

## > HOCKERILL NEWS



### Farewell to Ms McCulloch

Schools are all about community and relationships. Our community has been enriched since 2005 by Ms McCulloch when she joined the College as a History teacher. Since then, she has had a long and varied career with a range of responsibilities including teaching history, leading careers, coordinating wellbeing initiatives and serving as a designated safeguarding lead. She has also been involved with Young Enterprise, run a mindfulness course as part of CAS, been our SEND Co-ordinator and, since 2016 an Assistant Principal. This is a remarkable range of contributions to the life of the College and the outcomes of generations of students.

Ms McCulloch's commitment to helping students is remarkable but her energy and positivity have also been a huge support to colleagues, helping to make everyone's day a bit brighter. It is therefore with great sadness that we have to announce that Ms McCulloch will be leaving us at the end of term to take up an Assistant Principal post at another local school. They are very lucky to have her, so we have to reflect that we have been very lucky to have had Ms McCulloch for so long. We wish her well in her new post and hope that she will come back and see us sometime soon.



**Good luck and thank you Ms McCulloch from everyone at Hockerill past and present.**

### IMPORTANT DATES

Contact us:

**Thursday 30th March**

End of term  
(Students depart 1240)

**Friday 21st April**

Year 9 Vaccinations

**General communications to:**

[admin@hockerill.com](mailto:admin@hockerill.com)

**Exceptional circumstances for**

**leave of absence to:**

Year 7 to 11 Student

[Exceptional Leave of Absence Form](#)

Sixth Form Student

[Exceptional Leave of Absence Form](#)

### Car Parking 24th-26th March

Please be advised that the main car park will be closed at 1630hrs on Friday 24th March and will remain closed until Sunday 26th March. The Boarders Easter Celebration will be held on Saturday 25th March and the front car park will be used for this event, requiring the need for it to be shut. Apologies in advance for any inconvenience that this will cause.

### Year 9 Vaccinations - Friday 21st April

The NHS School Vaccination Team will deliver the Meningitis, Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio vaccinations for **Year 9 students on Friday 21st April**. An online consent form and further information can be [found here](#).

Please note that the access to the consent form closes on **Wednesday 19th April**. To refuse the vaccine, please complete the form and choose the option 'I do not consent'.

### Locker Rentals

All existing students with lockers will have the opportunity to renew from 20th March until 23rd April. Parents will receive an email directly from the locker rental company. From Monday 24th April the lockers will go on general release online to all students. Please click on the poster for further information.



### Read for Good's Readathon

This term, students at Hockerill have had the exciting opportunity to take part in our Readathon. It is a fun, sponsored reading activity that raises money for books for children in hospitals. The students can read whatever they choose – stories, comics, non-fiction, newspapers, recipes, even instruction manuals – as all reading counts in our Readathon! Currently, we have managed to raise £76 as a school with several students taking part. If your child would like to join in, there is still plenty of time to get reading as the deadline for sponsor money is Thursday 20th April. To sponsor a child taking part in the Readathon, you can pay online at [Sponsor a child taking part in Readathon!](#) (givingpage.org) or pay by cash by handing it in to the school for the attention of Mrs Harrison.

### Year 7 Parents - Hockerill BMX Racing Club

I would like to inform you of the relaunch of the Hockerill BMX Racing Club at the track in Braintree with ex-national champion coach Jools Allen. I would like to resume the club on Wednesday 26th April with fourteen Year 7 students. Priority will be given to students yet to ride and if these spaces are not all filled, then old and new riders from all year groups will be invited. The club will run for seven sessions at Braintree interspersed with our annual trip to Lea Valley Velodrome on the 21st June, where we will enjoy track, mountain bike and BMX sessions.

The initial dates are as follows:

1. 26th April
2. 3rd May
3. 10th May
4. 17th May
5. 24th May
6. 7th June
7. 21st June – trip to Lea Valley
8. 28th June

The total price will be £135 for all Braintree hour-long sessions, the 3 Lea Valley sessions, minibus transport, hire of bikes and full-face helmets.

