

## HOCKERILL NEWS

### Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

On Monday 9th May we will be welcoming Educate and Celebrate into College to deliver virtual presentations to all students (except Years 11 & 13 who are nearing exams), throughout the day to present on equality, diversity and inclusion.

Educate & Celebrate is an experienced team of teachers and youth workers who have all made their own schools LGBTQ+ friendly, giving them the knowledge to deliver throughout the UK, Europe and globally. The team continue to develop resources and programmes responding to the needs of young people, teachers and families.

Their online delivery is fun, interactive and explores all aspects of LGBTQ+ inclusion, actively engaging students in discussion about language, law, discrimination, current conversations around gender identity and sexual orientation that encourage critical thinking and debate. <https://www.educateandcelebrate.org/>

We have also arranged a virtual presentation to staff from 1600hrs – 1700hrs and would like to invite any interested parents to join us for this [via this Zoom link](#) (passcode: 564933). We will also invite Year 11, 12 & 13 Spectrum club members to this presentation.

### Year 13 Graduation

On Saturday we held a Graduation Ceremony as a formal recognition of the Year 13s' achievements. The students were presented with awards and received their International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme medallion.

We wish them all the very best for their IB examinations.



### IMPORTANT DATES

**Saturday 30th April to Monday 2nd May**  
Extended Exeat Weekend

**Friday 27th May**

Half term holiday commences (students depart at 1205)

**Monday 6th June**

Term recommences

**Contact us:**

**General communications to:**  
[admin@hockerill.com](mailto:admin@hockerill.com)

**Absence**

**communications to:**  
[absence@hockerill.com](mailto:absence@hockerill.com)

### College Opening Times and Club Activities

This Term, as always, the College provides an extensive range of Clubs and Activities. The Summer Term list can be [found here](#).

This extensive set of activities are available to all students (Day, Flexi-Boarding, Weekly Boarding and Full Boarding). The activities are supervised by members of College staff and take place either before College, at Lunchtime or after College when academics lessons have finished.

We encourage all students to take part in a range of club activities for a number of reasons. Clubs and activities serve to promote the wellbeing of the students by developing healthy relationships with other students and staff outside of the classroom. Perhaps most importantly, clubs offer the opportunity for students to mix with and get to know other students outside of their own year group and these vertical relationships serve to strengthen the sense of community with the College. Clubs and activities provide an excellent opportunity for student to make friends and to contribute to the wider College ethos.

Once a student has committed to a club or activity, we expect them to be committed to it for the duration of the whole term. Also, we encourage student to sometimes pick an activity that they have not done before and so, perhaps, broaden their experiences and find a new activity which they enjoy.

We take the opportunity to remind parents that there are differences between the permissions that exist for both Day and Boarding students to be on campus during non-academic time. No Day student should be on Campus before 0830 or after 1545 without permission and supervision by a member of staff.

From 0830hrs to 1540hrs the College is open to all students. In addition, Day students may be on campus at any time if they are under the direct supervision of a member of staff running a club or other activity. The member of staff will take responsibility for your child during these times.

**No student is allowed to remain on campus after 1545hrs unless they are attending a supervised club or activity, using the College library or they are a member of the boarding community and therefore are the responsibility of their house staff.**

We do hope you will have time to look through the Clubs and Activities list with your child and encourage them to take an active part in the extensive Co-Curricular programme.

### Sensory Garden - donations welcomed

The Year 10 ASDAN class are going to be developing our sensory garden this term. We will be adding scented and textured plants, plants to encourage butterflies, plant pots, wind chimes, a solar-powered water feature and a bird table. If any parents have any items spare that they'd be willing to donate, we'd be very grateful.

Please email Mrs Panayiotou [panayiotout@hockerill.com](mailto:panayiotout@hockerill.com) or Mr Gilman [gilmanc@hockerill.com](mailto:gilmanc@hockerill.com) if you are able to help.

### Mock Interviews - Volunteers Required

We still require volunteer interviewers for our mock interviews. Mock interviews are a great opportunity for our Year 10s and 12s to meet someone from the business world and get a chance to experience an interview situation and learn the skills required to do well. The Year 10 day is planned for Wednesday 11th May and the Year 12s on Wednesday 29th June, and they will be running virtually over Teams again this year. We are still looking for volunteers for both days so if you can give some time on either or both days (whether that be for the morning, the afternoon or the whole day) please get in touch via [winshipa@hockerill.com](mailto:winshipa@hockerill.com) or by completing [this form](#). Your support is very much appreciated.

## YEAR 10

### Research in science and representation

I am carrying out a project as part of my dissertation for the Master of Education (MEd) course at the University of Cambridge and I am interested in student viewpoints and perspectives about representation in science. My research also hopes to engage students in conversations about race and highlights some historical works of minority ethnic scientists which have been largely omitted in science education.

