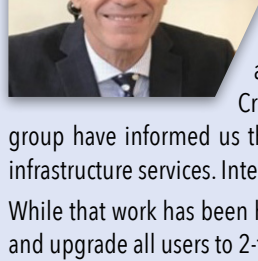


## HOCKERILL NEWS



Welcome back to The Hub. The last 3 weeks have been challenging with no IT services due to the cyber attack on May 1st. During the time since then we have been working with government provided cyber crime agencies to determine what happened, what services were affected and what data was at risk of being released. That work is not yet complete but we are pleased to say that despite the threats to release data, there has been no release and we have had no further contact from the group responsible for 2 weeks. The National Crime Agency (NCA) who with partner groups in the US and Australia, are investigating the group have informed us that they have been highly active in recent weeks attacking many schools, hospitals and infrastructure services. Internationally co-ordinated attempts are being made to close the group down.

While that work has been happening, we have also been working to 'scrub' our servers, install new firewall software and upgrade all users to 2-factor authentication. We have restored full access to staff and students are the next phase. We have also been slowly restoring the many platforms and software systems that we use and by the end of the half-term break should be approaching pre-attack service levels again.

This has not been an easy time and we have not been able to engage with the community in our usual ways. However, the Hub is now restored, Office 365 is back and our reporting systems are almost ready to restart, so we are almost there. Thank you for your patience and support through this period. The College will be stronger and better protected as a result of it and some students may even have developed an appreciation for a wifi and social media free world. If you would like any advice for your home IT systems the [National Cyber Security Centre \(NCSC\)](#) provide an excellent set of resources and guidance.

**David Woods**  
**Principal**

### IMPORTANT DATES

Contact us:

**Monday 5 June**  
Term Recommendations

**Monday 12 - Wednesday 14 June**  
Enrichment Days

**Saturday 1 July**  
End of Term (Students depart at 1220hrs)

**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](#)

### College calendar for the next academic year (2023/2024)

Earlier this year we published the calendar for academic year 2023/24 so that you could plan ahead. Since then we have received some requests to reconsider the number of Exeats as there have been concerns about student and staff well-being during 6 week half terms when there is only one exeat. We have had a look at the calendar and we are pleased to announce that we can add in a couple of extra exeats which will give a better balance. This does mean though that to compensate for the two lost Saturdays we need to add two extra days at the end of the school year.

The revised calendar dates are [shown here](#) with any dates that no longer apply clearly marked with 'strikethrough' and the new dates in [blue](#). We appreciate that changing a calendar after it has been published is not ideal, but we hope that you will understand the motivation for doing so and support us. If the new dates are a problem for any families because you have already booked events based on the original calendar and they are now in school time, please let us know and we will find a solution.

### Uniform – Second Half of Summer Term

We are happy for students to wear socks rather than tights during the second half of the Summer Term as long as their skirt is the correct length. Please see [Dress Codes on our website](#) for guidance.

Students whose skirts do not comply with our Dress Codes should continue to wear tights.

### Update from Fosters Schoolwear Ltd

We are extremely pleased to inform you that, by working in partnership with our uniform supplier, Fosters Schoolwear Ltd, you can now purchase the official Hockerill trousers and skirts at an even lower price than previously announced. With immediate effect, all trousers will be available to purchase at £21.99 and £28.99, depending on size, and all skirts will be available to purchase at £13.99 and £20.99, depending on size.

Any orders you have placed with Fosters, for these items, since 1st May 2023, will be credited against the new reduced prices. Please contact Fosters for more information.

Please also remember to take advantage of the new 'Back to School' loyalty discount scheme which Fosters are offering for online or in-store orders. Online customers can also benefit from Klarna Pay, now live on the Fosters website.

It is preferable that you buy trousers and skirts from Fosters until their stock runs out but you do have the option to buy from Marks & Spencer as well (see [Dress Codes documents for links](#) to items).

### WisePay Lunch Balances

Lunch payments are able to be made on WisePay as normal. However due to the Cyber incident WisePay has not been connected and updated from the college catering system since Fri 28th April.

Once the connection is restored any money paid will transfer and we will manually deduct any lunches taken since May 2nd. At this point your lunch balance shown on WisePay will update.

Any payments made on WisePay will show under the payments made section, it is just the lunch balance that is currently not updating.

