. However, this brings with it the impending examination season both for Year 10 and Year 11. I would like to take this opportunity of reminding both pupils and parents of the importance of:

- A good night sleep
- Keeping hydrated
- Eating balanced meals

This is particularly important in exam season and can make a 5% difference in exam grades.

During the holidays Year 11 pupils should be revising at least five hours a day. They have all been given:

- Three English literature texts to read
- Revision guides for all their subjects
- Revision cards and resources
- Access to resources on the college website through ‘Foldr’

In addition, ‘revision classes’ are running for many subjects by invitation. Please make sure that if you child has been invited that they attend at the correct time and on the correct day. All pupils have their login details for ‘mathswatch’. They should be doing two thirty minute sessions per day on ‘mathswatch’ to prepare them for their exams. Practice makes perfect.

Finally, as a school we have been busy once again raising money for a range of charities and I have been pleased with the high level of participation of all year groups in leading these activities. Pupils across the school have also been provided with a range of enrichment opportunities this has included:

- Author visits
- Shakespeare productions
- Working with a 3D artist
- Issues based drama productions
- Boy Band visit exploring mental health themes

All good wishes for the spring break.

Mrs A Andersen
Headteacher

**MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER**

**IMPORTANT DATES**

15th-26th April 2019
Easter Holidays

29th April 2019
Pupils Return to School
Year 11 GCSE Exams Begin

6th May 2019
Early May Bank Holiday

17th May 2019
Year 10 Mock Exams Begin

27th-31st May 2019
Half Term Week

14th June 2019
Year 11 GCSE Exams End
Year 10 Mock Exams End

8th -18th July 2019
Year 10 Work Experience

12th-16th July 2019
Key Stage 3 France Trip

19th July 2019
End of Summer Term

22nd July 2019
Staff Training Day

23rd July 2019
Summer Holidays Begin
MACBETH & ROMEO AND JULIET PERFORMANCES

On Friday 8th March 2019, all of Year 8 were treated to a fantastic performance of Macbeth by the ‘Young Shakespeare Theatre Company’. This event coincides with the Year 8 starting a topic on Macbeth, it was designed to help them understand the main story of Macbeth as well as exploring who the characters were. The best thing about the performance was the use of the pupils to help tell the story – we saw a particularly genius portrayal of Fleance by one Year 8 boy who quite frankly stole the show.

The following week the Year 11s were also able to watch a performance from the Young Shakespeare Theatre Company. This time however focussed on a GCSE targeted performance of Romeo and Juliet.

Both performances were fantastic, and on both days the company left with nothing but compliments for the pupils.

Mr J Berwick
Leader of Aspiration: English
### MAY 2019

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Personalised timetables will be distributed to all Year 11 students after the Easter Break.

*Team Data & Exams*
SOLUTIONS FOR THE PLANET - BIG IDEAS COMPETITION

Since our ‘Big Ideas’ day back in November, 11 teams (made up of around 50 Year 8 pupils) have been busy developing their ‘big ideas’ to submit to the national Solutions for the Planet Big Ideas competition.

The pupils have met each fortnight to work on their team’s business plan, considering real-life business concepts such as marketing, branding and finance as well the sustainability of their idea and the problem it will solve. We have also had support from our two TARMAC business mentors, Steph and Eloise, both of whom have offered pupils expert advice and guidance.

Business plans and presentations were submitted on Wednesday 27th March 2019 and we’re hoping to have some teams make it through to the regional finals, taking place at local universities. Fingers crossed!

Miss C Ambler
Teacher of Geography

HHC WELCOMES BBC ASIAN NETWORK

Year 10 students were lucky to have a guest speaker event with four people associated with careers in the creative industry from an Asian background. The panel was hosted by regular Asian Network breakfast host Harpz Kaur and the guests were Vinuri Perera (Asian Network Producer), Sideman Allday (Comedian and Presenter) and Adam Virdi (Fashion Stylist).

The theme of the event was ‘What would I tell my 15 year old self?’ with a view to inspiring some of our students to consider careers within the creative industry and demonstrate that being successful in these jobs can be achieved.

