

NEWS

IMPORTANT DATES

Week commencing

Saturday 17th September

Open Morning (lessons finish at 1205)

Contact us:

General communications to:
admin@hockerill.com

Absence communications to:
absence@hockerill.com



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

The community of Hockerill Anglo-European College wish to share our deepest condolences for the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. She was an inspirational role model and a dedicated servant to the people of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth.

The College marked the sad news with a special whole school assembly the key messages from which are shared with you below. We have also opened the Chapel for all students and staff who wish to take a moment to reflect on the life of the Queen and what she meant to them and their family. Further news of other events to mark the passing of the Queen will be shared with you in due course.

Today is a day that no-one for 70 years has experienced and we as a community need to take a moment to reflect on what the passing of Queen Elizabeth II means for us as individuals, for the United Kingdom and for the world.

The Queen was the only monarch that almost everyone has ever known – indeed I think only one person in our entire school community has ever lived under a different monarch - and so her passing is a momentous point in history. This will be one of those 'I remember where I was when I heard the news' moments. The Queen came to the throne aged 25 in 1952 and has been there for 70 years – the longest serving monarch in British history. That is what is so extraordinary about her reign as it is unique in 1000 years of the monarchy. For us to have been alive during a part of that reign – be it for 70 years or 11 depending on your age – is also extraordinary and a story to tell your children and grandchildren. During the Queen's reign the UK had 15 PMs and the US 12 Presidents. And that is perhaps what will be hardest to come to terms with. The Queen has literally always been there no matter what else has come and gone. She has been in the background and soundtrack of everyone's lives and every event in our lives. We have grown up with her. For the Queen not to be there means the end of an era. A passage in history has closed and we will all have to adapt to a new reality. This will be easier for some than others as the Queen has been a reassuring symbol of certainty and continuity throughout our lifetimes. This will be an emotional jolt and the loss of a piece of our national identity, the importance of which cannot be overstated as Britain without the Queen is hard to imagine. Even the Queen is not timeless.

The Queen will be remembered for the qualities that she showed, and it is these we should reflect on as whether you are a supporter of the monarchy or not, or indeed British or not, I think we can all learn something from the way the Queen lived her life. The Queen reigned for 70 years during a period of enormous societal change. Throughout this time, and despite the enormous changes, the Queen has been a paragon of humility, respect, constancy, loyalty and integrity. Qualities that we should all admire and seek to emulate if we are to lead lives of real meaning, depth and value.

You may or may not feel upset or sad at the news of the Queen's passing but some within our community certainly will and it is important that we look out for each other today. The Chapel will be kept open for anyone who wishes to come and have a moment of quiet reflection or feel the need to talk and share how they feel. In your form groups now you may wish to share your own family's story of meeting the Queen as almost everyone knows someone or has a relative who did. I never did but my mother did and would tell the story to anyone who would listen throughout her life. Your form tutors have also been sent a link to a short film which shows the Queen's life. The fact that the images start in black and white tells you just how long she was on the throne.

You are young and have already lived through moments in human history that are unprecedented and unique. This is another such moment, a genuine end of an era the impact and enormity of which only time will tell.

Thank you for your attention. Be especially kind to each other today, remember the qualities that the Queen embodied and welcome to the reign of King Charles III.

HOCKERILL NEWS

OFSTED

On June 14th and 15th of the last school year during our off-timetable Enrichment Days, we had a whole-school OFSTED inspection. This is an entirely normal event with all schools regardless of their prior inspection grading due to be inspected by 2025. The findings of the inspection will be very useful and help to inform us of areas of strength and areas for development. We had anticipated that we would receive the report sometime during the summer holiday or in time for the start of term so that we could share it with you, discuss it with staff and develop an action plan. As of today, Friday September 9th, we have not received the report and so are unable to share any further information with you. As and when we do receive it you will be informed.



