

HOCKERILL NEWS

Andrew Tate

Social media influencer Andrew Tate has featured heavily in the news of late. If you are not aware of his activity Mr Geoff Barton of the headteachers association, ASCL, has described the situation as follows:

"There is a lot of concern among many school and college leaders about the vile misogynistic material propagated by Andrew Tate and the influence this has on impressionable boys. Most boys are respectful of young women, but unfortunately some are taken in by the nonsense spouted by this individual, and this is a huge concern for educators and for society in general."

We have been concerned about Tate's influence for some time and through our PSHE programme of Sex and Relationships Education have been addressing the key issues with our students. In the programme we consider the topics of sexism, misogyny, gender-based violence, forced marriage, fake news, positive role models, discrimination, sexual abuse, radicalisation and toxic masculinity. If you would like more information on what is studied the full programme can be [found here](#)

These topics are also supported through form tutor time, the Personal Development programme, and Enrichment days as well as with the boarding community, particularly the boys boarding houses. The aim is to focus on positive male role models, and to give students a space to discuss their views on misogyny. Staff have also received guidance on how to manage conversations regarding Andrew Tate should they arise.

Parents may find the guide shown below that has been published by the Educational group @theunteachable which gives advice on how to talk to young people about the influencer. Their advice is as follows:

- Don't ignore the subject:** The absolute worst thing we can do is do or say nothing (or very little).
 - Open the conversation** so you can guide in a way that informs and educates.
 - Approach with curiosity and non-judgment** and then explain why Tate's content is problematic (in language that is age appropriate).
 - Name the content for what it is:** misogynistic and violent (when we ignore, we normalise).
 - If you see your child laughing about or speaking positively about Tate, don't just tell them to stop talking about it.** Instead, try to explore why they see it positively and what they think is funny about it.
 - If you hear your child actively acting out or expressing these views, immediately name the behaviour for what it is.** Eg: "What you have just said is homophobic/misogynistic/sexist/violent/abusive".
- Then, ensure any victim or witness of the comments is safe** and knows the views and behaviour is unacceptable.
 - Finally, have a discussion with your child exploring the real harm of these views/behaviours** and educate them around the deeper issues. Eg: "Do you understand the things you said are serious and not okay?"

For further advice or any questions, you may please do not hesitate to contact our PSHE Co-ordinator Ms Perry on perryj@hockerill.com

IMPORTANT DATES

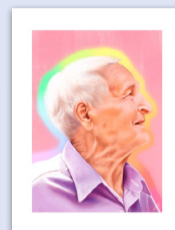
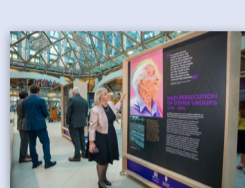
- Thursday 19th January
Catch-up Flu Vaccinations
- Friday 10th February
Half term holiday
Depart at 15:40hrs
- Sunday 19th February
Boards return
- Monday 20th February
Term recommences
- Contact us:
General communications to: admin@hockerill.com
Absence communications to: absence@hockerill.com
Year 7 to 11 Student [Leave of Absence Form](#)
Sixth Form Student [Leave of Absence Form](#)

Münster Work Experience Exchange 2023

We are very happy that our Y10 and Y12 German students will take off to Münster, Germany for our first languages exchange in a long time this Sunday! We are finally able to restart this longstanding, exciting and unique Hockerill tradition. We are leaving on Sunday, 15th January and come back 22nd January 2023. A few days later our exchange partners will come and visit us.

Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT)

Former student Freya Rowson has had her work exhibited at the House of Commons for HMDT 2023. Whilst completing the IBDP at the College Freya was chosen to take part in the Lessons from Auschwitz project and became a College ambassador for the Holocaust Educational Trust. She kept in touch with the Trust and has just entered and won their competition run with the Royal School of Drawing to create portraits of Holocaust survivors. She was then asked by the HMDT if they could display her drawing of Rudolf Brazda in the House of Commons.



Anthropology Podcast

Anthrobytes is the Anthropology Podcast put together by sixth form students and Mrs Dallas, in which we discuss all things human in bite-sized portions! In this episode we present the letter 'H' and ask in what ways is humour an integral part of society? In this episode, we look how 'taboo' humour can be used positively to construct social relationships between individuals, as in the case of the Mamprusi of Ghana, but also the way that viral memes on the internet can be weaponised by hate groups such as 4chan to spread violent and dangerous ideas. [Click here](#) to listen to this episode.



SCIENCE NEWS

Before the Christmas holidays, Year 13 Chemists studied the reactions of alcohols. They compared the solubility, combustion and oxidation reactions of different alcohols. Students also reacted ethanol with ethanoic acid to produce the ester, ethyl ethanoate.

Mrs Christine Proudfoot
Head of Chemistry



MUSIC NEWS

After successfully completing a whole term with our new team, we would like to share some information and news with you.

In September, we welcomed Mr Callum Bates as a classroom music teacher. He has already made a huge impact on the Music Department and the wider College with both staff and students.

As you will be aware, the Director of Music role is now shared between Mrs Morrison and Mrs Morrow-Plant. As Head of Academic Music, Mrs Morrison has responsibility for curricular music and Mrs Morrow-Plant is Head of Instrumental Studies overseeing the instrumental/vocal lessons and examinations.

What an amazing first term we had!

There were two days of exams, the Soloist Concert, a trip to see WICKED in London, the Carol Service, three Christmas Shows and two final assemblies....that's a lot of notes!!