Sideman Allday is a Hodge Hill College alumnus and had a particularly strong impact upon our students as he discussed the benefits of achieving highly in his GCSEs and how that has helped him in his current role. Our Year 10 students listened very attentively and hopefully now have a better idea on how to approach a potential career in the creative industry.

Mr J Patel
Teacher of MFL & Aspiring Leader: CEIAG
In late March 2019, 60 Year 7 girls took part in a STEM based workshop hosted by HS2 which gave the girls an overview of the type of jobs they could undertake if they work in the rail industry.

The pupils had to carry out a number of different tasks but always relate them back to the improvement and developing of their STEM Powers which include creativity, teamwork, problem solving, investigation, determination and respect. The first main task was the designing of a train station of the future where the girls in small groups had to create a blueprint of this futuristic station thinking about various aspects like sustainable architecture and digital communication.

The second major task was to physically create a tunnel structure which had to be built to resist forces that would otherwise make them collapse. The girls had to decide on their type of structure before using 40 straws, masking tape and scrap paper to build a prototype which was then tested to see if it could withstand under forces.

The winner was Group 12 whose structure weighed in at 27g and easily survived under the force. The Y7 girls enjoyed themselves whilst learning about the various careers within the rail industry and improving their STEM Powers throughout.

A thank you to Zinc Media and HS2 for making this opportunity available to our students.

Mr J Patel
Teacher of MFL & Aspiring Leader: CEIAG
YEAR 10 STUDENTS IMPRESS ON MOCK INTERVIEW DAY

In early April 2019, all of our Year 10 students took part in a mock interview day with over 30 representatives from DHL, ISS Facility Services, Capgemini, Lloyds Banking Group and HS2.

In the months before, the students put together a CV and personal statement which the interviewers checked and a conversation about this formed part of the interview process. The Year 10 students were in business attire as they shone on what was for many of them, their first formal interview.

On the strength of their CV and personal statement and the interview itself pupils were graded Gold, Silver or Bronze and will also receive individual and personalised feedback which will be crucial for the upcoming months when these students have real interviews for college and apprenticeship courses.

Overall, the pupils looked fantastic and all of the interviewers were full of praise for our students who were a credit to Hodge Hill College.

Mr J Patel
Teacher of MFL & Aspiring Leader: CEIAG

HAVE YOU TRIED THE CAREEROMETER YET?

Ever thought about how much someone doing a certain job would earn on average?

Ever wondered how many hours a week a person doing this job would do on average?

Ever considered whether a job you want to do will still exist in the near future?

If the answer to any of the above is yes, then try the Careerometer! Utilising active data from various reliable sources such as the Employer Skills Survey you can use the Careerometer to inform your choices about potential careers. It allows you to compare two different jobs at the same time and provides information about salaries, hours worked and workforce changes all in one handy and easy to use format.

The Careerometer is found by going onto the Hodge Hill College website, and then accessing Pupils and then Careers as demonstrated above.
YEAR 7 WALK UP AND OVER THE LONG MYND

On Thursday 28th March 2019, ten Year 7 pupils undertook the adventure of walking up and over the Long Mynd.

This involved a full day of walking carrying rucksacks, walking through a stream, clambering over rocks and enjoying the breath-taking views from the top of the Long Mynd in Shropshire.

Most importantly they made new friendships with pupils they hadn’t really spoken to before, developed resilience skills and completed a challenging 11 mile walk up hill and down dale.

Well done to all pupils who took part!

Miss R Palfrey
Director of Learning:
Sport, Community and Vocational

YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY STUDENTS VISIT THE DORSET COAST
From Friday 5th April 2019 to Sunday 7th April 2019, 24 Year 10 Geography students and 8 members of staff spent the weekend in Swanage on the Dorset coast.

Saturday was spent visiting Durdle Door, where some pupils were brave enough to paddle in the sea before walking along the coastal path to Lulworth Cove. After exploring the rock pools and eating a lot of ice cream, we had dinner in Swanage before returning to our accommodation. The trip was rounded off on Sunday with a visit to the Old Harry Rocks, where we also saw a number of different coastal management strategies in action.

It was wonderful to see the pupils developing new friendships and having fun – they were a real credit to the school throughout the whole trip!

Team Geography

HAPPY EASTER &
GOOD WISHES FOR THE SPRING BREAK