David Woods

Principal

Saturday 17th September – amendment to finishing time

You may be aware that Saturday 17th September is our Open Morning and with a large number of visitors expected inevitably traffic congestion will be increased near the College. Please bear this in mind when you are dropping and collecting your child as there will be no parking available. Please note that lessons on Open Morning will end at 1205hrs and not at the normal finishing time. Students can be collected from Boarding Houses at 1230hrs.

Parent and Student Information Presentations

The College has arranged a number of presentations for parents and students.

The purpose is to provide parents with information so that they know what is happening during the year ahead. Students will also be invited to attend the online events.

Presentations will be made by Mr Woods, the Head of Year and other key staff.

There will be an opportunity to type questions into the Q&A facility during the presentation – most questions will be answered during the event.

Please click on the link to join the meeting and I very much look forward to you being involved.

Year 7

This event will take place on Saturday 1st October (11:00 – 12:20). The event will be at Hockerill. A Recording of the presentation will be available to parents who are unable to attend in person.

Year 8 (online)

Tuesday 14th September (18:30 – 19:30)

[Year 8 Presentation](#)

Year 9 (online)

Tuesday 14th September (19:00 – 20:00)

[Year 9 Presentation](#)

Year 10 (online)

Wednesday 15th September (18:30 – 19:30)

[Year 10 Presentation](#)

Year 11 (online)

Wednesday 15th September (19:00 – 20:00)

[Year 11 Presentation](#)

Year 12

This event will take place on Saturday 15th October (11:00 – 12:20). The event will be at Hockerill. A Recording of the presentation will be available to parents who are unable to attend in person.

Year 13 (online)

Thursday 16th September (18:30 – 19:30)

[Year 13 Presentation](#)

College Dress Codes, Uniform and Non-Uniform Days

Dress Codes

Please may I remind parents and students of the College Dress Codes which are available to view on [our website](#)

Our Dress Codes provide students with choices of items of uniform they may wear but also state clearly what is not accepted at the College. We do expect students wearing a skirt to ensure that it is worn at knee length. We also expect all students to follow our expectations of jewellery; students in Years 7-11 are not allowed to wear earrings/studs. In Years 12 & 13 students may wear one stud in each ear lobe. Students are not allowed to wear any other facial or ear piercings and this definitely includes nose piercings. Students across all year groups have been spoken to about our Dress Codes and staff have been asked to respond to students who do not comply. We do expect parents to support us and checking your child/ren before they depart in the morning would be one way of achieving this. Boarding House staff will do the same each day.

Uniform

Our uniform suppliers Fosters Schoolwear may be out of stock in certain sizes of trousers and skirts. Whilst trouser stock should have returned, skirts may not be available until mid-September.

I have looked at a number of uniform suppliers and have decided that Marks and Spencer (M&S) are able to provide an alternative which is easily accessible, good value and provides plenty of sizing choices.

As an alternative to the Hockerill skirt provided by Fosters Schoolwear, students may wear an M&S Girls' Permanent Pleats School Skirt (link below) in plain black.

[Girls' Permanent Pleats Skirt](#)

This item comes in a number of different sizing options including Regular Fit, Slim Fit and Additional Length.

For a student preferring to wear trousers and where they are out of stock at Fosters Schoolwear we would prefer that you chose M&S trousers, rather than those from other suppliers.

These links will take you to the M&S trousers options:

[Boys trousers](#)

[Girls trousers](#)

These items come in a number of different sizing options including Regular Fit, Slim Fit, Plus Fit and additional length. Please do not buy Skinny Leg or Super Skinny Leg. Trousers must be plain black.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

The Extra-Curricular Clubs programme for the Michaelmas term can be found [via the link here](#). Clubs will start on Monday 12th September. This document is available via the College website – Homepage – College Life – Co-Curricular.

For new parents/students, please be aware of the following:

-It isn't necessary to sign-up for a club prior to attending, just turn up to the first session

-It is possible to change clubs during the term, in this instance it would be best if the student informed the relevant staff that they would no longer be attending their club

-The vast majority of clubs are free of charge unless it is detailed under 'Additional Information'

-There is no limit to the number of clubs that students can attend, we encourage students to get involved in as many activities as possible

-The Extra-Curricular Clubs programme will change for the Lent and the Summer terms.