### Covid-19

Covid continues to circulate in the community and we have had questions on what the current guidance is. [This link](#) gives you all that you need on what to do if you have symptoms.

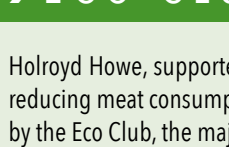
### Enrichment days - Monday 12 to Wednesday 14 June 2023

The whole College will be off timetable over these three days to take part in various activities that help support students' curriculum learning and to develop their ATL skills which embody the IB learner profile.

A summary of the activities can be [found here](#). Due to the ongoing IT issues we are aware that letters for trips have had a very tight turn around, however it is imperative that we have parental consent for all trips otherwise students will not be able to attend, please therefore check your emails (including your spam folder) and WisePay for messages.

All students in College are expected to wear their normal full school uniform.

## SCIENCE NEWS



On Friday 5th May all students in 10A, F, L, K and M were due to take part in the UK Biology Challenge as part of their science lessons. Unfortunately, due to the recent cyber-attack on our school's network regrettably we have been unable to take part in the challenge this year. We hope that we will be able to take part next year as the challenge is now closed.

**Mr Tillet**

**Head of Biology**

## ECO CLUB AND HOLROYD HOWE NEWS

Holroyd Howe, supported by the Eco Club, would like to introduce "Meat Free Monday" starting on Monday 5th June 2023. Evidence shows that reducing meat consumption just one day per week is a big step forward to a more sustainable future. Following a student questionnaire distributed by the Eco Club, the majority of students stated that they would like to trial this initiative, which will only impact lunchtime in the first instance. We will collate feedback during this half term and decide if we are going to continue this initiative throughout the whole academic year when we return to College in September.

"To all those thinking of supporting Meat Free Monday, just try it! Having at least one plant-based day a week is a fun and easy way to do something good for the planet and our future" Paul McCartney

## YEAR 10 NEWS

### FINAL REMINDER

#### Shakespeare's Globe trip on Wednesday 14th June 2023

As part of the one of the IB Enrichment Days, I have organised a visit for Year 10 to Shakespeare's Globe on Wednesday 14th June 2023.

If you have not yet signed up for this trip and you would like your child to take part, please [complete this online form](#) as soon as possible.

We will be travelling by coach and the cost of the visit will be £37 per student, which includes transport by coach and cost of the workshops provided by the Globe theatre.

Could you please make a payment of £37 towards this trip using the WisePay system. If you have any problems logging on to WisePay please contact the finance department at [finance@hockerill.com](mailto:finance@hockerill.com)

While payment is voluntary, we generally do not have the funds to run trips without full payments from parents. However, we are able to provide financial support for trips, which is [detailed here](#).

For further details regarding the trip please refer to the letter sent via EduLink.

**Miss G Davies**

**Teacher of English and Group Leader**

## MUSIC NEWS

### Instrumental/Vocal Lessons

Lessons have been continuing despite the IT issues we have experienced recently, and on the whole, students have been good at checking timetables for their music lessons. Parents of students having lessons should have received a WisePay message to explain that as a gesture of goodwill, we are pleased to advise that any students who missed a music lesson during the first week of the cyber-attack will be credited. Please note that any lessons missed owing to teacher strike on 2nd May or teacher absence during that week (eg illness) will be re-scheduled later in the term.

We have been doing our best to run as smoothly as we can, and we appreciate your patience during this time. Credits will be issued in due course when we have full access back to our systems.

All other outstanding lessons that are owed will be made up before the end of the term, or credited to your account if rescheduling is not possible. Please note that we don't schedule lessons on IB enrichment days so there will be no music lessons planned between Monday 12 to Wednesday 14 June. If your child is on any other trip that clashes with lessons, it is the student's responsibility to forewarn their teacher of the clash, giving as much notice as possible. Whilst we cannot guarantee it, where possible we will try to reschedule the lesson.

You will receive a report for your child's music lessons towards the end of the academic year.

### Events

We have several Music Events this term and with the limited IT access we are doing our best to keep students in the loop with rehearsals and inform parents of concert details. Below is a list of our upcoming events and the ensembles involved. Please could you check with your child if this includes them and remind them to continue checking with the music department staff regarding rehearsals.

