



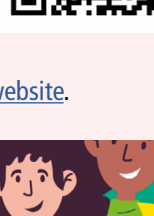
GENERAL NEWS

STUDENT TRAVEL

If your child travels to school by bus, please see [this link](#) for information about Child Saver tickets.

THE BIG AMBITION CAMPAIGN

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has recently launched 'The Big Ambition' to hear directly from children, young people and parents across the country. She wants to hear from all children, in every part of the country and in every setting. This is your chance to tell key policymakers what is important to you ahead of the general election. Take part now and ensure your needs are reflected in the decisions that will affect you in years to come.



Children or parents can [complete the survey here](#). Further resources are available [on this website](#).



IMPORTANT DATES

Saturday 2 December
Exeat weekend

Friday 15 December
End of Term. Students depart at 1240hrs

General communications to: 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](#)

LANGUAGE NEWS

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED IN LANGUAGES!

This academic year, 40 students in Years 9 and 10 have been allocated a place in an exchange programme with our partner school in Liège, Belgium. We are looking for host families who can host for some of our Boarders who are unable to host. Our partner school will be visiting us from **Saturday 13th April* – Friday 19th April 2024**.

*Please note this is the Saturday before the beginning of the Summer Term.

Your child does not need to study French to host as the Belgian students are encouraged to speak English only during their stay.

If you are able to accommodate one or more Belgian students, please inform me as soon as possible (GravesC@hockerill.com) of your willingness to do so. This additional support would be invaluable in assisting our boarding students who are unable to host their exchanges. The College will give a contribution towards the expenses incurred.

As part of the Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023 requirement and a recent change in advice from the Hertfordshire County Council safeguarding team, the College is required to carry out an enhanced DBS check on the parent/carer in the family who will have the most significant care for the visiting exchange student. Only one parent/carer will need to have a DBS check. Hockerill will carry out the DBS checks at no cost to the parents or the trip. If a parent/carer already holds an Enhanced DBS issued within the last five years due to working with children in another setting, a repeat check will not be required.

Thank you in advance for supporting our community in this exchange programme.

Mme Graves.

SPORTS NEWS



HOCKERILL BOBBLE HAT

The Physical Education department have recently designed a bespoke Hockerill bobble hat which is available to students, staff and parents to purchase. The hat, which is fleece lined on the inside, will cost £16.00 and can be purchased via your WisePay account. Some students would like to wear a hat around the College campus in the winter and this provides them with a suitable hat to wear. Students will also be able to wear the hat for Physical Education lessons during the winter months subject to their teacher agreeing. This is the only hat that students will be allowed to wear in school.

Once payment has been made, your son/daughter will be asked to come and collect their hat from Mr Coleman in the PE department.

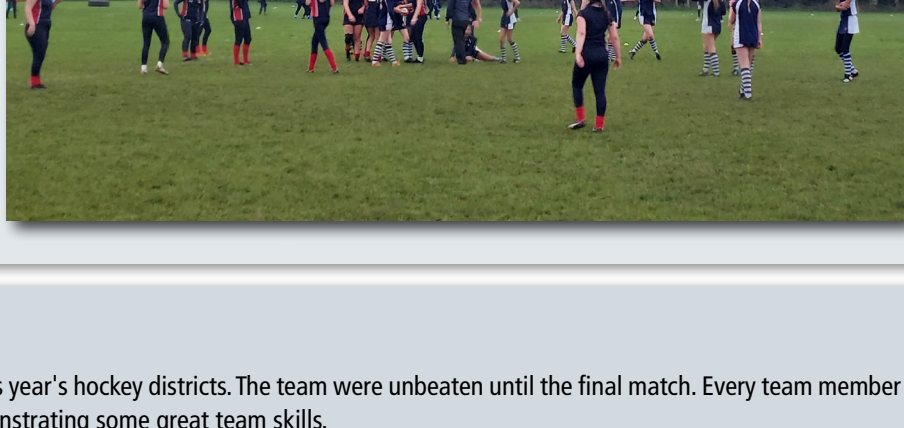
YEAR 10 GIRLS' HOCKEY

On Monday 20th November the Year 10 Girls played in their Hockey Districts against Leventhorpe, Joyce Frankland, Freeman College and Saffron Walden County High School. Despite playing magnificently well and winning on the amount of goals scored in the tournament, a last minute goal from Saffron Walden in the second half dropped us to overall 2nd place in the competition. The team was captained brilliantly by Jemima.

Well done to our Year 10 team.

GIRLS' RUGBY FESTIVAL

The Year 8 & 9 girls' rugby team participated in their first ever matches as part of the district rugby festival hosted by Hertford Rugby club. The girls played really well and demonstrated great resilience as they improved in every match. The team ended up in runners up of the whole event. Well done to Zahra-Rose Cooke for being voted player of the day by her teammates.



YEAR 9 HOCKEY DISTRICTS

Well done to the Year 9 girls that competed in this year's hockey districts. The team were unbeaten until the final match. Every team member participated with a positive attitude whilst demonstrating some great team skills.

SENIOR GIRLS' HOCKEY TEAM

On Wednesday 22nd November the senior girls' hockey team faced Freman College and Saffron Walden County High School in the Bishop's Stortford District Schools Hockey competition. Despite playing incredibly well, and Tilly-May Herbert scoring a huge four goals, Hockerill came second.

Well done to our senior hockey players!



MUSIC NEWS

SAFFRON WALDEN MUSIC FESTIVAL SUCCESS

Last weekend was the Saffron Walden Music Festival which took place in Saffron Hall. The Festival is a "Young Musician of the Year" type of event, but most importantly it is a celebration of musical performance for young people in the area. There were 14 Hockerill students who took part and 8 of them won trophies, medals and awards.