BOARDING NEWS

Exeat Weekends

A reminder to parents of the Exeat Arrangements [communication](#) regarding Exeat weekends and the change this academic year that students should only be in residence during Exeats if there is no other option available. Should you require accommodation for your child during Exeats this half term, the deadline for Full Boarding parents to request for your child to stay during the first two Exeat weekends (24/25th September and 8/9th October) is Friday 16th September. Requests to your child's Head of House please.

Boarding Parents Open House

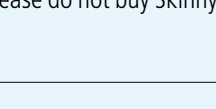
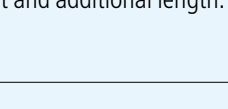
On the afternoon of Friday 23rd September (14:45-15:40) all of the Boarding Houses will be open for boarding parents to come and meet members of staff who work in their child's Boarding House, refreshments will also be served. Friday 23rd September coincides with collection for the exeat weekend. Should you wish to attend please fill in the short online form via [the link here](#). The form will close at 1200hrs on Monday 19th September.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY NEWS

Cambridge Folk Festival

One of the projects that the Year 10 Design Technology GCSE students complete during their course is to design a T-shirt for the Cambridge Folk Festival and enter it into their competition, which is open to children, students, adults, and professionals. Owing to COVID, the festival returned this year and we entered work from both Year 10 and 11 and we were delighted that Hannah Baptiste was the official Runner Up. Over the last year Hannah has been working on her NEA (Non-Examined Assessment) for 50% of her GCSE and the chair she designed was also based on the festival and the types of chairs allowed in different areas of the arena. She won free tickets to one of the days and thoroughly enjoyed her day out. Well done, Hannah!

Mr Dinwiddy



EQUIPE NEWS

Seacole Champions 2022

Four new Equipes contested the Vine Cup over the last three terms, ably led by new Heads of Equipe drawn from the Sixth Form. Mandela topped the scores for much of the year, however it was Seacole that triumphed after a succession of strong sporting performances. The Dunne-Dowell Shield for Rugby was won by Mandela and presented during the Sports Celebration in June where Seacole collected the Wilson Salver for Netball as well as the cups for Football and N Hockey. Turing won the Badminton Cup.

It was a pleasure to speak at Final Assembly and award the cups for both the Quiz and Commendations to Mandela, but these wins proved to not be enough for Mandela once Seacole secured the Sports Day Rose Bowl and I presented the Vine Cup to Callum Abouharb, Head of Seacole, who was as nervous and excited as I have been in past years to win!

Congratulations to all students, staff, and parents of Seacole for a well-deserved win and thank you to everyone for contributing to an exciting competition. This year our focus will start with the Equipe Performing Arts Competition and hope to see as many of you as possible getting involved.

New Trophies

Over the last few years I have been raising money to buy new Equipe trophies so that each is different and recognisable. Using donations, including some especially generous ones, we now have the Sports Day Rose Bowl, the Wilson Salver for Netball, and the Dunne-Dowell Shield for Rugby. The Heads of Equipe and I are looking for more donations to help us fund trophies for Football, Netball, the Quiz, and Commendations.

Mr Dinwiddy

Head of Equipes

MUSIC NEWS

Welcome to the new academic year at Hockerill. The Music Department will be opening for students to practise before/after College.

These are our opening times:

Monday 8am-6pm

Tuesday 8am-5.30pm

Wednesday 8am-6pm

Thursday 8am-6pm

Friday 8am-3.40pm

To book a room, please ask your child to follow [this link](#)

This link has been put in each of the Teams and sent to Boarding Staff.

The Music Department is working together with boarding staff to create practice spaces in each of the houses to be used outside of the music suite opening times. We will inform you as and when developments are made.

Instrumental, vocal and theory music lessons will start during the week commencing 12th September. There could be students check Teams and Outlook towards the end of the week for messages from their teacher.