#### AFTERNOON RECITAL (formerly Soloist Concert) - Thursday 15 June 1600hrs - The Chapel - Free Entry

Students signed themselves up (spaces still available for late sign ups on Music Office door)

#### ABRSM EXAMS - Monday 19 June - All Day

Students involved will be added to a Team when up and running

#### SUMMER SOLSTICE CONCERT - Tuesday 20 June - 1900hrs - Saint Albans Hall - Tickets Available via WisePay

Ensembles involved:

Concert Band

Junior Jazz Ensemble

String Quartet

Percussion Ensemble

Guitar Ensemble

Lower College Choir

College Orchestra

Junior String Ensemble

Senior String Ensemble

Music Tech Club

Featured Soloists who have been contacted directly.

It is essential that members of these ensembles attend all remaining rehearsals.

#### TRINITY R&P EXAMS - Wednesday 21 June - The Chapel - All Day

Students involved will be added to a Team when up and running

#### MUSICAL THEATRE - SONGS AND SCENES - Wednesday 21 June - 1900hrs Saint Albans Hall

Students who attend MT Songs and Scenes College involved.

#### HAMPERS '23 - Friday 30 June - 1830hrs Cedar Lawn - Tickets on WisePay 18+ only event

Ensembles involved:

Big Band

Senior Jazz Ensemble

Select Solo vocalists who were successful at audition

FINAL ASSEMBLIES - Saturday 1 July - All Saints' Church

Orchestra strings

Senior Strings

Big Band

College Choir

### Video Update

We are still working on the videos that we filmed and the tracks we recorded last term. They are looking and sounding fantastic and we cannot wait to share them with you!!

### Exciting News for Next Year!

We are holding the first ever Hockerill Music Festival next year in Lent term 2023.

This will be a fantastic opportunity for any student who plays an instrument or sings (in or outside of College) to take part in a whole College Young Musician of the Year style celebration. We will be inviting external professional musicians to come and adjudicate and there will be awards to be won for all grades/levels.

The festival will take place over the course of a week and will culminate in a Finale Concert where, for the first time in Hockerill history, we will announce the Hockerill Musician of the Year (beginner/intermediate) and the Hockerill Musician of the Year (advanced). We are hoping this will be a wonderful opportunity for students to share their musical talents with the Hockerill community.

In order to make this opportunity available to all students, we need your help!

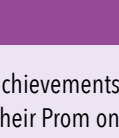
The Young Musician of the Year winners will each be awarded a trophy that they keep for a year until the subsequent music festival. Both winners and the runners up will be presented with medal that they get to keep. We are looking for donations from parents in order to purchase these awards and to assist with adjudication costs, we would be very grateful to receive donations of any amount.

In addition, there is an opportunity for two families to sponsor a Young Musician of the Year trophy which would be named after them. These trophies would be engraved with the family name and used for all subsequent annual music festivals and included in the end of year award celebrations as recognition of generosity.

Please email Mrs Morrow-Plant: [morrowa@hockerill.com](mailto:morrowa@hockerill.com) for further information.

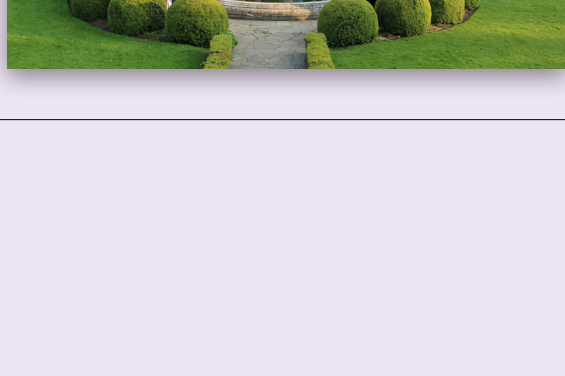
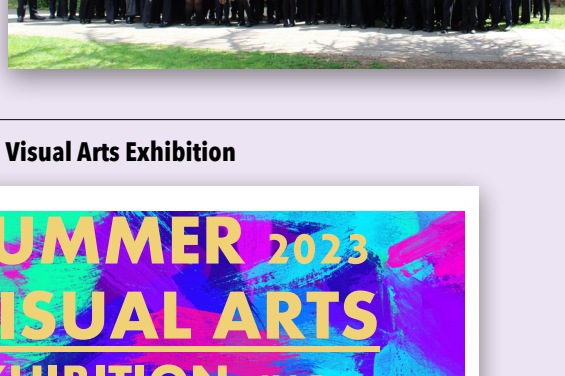
**Thank you**