I ask that if your son / daughter is interested in participating in the club, you fill in this [Microsoft Form](#) granting your permission before 1700hrs on Tuesday 28th March. The club is open to female and male riders who will be chosen on a first-come, first-served basis and not on ability. However, due to the above cost, I would ask that once signed up, they commit fully to the club and not participate in other clubs next term, such as cricket or athletics should they clash on the same day. Once their place is confirmed via email, I would ask that payment is made via WisePay, reference BMX Racing Club Summer 2023, before Friday 21st April.

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 should also bring a drink and a snack to eat at the track.

Should you have any further queries, please e-mail me directly on [russella@hockerill.com](mailto:russella@hockerill.com). Please do not use this as a way of requesting a place on the team.

**Mr A Russell**

## > SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY NEWS

“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 ‘N’ and discuss what new insights has anthropology offered us, and what are our next steps? In this last-ever episode from the Y13s, we discuss the personal value anthropology has to us and how we hope an anthropological perspective can enrich our future career aspirations, ranging from HR and being a solicitor to working in the United Nations. From now on, the Y12s will lead, but nevertheless, the podcast will continue to communicate our shared love and passion for anthropology. [Click here for this episode](#).

Missed any episodes? [You can find them here](#).



## > MUSIC NEWS

The Hockerill at the Movies Concert is sold out! We look forward to seeing you all there on Tuesday night at 1900hrs.

All students have received a copy of the rehearsal schedule in their relevant Ensemble Team - please could you go through it with them so they are aware when they are needed. There are 220 students involved in the concerts so it would be much appreciated if students could be ready with their instruments in the right place, at the right time. Please click on the image for details.

**Thank you!**

**Mrs Morrow-Plant and Mrs Morrison**



## > STUDENT NEWS

### Year 7

We are excited to share with you the latest project that 7X has been working on! Over the past few weeks, our students have been exploring the concept of identity, and how it is shaped by various factors such as culture, family, personal experiences, values, hobbies, and personality traits.

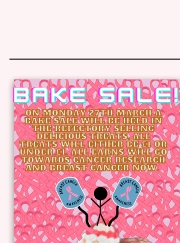
To express their understanding of this complex concept, our students created collages that depict their unique identities. These collages were then compiled into a whole form mural, which showcases the diversity and richness of our Form 7X community.

Through this project, our students not only honed their creative skills, but also gained a deeper appreciation for the importance of embracing and celebrating differences. We hope that this mural will serve as a visual reminder to our school community that we are all unique individuals, each with our own story to tell.

We are incredibly proud of our Form 7X students and their commitment to learning and growth.

**Congratulations on a job well done!**

**Mr C Bates**



### Bake Sale - Monday 27th March

Year 9 Students are organising a Bake Sale on Monday 27th March for further details please click on the poster.

### Budget Bites

Hello budget biters!

The production of a cost friendly cookbook was not a simple task. However, we strove to help the local community during this cost-of-living crisis. Our desire was fulfilled, resulting in a budget cookbook with recipes from around the world at an affordable price. This cookbook is a collective initiative that was formulated over the course of 2 months. We have ensured that the recipes incorporate items that are accessible for all. We cannot stress the cost enough – except to let you know that each meal is £5 and under. We understand that such a price resembles those of a meal deal. Yet, our home-cooked alternatives cater for an entire family rather than the regular individual. Informing our buyers of when they could purchase our product was a particular priority – which we have been able to achieve. You will now be able to order our books from WisePay, for yourself and your loved ones. As well as that, your support will not be overlooked as we have implemented the deal of buying one book while the next will be half price. Such an opportunity to treat yourself, support the community and economise should not be disregarded.

Purchase it now on WisePay... your taste buds will be forever grateful!



