

## > HOCKERILL NEWS

### Nut-Free Environment

A reminder to parents that the College aims to be a nut-free zone, to protect the large number of students and staff we have with life-threatening nut allergies. Please ensure your children do not bring nuts or products containing nuts into College at any time. Many thanks for your co-operation and support with this.



### Remembrance Service

Today at 1100hrs, students and staff came together to observe a two-minute silence to remember those who lost their lives in conflict.



### Odd Socks Day

Odd Socks Day marks the start of Anti-Bullying Week. This will take place on Monday 14th November. Celebrate what makes us all unique and spread kindness!

**Most importantly, Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun! It's an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique!**

There is no pressure to wear the latest fashion or to buy expensive costumes. All you have to do to take part is wear odd socks to your school, it couldn't be simpler! Odd Socks Day will take place on the first day of Anti-Bullying Week each year to help raise awareness of bullying. You do not have to raise money to take part - the most important thing is the message of Odd Socks Day.

In 2021 over 5 million children, 1,000s of parents, 100s of workplaces and lots of celebrities and influencers got involved. Don't miss out highlighting the important issue of bullying in such a fun way.

There will be activities in form time and an assembly to highlight this important issue during the week beginning 14th November 2022.



### Sixth Form Open Morning

We will be holding our Sixth Form Open Morning on Saturday 19th November. A large number of visitors will be expected on this day so please bear this in mind when dropping off or collecting your child.

Please [find here](#) further information for students and parents who wish to attend. The deadline for registering for this event is Tuesday 15th November.

### Year 12 Parent Information Morning presentation

This presentation took place on Saturday 15th October. You can view the [presentation here](#).

### Admission Arrangements for 2024/25

Hockerill is consulting on the proposed admissions arrangements for the school year 2024/25 and is seeking responses from parent/carers, schools and community groups. [Please see here](#).

The proposed changes are:

1. A re-wording to allocate places to twins above our Published Admissions Number
2. Clarification from Hertfordshire County Council regarding applications using a fraudulent address

The consultation period runs from 31st October– 11 December 2022. Please send your comments regarding the proposals to the school direct at [admin@hockerill.com](mailto:admin@hockerill.com)

Hertfordshire County Council is also running a consultation on the proposed admissions arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools for the school year 2024/25 and is seeking responses from parent/carers, schools and community groups.

HCC's proposed changes are:

1. To retain the remainder of the county council's existing admission arrangements for 2024/25, including PANs, Relevant Areas and schemes of coordination.

The consultation period runs until 11 December 2022. Please visit:

[School admission arrangements for 2024-25 | Hertfordshire County Council](#)

### Annual SEND Survey 2022

The Herts Parent Carer Involvement has released this year's survey to gauge Parent Carer Satisfaction.

This survey is for parents and carers in Hertfordshire who have children and young people aged 0 – 25 years with SEND (Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities).

Please [complete the survey](#) thinking of ONE child or young person only. If you have more than one child with additional needs, if possible, please complete a survey for each one of them.

### UK Maths Challenge

On 4th October, over twenty of our top mathematicians took part in the highly rigorous Senior UK Maths Challenge run by Leeds University. We are pleased to announce that the following students were recipients of certificates:

#### Bronze

Elizabeth Clune, Anoop Dhillon, Zac Kibblewhite, Morenike Sodunola, Theo Schmidt, Talitha Van Beek

#### Silver

Alexis Beaumont, Holly Morgan, Luke Ricketts, Michael Rosenke, Federico Dack, Roshan Downey, Henry Lorimer, Gabriel Osmond, Matthew Wells

#### Gold

Nigel Ying, Benedek Payne, Nishant Muralidharan

Special congratulations go to Nigel for gaining best in school. As a Year 10 student, this is a phenomenal achievement - very well done indeed. Our Gold Certificate winners have all qualified for the next round (Senior Kangaroo) which takes place on Wednesday 16th November.

Well done to all who took part.

**Mr C Appleford**

**Director of Mathematics**

### Nurturing Nature – Give Hedgehogs a Helping Hand

As the winter months lay ahead we can easily forget there is still wildlife outside that would benefit from a helping hand, none more so than hedgehogs.

Having existed for at least half a million years we like to think of hedgehogs as a familiar sight however, various studies have indicated a dramatic decline in numbers over recent decades. Hedgehogs are legally protected under the Countryside and Wildlife Act 1981, are listed as a Priority Species under the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework and feature on the IUCN Red List for British Mammals - vulnerable to extinction.

Importantly, hedgehogs play an important part in nature with their natural diet including slugs, worms, millipedes, centipedes and earwigs. Hedgehogs are, in effect, a form of 'pest control' so next time you find yourself reaching for the slug pellets remember, with a bit of effort you could encourage a natural solution!

There are several small actions that can be taken to help support hedgehogs and, while you may not be able to undertake all of them, any help may be beneficial:

#### Action 1

Hedgehogs love to nest and hibernate in places offering shelter such pile of leaves, small logs or a purpose-built hedgehog house. Making a pile of leaves or small logs is relatively easy but for a bit more protection (especially from predators) a hedgehog house filled with dried leaves can be cleaned out and reused over several years. Be mindful of causing any disturbance especially during the hibernation period.

#### Action 2

Hedgehogs love to roam at night and need enough space to find sufficient food and to mate. Leaving a hole in the bottom of a fence panel or alternatively, a small tunnel underneath, allows them to roam and forage more freely. Asking neighbours to do the same can scale up the area available.

#### Action 3

Hedgehogs are nocturnal and sightings during the day (especially during winter) can be a sign of illness or distress. There is guidance available on the internet from a range of reputable organisations which can be referred to.