**Music Department**

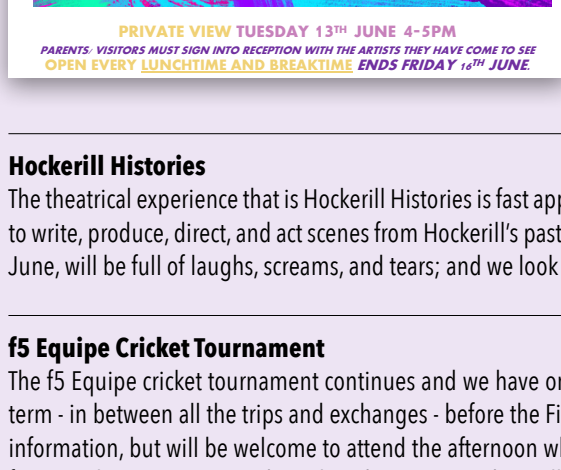


## STUDENT NEWS

Year 13 students have now completed their IB examinations. A graduation ceremony was held last Saturday to formally recognise their achievements and present them with their International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme medals. The students also enjoyed getting together at their Prom on Monday. We wish them all the best in their next adventures!



### Year 13 Visual Arts Exhibition



### Hockerill Histories

The theatrical experience that is Hockerill Histories is fast approaching and tickets will go on sale next half term. Students and staff have worked hard to write, produce, direct, and act scenes from Hockerill's past. This unique and (in places) immersive event, to be held around College on Friday 23rd June, will be full of laughs, screams, and tears; and we look forward to seeing you there. Tickets will be limited, so early purchase is advised.

### f5 Equipe Cricket Tournament

The f5 Equipe cricket tournament continues and we have only had two matches rained off this half term. We will catch these matches up next half term - in between all the trips and exchanges - before the Finals Day on Saturday 24th June. Parents of players will be contacted in June with more information, but will be welcome to attend the afternoon where the last round of four matches, involving all teams, will be played back to back. So far, Seacole Centurions are the only unbeaten team, but still have one rained off match to play.

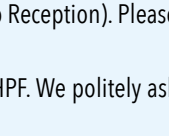
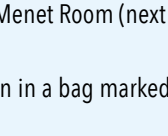
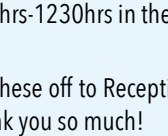
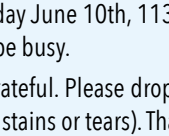
## NURTURING NATURE CLUB NEWS

Despite a stuttering start to this year's spring/summer, students have been busy building on their previous work developing positive habitats for nature to thrive.

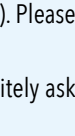
The wild cherry trees that were planted in the winter have grown from seedlings to healthy saplings, some of last year's wildflowers have reappeared and students have learned about and developed skills in planting and germination. By way of appreciation we have seen wildlife continue to benefit with starlings using the log seats as anvils to break up into snail shells, red kites regularly looking for their next meal, a new litter of fox cubs, hedgehog activity and a muntjac that appears to have set up home on the campus!

We are incredibly fortunate to have such a rich and diverse campus and equally fortunate to have students (and staff) who are keen to help it to thrive, something that benefits us all!

**Mr Gilman**



## HOCKERILL PARENTS AND FRIENDS



It's BACK! Hampers '23 will return to Hockerill on Friday June 30th. Come and join us for an evening of incredible live music, drinks and dancing. Disco in the Refectory, marquee on Cedar Lawn. Bring your own picnics, but no drinks please - we will be running a bar with wine, fizz, lager, cocktails and a variety of gins.

Tickets for over 18s only, plus any Year 13 leavers. Alumni also welcome!

Tickets are now available to buy on WisePay, £15 each



### Second hand uniform SALE

We will be running a second year uniform sale on the morning of Saturday June 10th, 1130hrs-1230hrs in the Menet Room (next to Reception). Please note that this is New Year 7 Parents Morning so the school site will be busy.

If you have any donations of good quality uniform, we'd be very grateful. Please drop these off to Reception in a bag marked HPF. We politely ask that preloved uniform items are washed and of good quality (ie. no stains or tears). Thank you so much!