I will be collecting questionnaire and interview data from the three Year 10 chemistry classes I teach (10L, 10M and 10F). Students wishing to participate have already completed a consent form and are aware that their participation is voluntary. However, if any parent prefers for their child not to take part, then please email me directly on [dambattas@hockerill.com](mailto:dambattas@hockerill.com) and I will withdraw them from the project.

Please be reassured that opting out of this project will not disadvantage your child in any way.

If you have any other concerns or would like to know more about this project, then feel free to email me.

**Miss S Dambatta**  
Teacher of Science

## YEAR 11

### Important Events and Key Dates

Please find links below which includes information regarding the GCSE examination period and the end of year arrangements for Year 11 students.

The Year 11 Prom will take place on Thursday 23rd June from 1900hrs to 2200hrs. It is a formal event to celebrate the end of Year 11. Further details can be found below.

[GCSE examinations and key dates](#)

[Year 11 Prom](#)

## BOARDING NEWS

### Boarding Parent Forum – Wednesday 11th May 19:00

A reminder that there is an online Boarding Parent Forum meeting scheduled for Wednesday 11th May at 19:00. I would be grateful if questions could be submitted prior to the event via the link here. The deadline for questions is Friday 6th May at 17:00, the questions submitted will define the agenda items.

Information on how to join the meeting and the agenda will be sent to parents via email on Tuesday prior to the meeting.

## GENERAL NEWS



The 11th annual National Walk, Bike & Roll to School Day is next Wednesday 4th May

### Government guidance for children and young people (aged 18 years and under) who have symptoms of a respiratory infection, including COVID-19.

Respiratory infections are common in children and young people, particularly during the winter months. Symptoms can be caused by several respiratory infections including the common cold and COVID-19.

For most children and young people, these illnesses will not be serious, and they will soon recover following rest and plenty of fluids.

Very few children and young people with respiratory infections become seriously unwell. This is also true for children and young people with long-term conditions.

Attending education is hugely important for children and young people's health and their future.

### When children and young people with symptoms should stay at home and when they can return to education

Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting.

Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school, college or childcare, and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.

All children and young people with respiratory symptoms should be encouraged to cover their mouth and nose with a disposable tissue when coughing and/or sneezing and to wash their hands after using or disposing of tissues.

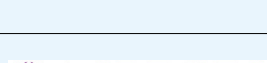
Further guidance can be found [here](#).

### Helping Herts Charity

Long-standing (or should that be long-walking) Governor Jim Tatchell co-founded a charity called Helping Herts last year, and at the moment he and his co-founder Gordon Morrison are nearly half way through walking the whole 180 miles of the Hertfordshire Way over the course of two weeks, raising money for 12 charities that are involved with child welfare across the county. You can donate and find out more here: [Helping Herts Information](#)

### Parenting Workshop – My Teen Brain

Aspects are offering a fun and inspiring online parenting coaching course which will build confidence in supporting your teenager. It is packed with strategies to help you understand teen brain development, why they are pushing the boundaries and tips to support a calmer family life. [Further information here](#).



### Tick Awareness

Please find this communication from the [Public Health Team](#). Please direct any enquiries to [PublicHealth@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:PublicHealth@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

## HOCKERILL PARENTS AND FRIENDS

### Hockerill Nights Presents 'Much Ado about Nothing'

On Tuesday June 7th, Hockerill's Summer House Lawn will be transformed into an open-air theatre, showcasing a lively production of Shakespeare's Much Ado About Nothing.

Some of you may have experienced problems purchasing tickets for this event on WisePay. The problem has now been fixed, so please reprise your ticket-buying!

Adults £15, children £12. Don't forget to bring a chair or picnic blanket - drinks (elderflower pressés, peach bellinis and craft beer) and theatre-style snacks will be available on the night. We hope to see you there!



### HPF Grant

A reminder that HPF will be awarding £2000 over the coming weeks for projects that benefit the school community. Please do encourage your children and young adults to have a think about ways in which they might like to take advantage of this - we would be delighted to award money for anything, from kit for clubs to raw materials for bake sales. For those thinking about UCAS personal statements, remember that the ability to write a 'business plan' for a grant can showcase a great skill set! Application forms are available from the office or by emailing [hpf@hockerill.com](mailto:hpf@hockerill.com)

## WE ARE RECRUITING

We are currently recruiting, please see our [website here](#) for details.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 11 Boarding Formal event	Friday 6th May
Online Boarding Parents' Forum	Wednesday 11th May
Year 8 HPV Vaccinations	Monday 23rd May
Year 13 Leavers' Ball	Tuesday 24th May
Hockerill Nights - 'Much Ado about Nothing'	Tuesday 7th June