The students' commitment, incredible talent and positive energy made every single event a success.

A huge thank you to all involved and to all who came to support with special thanks to HPF for supporting us in the Christmas Shows and the Carol Service.

We look forward to seeing you at our events this term!



Congratulations to all students who took a music exam in the Michaelmas term.

There were 38 students who took an exam over the course of two days with 100% pass rate.

Particular recognition should go to those who were awarded distinctions for their performances:

- Hanako Ward - Grade 4 Piano
- Hanako Ward - Grade 5 Vocals
- Thomas Waltham - Grade 1 Flute
- Aidan Mushunje - Grade 2 Piano
- Max Khorshidchehr - Grade 5 Musical Theatre
- Anna Kibblewhite - Grade 8 Musical Theatre
- Leo Jackson - Grade 4 Cello

Well done to all for your hard work and commitment.

Dates for your diaries:

Singer Auditions for Summer Music Event - Tuesday 7 February - Year 9+ only - students to sign up [using this form](#)

Soloist Concert - Tuesday 7 March - 1600hrs in Chapel (student sign up opening soon)

Hockerill Jazz Night - Wednesday 15 March - 1900hrs - SAH (Junior Jazz Ensemble, Senior Jazz Ensemble, Big Band and Soloists)

ABRSM Exams - Monday 20 March (Possible 21 March as well)

Hockerill at the Movies - Tuesday 28 March 1900hrs SAH (All Extra-Curricular Music Groups)

Trinity Rock and Pop Exams - Wednesday 29 March

Tickets for Jazz Night and Spring Concert at the Movies will be available nearer the time. Soloist Concert is free with donations to the Music Department Equipment/Instrument Fund. Email morrowa@hockerill.com for any queries regarding exams.

Mrs Morrow-Plant and Mrs Morrison

GENERAL NEWS

Winter Health

Please click on the flyer for information from Hertfordshire County Council Public Health Team.



Building Mental Fitness In Your Teen - Webinar for Parents

Please [click here for further information](#)

Mental Health Support for Hertfordshire's Children and Young People

If your child or teenager is feeling low, anxious, or generally struggling, there are lots of services available to help them all year round. Please always encourage them to talk and ask for help if they need it.

The services listed on Just Talk's webpage are all free and don't need a professional referral, so they can be contacted directly by young people and/or their parents/carers. Services listed include Hertfordshire's new With YOUTH Digital Wellbeing Service for ages 5-18, parents and carers and many more, so please take a look at: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/mentalhealthsupportforhertsyoungpeople



Family Lives

Family Lives are delivering 3 Online and 1 Face to Face parenting groups, funded by Herts County Council, in the Spring term for targeted parents/carers who live in Hertfordshire or who have a child attending a Hertfordshire school.

Bringing Up Confident SEN Children

Wednesday 25th January to 8th March 1900hrs - 2100hrs

This programme provides support, information and resources to parents/carers and adult family members so they can help their child reach their full potential.

Sessions will cover :

- * Understanding your child's behaviour
- * Helping your child to manage their feelings and outbursts
- * Balancing support of siblings
- * Learning new parenting strategies to address challenging behaviour and to make a difference in your family life

Bringing Up Confident ADHD/ASD Children - Online (6 weeks)

Thursday evening 26th January to 9th March 1900hrs - 2100hrs and Tuesday evening 21st February to 28th March 1900hrs - 2100hrs

This programme provides support, information and resources to parents/carers and adult family members so they can help their child reach their full potential.

Sessions will cover :

- * ADHD - a whole-family issue
- * Understanding your child's behaviour
- * Helping your child manage their feelings and outbursts
- * Balancing support of siblings
- * Learning new parenting strategies to address challenging behaviour and to make a difference in your family life

Time to Talk about Pre Teens / Teens (6 weeks) - Face to Face (6 weeks)

Tuesday 21st February to 28th March 0930hrs - 1130hrs

Hatfield, Hertfordshire

This group is particularly suited to parents and or carers of pre-teenagers who may have a FFA, CIN, CP or Youth Justice Plan and are showing signs of:

- * Risky behaviour online through social media
- * Attraction to or involvement in gangs
- * Alcohol and/or drugs, early sex, self-harming, crime and anti-social behaviour, aggressive and challenging behaviour

We accept referrals from professionals as well as self-referrals. Please [click here referral form](#) for the online referral form.

You can also email services@familylives.org.uk or call us on 0204 522 8700 or 0204 522 8701 for more information.



Rail Disruption

Major engineering works from 13 to 18 January. [Please click here for further information.](#)

HOCKERILL PARENTS AND FRIENDS



Tesco Community Grants Scheme - cast your vote!

From mid-January you will be able to vote for Hockerill Parents and Friends in Tesco stores in Bishop's Stortford and Stansted.

Don't forget to ask for a blue token whenever you buy something - winning projects can be awarded up to £1,500, which would benefit our school enormously!

Second Hand Uniform Sale

We will be holding our first second hand uniform sale in St Albans Hall on Saturday January 28th from 0900hrs until 1200hrs.

We already have a sizeable quantity of uniform, donated by parents, for which we are hugely grateful. If anyone else has items to donate, please bag them and label the bag 'HPF'. You will be able to drop these off in Reception from tomorrow (Saturday 14th Jan). We respectfully ask that all items should be freshly washed, ironed and in good condition (free from holes and stains), with the nametapes removed.

All profits made from the sale of your donated goods will go directly back into the school to benefit the students. As always, we are so appreciative of your generosity!

Thank you.

The HPF Team