

GENERAL NEWS

12-15 COVID-19 vaccination programme

The School Immunisation Team will be delivering the second dose of the Covid-19 vaccine for students aged 12 to 15 years old on **Tuesday 1st February**. For a student to receive a vaccination at this session, consent **MUST** be given (for either first or second dose). Please find further details and a link to the consent form can be found in [this letter](#).

Please be advised that students who have recently had Covid-19 must wait 12 weeks before having their vaccination.

Isolation guidance

People who are self-isolating with COVID-19 have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with an LFD test on both day 5 and day 6 and do not have a temperature. The day when they developed symptoms or tested positive is counted as day zero.

For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to school immediately on day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be reported via the link below:

[Report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

If the result of either test is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

Anyone unable to take LFD tests or who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10-day self-isolation period.

This change applies to all positive cases, regardless of vaccination status.

All students and staff are encouraged to continue to test regularly twice a week. The link for students to report a lateral flow test can be [found here](#).

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday 1st February
Covid-19 Booster session (further details below)

Friday 11th February
Half term holiday commences (students depart at 1205)

CONTACT US:

General communications to:
admin@hockerill.com

Absence communications to:
absence@hockerill.com

Report a Covid Test to College here

Big Garden Bird Watch 2022

Please be reminded that staff and students at the College are undertaking a range of activities in preparation for this year's Big Garden Bird Watch which takes place from the 28th to the 30th of January. This is an ideal activity to support health and wellbeing as well as helping to monitor national number of bird species for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB).

The RSPB has some excellent free resources available for anyone to download from their website www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/ to make the event both fun and simple to take part in.

Mr C Gilman



Performing Arts – Free Open Day on Saturday 29th January

The Pauline Quirke Academy would like to invite students to attend a FREE Taster Session at PQA Bishops Stortford Open Day on Saturday 29th January. If students are interested in Musical Theatre, Comedy & Drama and Film & Television, further information can be found [here](#).



HOCKERILL NEWS

Interact - Bishop's Stortford Food Bank

We are all on the same journey, but not the same boat - the Bishop's Stortford Food Bank is there to challenge that. The Interact Club visit helped us to understand what an integral role the food bank plays within this community - made even more important due to the pandemic.

Charity Rymer

Year 12



BOARDING NEWS

Boarding Parents Forum

Thank you to those parents who were able to attend the Boarding Parents Forum on Wednesday evening. If you were unable to attend and would like to watch the recording, please do so via the [link here](#).

Boarders' Weekend Programme 21/22

A few parents have requested to see the programme of activities/trips that runs over the weekend. This document can be found on the College [website here](#). Further information will be sent to all boarding parents shortly about the plans for the Easter Celebration on Saturday 26th March.

YEAR 13

Upcoming event

The Year 13 Sixth Form formal will be held on Wednesday 9th February 2022 and will have a valentine's theme. Further details can be found [here](#)

LIBRARY NEWS

Online author event: Phil Earle

On Thursday 27th January we were delighted to welcome award-winning author, Phil Earle into the Library – albeit virtually. He spoke to English group 70 about his life as an author and particularly about his wonderful book, *When the Sky Falls*, which has been shortlisted for this year's Juniper Book Awards.

The students were entranced by his engaging personality and asked some great questions.

Phoebe had the following to say about the session;

"I found Phil Earle very interesting to listen to. His story of how he became an author was very inspiring but also unexpected. He told us all about the inspiration for his books and gave tips for everyone if they wanted to be an author or even if they just loved reading. It was very good to get tips and information from him. It was great to be able to talk to him and ask him questions. As a class we asked many questions and he answered one of my questions: 'Why did you pick this front cover for *When the Sky Falls*?' It was very fun and amazing to get to speak with him."

Ryan commented;

"Thank you for a one in a lifetime experience with Phil Earle!"

A selection of Phil Earle's books is available to borrow from the College Library.



MUSIC NEWS

Instrumental, Vocal and Theory Lesson Notice Deadlines

We hope that your children enjoy and look forward to their music lessons. If for any reason they are not enjoying their lessons, please let us know so that we can address the situation.

Please be aware that if you would like to stop lessons at any point, you must let us know in writing. The table below gives the notice deadlines for the rest of this year:

Want to Stop Lessons at:	Deadline to let us know by:
End of Lent Term 2022 (March)	Friday 4 February 2022
Summer - end of first half of term 2022 (May)	Friday 18 March 2022
End of Academic Year 2022 (July)	Friday 20 May 2022

It is important for us to have these deadlines, giving our peripatetic staff sufficient notice to find a replacement student. It also minimises disruption for timetabling and the Finance Department.

Important Message for Parents of children in Years 11 and 13

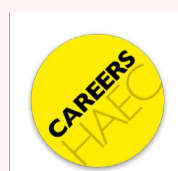
We would like to remind you that that music lessons **will not stop automatically** on the approach to the exam period. If your child wishes to stop lessons at the end of the Lent term you must inform us in writing by **Friday 4 February**.

If your child is in Year 11 and hopes to return to Hockerill for Sixth Form, we would be delighted if they chose to continue having their music lessons with us in September. If they wish to either continue their lessons, or take up a new instrument, please ensure that you fill in the electronic application form included in your Welcome Pack in the Summer term. You can also request to remain with the same teacher on this form.

Please contact us at musicadmin@hockerill.com if you have any queries.

Mr O Bond

Director of Music



CAREERS NEWS

Free University opportunities for students in Year 10 and 12

Please find links below to programmes that aim to help high attaining black African and black Caribbean students, and, students of mixed race with black African and Caribbean heritage, increase their chances of getting into the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge.

Since launching in 2012, Target Oxbridge has helped over 280 students to secure Oxbridge offers. The programme is open to UK-based students in Year 12 (as well as, in certain circumstances Year 13).

Target Bath is a free programme that supports Black African and Caribbean students, including mixed race students, to gain places at the University of Bath. The University of Bath is ranked 6th in the UK and leads in placement years and employability. The programme is open to UK-based students in Year 12.

[Target Oxbridge](#)

[Target Bath](#)

[Rare School Programmes](#)

WE ARE RECRUITING

Please see our website for current [vacancies here](#).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 10 Student Parent Teacher evening	Thursday 3rd March
Year 12 Student Parent Teacher evening	Tuesday 8th March
Year 9 Student Parent Teacher evening	Tuesday 15th March
Year 9 Options morning	Saturday 19th March
Spring Concert	Monday 28th March