Any enquiries, please contact [musicadmin@hockerill.com](#)

BMX RACING CLUB

I would like to inform you of the relaunch of the Hockerill BMX Racing Club at Braintree BMX track with ex-National Champion coach Jools Allen. Jools is former coach of current Olympic, World and European Champion, Beth Shriever, who started her journey at Braintree and whom many former members of the club were lucky enough to watch practice on many a Wednesday afternoon. As well, the 13 available places will initially be offered to Year 7, with the idea of introducing new riders to the sport. Any remaining spaces will then be offered to students in Years 8 and 9 who have not previously ridden, before then inviting former riders to apply. The club will run for 4 weeks only before breaking for the winter and re-starting after Easter.

The dates are as follows:

1. 21 September

2. 28 September

3. 5 October

4. 19 October

We meet at the minibus promptly at 1545hrs and return to College by 1800hrs after a full hour's riding. Boarders will need to arrange dinner with their boarding tutors, who will be informed of their participation.

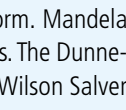
The total price will be £60 for the four hour-long sessions and includes minibus transport to Braintree, hire of bikes and full-face helmets. I ask that if your son / daughter is interested in participating, please complete this [Microsoft Form](#) giving your permission. The club is open to female and male riders who will be chosen on a first-come, first-served basis and not on ability. Once I email you that their place is confirmed (and no sooner), I would ask that payment is made via WisePay, reference BMX Racing Club Michaelmas 2022.

The students will need to wear trainers, long-sleeved tops, long-legged bottoms (preferably not baggy) and gloves for protection. We hold the right to refuse participation if these conditions are not met. The students can also bring a drink and a snack to eat at the track. The club is a popular one, so attendance every week is expected.

Should you have any further queries, please e-mail me directly on [russella@hockerill.com](#).

Mr A Russell

HOCKERILL PARENTS AND FRIENDS



Welcome back to a new and exciting term at Hockerill! We would like to extend a particularly warm 'Hello!' to all those parents of new starters in Year 7 and Year 12.

For all those unfamiliar with HPF (Hockerill Parents and Friends), we are a parents' organisation, whose primary aim is to facilitate contact between parents. We run several social and fundraising events over the course of the school year, which we publicise here on the Hub.

We are a core group of five trustees, supported by a wider network of parent volunteers. Every parent is automatically a member of HPF, but if you'd like a more hands-on role, please contact us on [hpf@hockerill.com](#). It is a great way to meet new parents and feel a part of this vibrant school community.

Look out for more information in the coming weeks about our **Candlelight Supper with Jazz** which will take place on **Friday 14th October**.

250 Club

Did you know that Hockerill has its very own community lottery, otherwise known as the 250 Club? For a donation of £5 per month, you are entered into our monthly draw to win £100 or £250 at Christmas. All proceeds go directly back into projects to benefit the school and students. To join, please complete [this form](#) which can then be handed into the Office or emailed to [hpf@hockerill.com](#)

Thank you!

The HPF Team

GENERAL NEWS

COVID-19 and respiratory infections

As we learn to live safely with COVID-19, there are actions we can all take to help reduce the risk of catching COVID-19 and passing it on to others. These actions will also help to reduce the spread of other respiratory infections. COVID-19 and other respiratory infections such as flu can spread easily and cause serious illness in some people. Please [follow this link](#) for further information.

Parents Guides to University and Apprenticeships

Success at School, a careers exploration website, has produced guides for parents on universities, apprenticeship and opportunities within STEM. If you would like a copy, you can [register here](#).

Travelling to College

M11 Birchanger Green Roundabout

Please find [information here](#) regarding the latest closures and diversions.

[Roadworks information](#)

Arriva Buses Hertfordshire – Industrial Action

Please [follow the link HERE](#) for information regarding strike action that will take place on Friday 16th, Tuesday 20th and Friday 30th September that may impact your child's journey to College.

WE ARE RECRUITING

Invigilators

We will shortly be advertising for invigilators to work through the year. If you are interested (or know anyone else that may be) in this role, please contact [recruitment@hockerill.com](#)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

HPF Candlelight Supper with Jazz

Friday 14th October