#### Action 4

Sharing responsible wildlife experiences can be fun and rewarding while also helping to build awareness among others. With Christmas coming up, a camera trap can be a great way to monitor your garden wildlife throughout the year.

You can follow the activities of the College's Nurturing Nature club on twitter @HAEcNature.

**Mr C Gilman**

### Youth Parliament Speech update

As reported in our previous Hub, Year 13 student Charity Rymer was elected by her government to give a speech in parliament on behalf of the young people of the British Virgin Islands. Charity made history as the first British Virgin Islands native to speak in the House of Commons Chamber. Her speech was streamed live on Parliament TV which you can [watch here](#).



## > EQUIPE NEWS

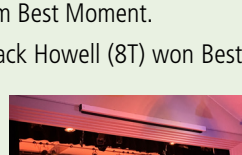
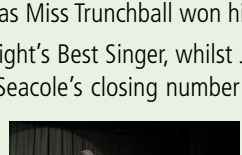
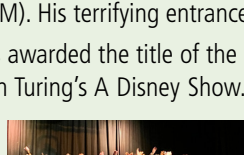
### Matilda Wins the EPAC

The return of the Equipe Performing Arts Competition was a rousing success on the last Thursday before half term. The four Equipes took it in turns to perform a 20 minute musical. They had been working on it for some months - having started the process in the Summer Term - and each aspect of the shows was student-led. All four performances were hugely professional and represented an enormous amount of time, effort, tears, and laughter - especially from the Heads of Equipe.

The sold out audience was one of the best and most appreciative we've had at Hockerill and the students came off stage thrilled with the reception they had received. The three judges were suitably impressed with Mamma Mia!, Matilda, Grease, and the original scripted A Disney Show, and awarded three Equipes joint second place. Mandela's version of Matilda was judged the best, with stand out performances across the Years, especially that of Joel Smith (12M). His terrifying entrance as Miss Trunchball won him Best Moment.

Bader Ginsburg's Esmé Lawson (12B) was awarded the title of the night's Best Singer, whilst Jack Howell (8T) won Best Actor for his portrayal of Mickey Mouse in Turing's A Disney Show. Seacole's closing number "We Go Together" was awarded Best Song.

Thank you to all who were involved for a fantastic half term and such an excellent evening's entertainment.



### Mandela Honours

It my very great pleasure to announce that Fran Pritchard has been awarded Mandela Equipe Honours for her outstanding work in directing the winning EPAC production of Matilda. Fran's dedication, vision, artistry, and stagecraft were all clear to see, and she got the very best out her cast and crew.

### Storytime

Now that the EPAC has finished, I have the time to start my club: Storytime. This will be held in the Menet Room - just off Reception - on Wednesdays at 1600hrs. This term I will read a selection of short stories and next term I will move onto a novel. All students and staff are welcome.

**Mr G Dinwiddy**

**Head of Equipes**

## > SPORT NEWS

### Events

- Year 8 A and B hockey teams won their games against Leventhorpe this week
- The boys have been attending the Rugby districts
- District Cross Country at Grange Paddocks on Tuesday 15th November hosted by Hockerill
- Hockey districts coming up over the next few weeks

### PE Lost Property

Please be reminded that any PE lost property is stored in the PE office. PE Students are welcome to visit the lost property during break and lunchtimes. All named kit is returned to students via a message on TEAMS. Please label everything your child owns to ensure it is returned to the owner as soon as possible.

## > LIBRARY NEWS

Final Reminder for orders

Last chance to order discounted Christmas gifts that also give back to the College Library

Go to <https://schools.scholastic.co.uk/hockerill-anglo-european-clge/digital-book-club> to browse the latest books and order online. Many books are half price or less. For every £1 spent on this term's Book Club, our school will earn 20p in Scholastic Rewards. You will need to set up your own Log in and Password, so that you can pay securely, but the books will be added to the Hockerill order and delivered to the College to save individuals from each paying P&P.

The closing date for this term's Scholastic orders is 18th November 2022

Thank you to those who have already placed their orders online. The order will be closed on the deadline date and the books should arrive shortly afterwards.

For further details, please email [library@hockerill.com](mailto:library@hockerill.com) or contact Mrs Sarah Bruce, College Librarian

## > HOCKERILL PARENTS AND FRIENDS

### 250 Club GRANTS

Thanks to the generous participation of parents and staff in the 250 Club, last year we were able to launch our '250 Club Grant' scheme.

Twice yearly, we donate money to projects at Hockerill - and any member of the student or staff body can apply.

We're delighted to announce that the following grants have been awarded:

£600 to Mrs Lumby and the science department, for notice boards in the Science Block.

£4000 to Mr Coleman for sports equipment, including new javelins.

£500 to Mrs Marsh and the drama department, for new equipment to enhance performances.

We are now launching our next round of grants, so please email [hpf@hockerill.com](mailto:hpf@hockerill.com) for a form.

See the flyer for further information.

If you'd like to join the 250 Club, email us at the address above.



**HPF will be holding a coffee planning meeting at 11am on Saturday at Home and Eat in Bishop's Stortford. All parents welcome to attend.**

## > GENERAL NEWS

### Parental Courses

Supporting Links are pleased to be offering the following 8 workshops this coming Spring Term. These are open to parents and carers of children with diagnosed or suspected ASD and/or ADHD across Hertfordshire, funded by the Local Authority.

Talking ASD/ADHD: Anxiety and Stress - 10th January or 22nd February 2023

Talking ASD/ADHD: Responding to Anger - 16h January or 7th March 2023

Talking ASD/ADHD: The Teenage Years - 23rd January 2023

Talking ASD/ADHD: Coping with Change - 20th March 2023

Talking ASD/ADHD: Tech Use - 27th February 2022

Talking ASD/ADHD: School Avoidance - 31st January 2023

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