### Charity Dance Show

On Thursday 23rd March, a group of Year 12 students organised a charity dance show in aid of Maggie Dance, a charity which helps empower those with learning disabilities through dance. We are so proud of the incredible performances from students ranging from years 7 and 8 and the hard work they put in for this. Thank you to all those that came to support; we have a newfound respect for the Music and Drama departments for all the organisation that goes into a show!

**Esme, Robyn, Summer, Violet & Alice - Year 12**



### Years 7 & 9 District competitions

Another great week of netball for Years 7 & 9 at their District competitions earlier this week. There was great teamwork from the girls and tactical play beating strong local schools which enabled the girls to climb the leader board. Well done to everyone involved.

**Mrs Geissler**

## > HEALTH AND WELLBEING NEWS

### The EdPsychEd Parent Hub

Free psychological and wellbeing support for parents and carers, from EdPsychEd, a team of Educational & Child Psychologists, each with unique specialisms and a wealth of experience in providing a range of psychological services to the front line of education in the service of children, families and school staff.

Parents can access a growing library of online content and resources which offer practical advice and support, including managing anxiety, gaming and screen time, sleep, managing mistakes and relaxation plus a range of resources and signposting to support parents' own emotional wellbeing. [Click here to access](#).

## > CAREERS NEWS

### Mock Interviews: Calling all parents!

The mock interviews are one-to-one, in-person interviews for all Y10 and 12 pupils taking place on campus. The aim is to give all pupils this important experience and put into practice techniques for future interviews such as universities, apprenticeships, or employment. A full information pack and feedback form will be provided on the day, with documents such as CV/PS from the pupils as well.

If you would like to join us on any/both of above days as an interviewer, we would be delighted to host you. The mock interviews are an important event in our school for the personal development of our students. If you are available, please let us know by sending us an email – [careers@hockerill.com](mailto:careers@hockerill.com) – with below details:

1. Which date(s) are you available to come in?  
A. 10th May, Wed – All day or AM/PM (Y10)  
B. 21st June, Wed - All day or AM/PM (Y12)
2. Your areas of work/subject (we may try to match student interests where possible)
3. Would you like lunch to be provided on your day(s)? (Any dietary requirements?)

### Ex-pupils Talk: March 29th

Hockerill's ex-pupils will be coming into school on Wednesday 29th March for a talk with Y12s during Period 5 in St Albans Hall to share their experiences since Hockerill.

- James Michael Mills: CAD engineer for Safety Development / Door Supervisor for Bridgegate Security – University of Staffordshire, Hockerill Anglo-European College
- Hannah Trapmore, Gap year & LSE from September - Hockerill Anglo-European College
- Eilidh Malcolm, Laboratory Analyst, GSK - Birchwood High School/The Bishop's Stortford High School
- Sam Gazzard, Engineering Technician, GSK - Hockerill Anglo-European College
- Shaan Gill, Scientist, Translational Medicine, Oncology R&D, AstraZeneca - Hockerill Anglo-European College
- Ben Osgood, Financial Advisory - Transaction Services; Deloitte - Hockerill Anglo-European College
- Remy Jones (TBC), first year of drama at Central School of Speech and Drama - Hockerill Anglo-European College. Remy will meet with students to discuss studying performance at university and preparing for auditions in the **Drama Studio at 1300hrs**.

Pupils in Year 10-13 are invited and encouraged to drop in between 1540hrs and 1600hrs in St Albans Hall after school to talk to them about life after Hockerill, apprenticeships, university, IB and more.

**Mrs Geissler**

## > HOCKERILL PARENTS AND FRIENDS NEWS



There are still a few tickets remaining for Comedy Night tonight - you can buy these on WisePay. We will have some tables set up, as well as chairs, and have a fully-stocked bar with snacks.

**Parking:** Please remember that for this event is the HARD COURT. Come into school via the Manor Road entrance and follow the road around, towards the Astro pitches and hard courts. It will be signposted!

**We're looking forward to a great night!**