They all performed in Saffron Hall as soloists which is an amazing experience but also very nerve wracking.

Charmon was selected to perform in the Finale Concert as the string section winner and her playing was phenomenal!

Charmon Lam – Grade 7-8 class Winner, Challenge Cup Award, Finalist for Strings

Isaac Taylor – Grade 5-6 String Winner

Ian Ching – Grade 7-8 string class

Charlotte Johnson – Grade 7-8 string class & Romantic/Modern

Koko Fish – Romantic/Modern Strings class winner

Bosco So – up to grade 1 woodwind Class winner

Mahi Wilkinson – Grade 2-3 Woodwind class winner

Chris Davis – Grade 3-4 Woodwind

Thomas Johnson – Grade 5-6 Woodwind

Zoe Tsui – Grade 5-6 Woodwind Class winner

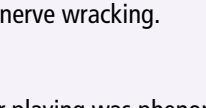
Adrian Ho – Grade 5-6 Piano class

Toby Ricketts – Grade 5-6 Piano class winner

Raymond Fu – Romantic/Modern Piano class

William Martin – Grade 6-8 Jazz Class – Medal winner

Well done, to all involved – keep up the practice and keep performing!



CAROL SERVICE

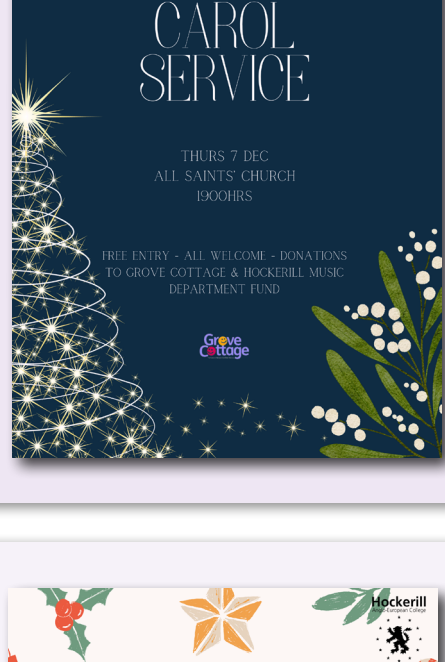
The Carol Service on Thurs 7th December in All Saints' Church is not ticketed, and all are welcome. The service begins at 1900hrs.

It will be a wonderful celebration featuring both College Choirs, Orchestra, String Orchestra and many more.

Come and sing along to some of your favourite carols accompanied by the wonderful Hockerill Brass Ensemble and organ.

HPF will be serving refreshments after the service.

Parents of students involved should have received a letter with further information. If you believe your child is involved and you haven't received any information, please contact morrowa@hockerill.com



CHRISTMAS SHOWS

Tickets for the Christmas Shows go on sale at 0900hrs via WisePay on Monday 27th November.

Parents of students who are involved in the Shows should have received a letter with further information. If you believe your child is involved and you haven't received any information, please contact morrowa@hockerill.com

The Christmas Shows are a long standing Hockerill tradition where our extra-curricular ensembles come together to showcase what they been working on this half term. Don't miss your chance to start the Christmas festivities – tickets are on a first-come-first-served basis so get in there before they sell out. The fabulous HPF will be serving refreshments during the interval and we will be collecting donations towards the Hockerill Music Department Fund.

We very much look forward to seeing you there!



HOCKERILL MUSIC FESTIVAL 2024

Students can now enter for the Hockerill Music Festival 2024 – applications are open, just click [here](#) (link will only work for students on a Hockerill account).

There is more information on the college website about how the Festival works.

It is open to anyone who plays an instrument at any level. Whilst there is an element of competition, the main aim of the Festival is to promote and celebrate Hockerill's wonderful musicians – please encourage your children to take part!

CLUB NEWS



INTERACT CLUB

Interact Club is a group of Year 12 students who come together once a week to organise and coordinate events for the school in cooperation with the Rotary club. Our goal is to benefit our community through raising money and arranging activities. The Interact Club leadership team, led by Kayla Scholtz and Zelle Allen-Mills as President and Vice President, aim to maximise the effect and efficiency of the club's endeavours. We are extremely excited about the coming year and hope to utilise the opportunities provided by Interact and the Rotary Club in the best way possible.

This month the Interact Club has been busy with preparations for a lively end to 2023:

Bishop's Stortford Food Bank – Non-perishable food and toiletries have been prepared with considerations of dietary needs and sensitivities for those in need. Money from the Interact budget is used, but we always appreciate any donations from students.

Toy collection – We are collecting toys for children in Ukraine to provide support during this difficult time. If you have any old or unused toys of decent quality, we would appreciate your support in bringing them to the maths department before the 30th November to help with our efforts.

Shoebboxes – Shoebboxes with non-perishable goods and hygiene products are being filled by the students which will be donated to the local homeless shelter to help with Christmas spirit! Students who contribute any donations to their form's shoebboxes or bring their own filled shoebox will receive an achievement point!

HPF NEWS

CALLING ALL FESTIVE STYLISTS!

Every year, HPF decorate St Albans Hall in preparation for the Christmas concerts. It's always a case of 'the more the merrier', so if you have any time to spare on the evening of 12th December, please come along. We will be there from 6 pm and will be done by 8 pm at the latest. If you could come armed with some kind of greenery and a pair of scissors, even better! Please email us at HPF@hockerill.com so we have an idea of how many helpers to expect.



HPF FUNDS NEW HARP

We were delighted to be able to purchase this fabulous harp for Hockerill's aspiring harpists. We can't wait to hear it in action at a concert soon!