

HOCKERILL NEWS



The College has had contrasting experiences this week which have encapsulated the challenges we face as we work through the pandemic. On Monday to Wednesday we had three Enrichment Days where students in all year groups had a bespoke programme of activities designed to enrich their learning and school experience. The Days were great with students working collaboratively on projects such as Dragon's Den, Spanish dancing, bridge building and expeditions. The engagement and enjoyment of the students was palpable and a reminder of what we hope to be able to do more of once the Covid restrictions have been fully lifted.

The second half of the week brought the contrast with news of a positive Covid case in Y10. This necessitated Y10 staying at home and learning on-line on Thursday while we worked out all the close contacts and then 26 students having to self-isolate. This was obviously disappointing as we have had very few cases over the course of the year. It does however reflect the rise in cases in the general population. We are determined to get through to the end of the year with as little disruption as possible. We will continue in school with all of the Covid restrictions that have helped to keep us safe and well thus far. But we need your support and you can do this by taking twice weekly LFD tests. This will identify any positive cases and prevent infection being passed to others. Test kits are available from school so if you have run out, please do not hesitate to contact your child's form tutor. We also need you to report the results to us [here](#) and to the government results recording service via [this link](#) so that the big picture can be tracked.

Thank you for your support and assistance. It is hugely appreciated and together we will get to a better place.

IMPORTANT DATES

Saturday 19th June
Non Uniform Day
(further details below)

Thursday 1st July
End of Term
(students depart at 12:40hrs)

CONTACT US:
General communications to: admin@hockerill.com

Absence communications to: absence@hockerill.com

Parent Forum

The Governing Board of the College is a key element of our strategic leadership. The Board is made up of 17 members and is Co-chaired by Dr Judith Braeckman and Mrs Marie Roberts. Full details about the Board and their role in the College can be [found here](#). On Tuesday June 15th at 19:00hrs the Board would like to invite you to an open meeting where they will give a short presentation about the Board and then respond to questions which have been submitted in advance. [Join the Parent Forum here](#).

One of the key roles of the Board is to set the strategic direction of the College and in 2017 a new strategic plan was devised that set out the direction of travel for the College through to 2020. Through the latter part of 2020 and in to 2021 we have been working on our strategy for 2021 through 2025. This has included revisiting our Mission and Vision statements. Please [use this link](#) to take a look at our draft strategic plan. If you have any feedback, please send it to everetta@hockerill.com

GENERAL NOTICES

Safeguarding Events

The College has arranged two safeguarding events for the coming week:

1. Tuesday 15th June

Presentations to Years 7, 8, 9, 10 & 12, College Staff and Parents

Drugs Alert - a drug education talk delivered by Darren Gold, recovering addict, 20 years clean, who delivers personal experienced-based drugs education sessions nationally

The Parents' Presentation is being streamed live through Microsoft Teams 'Live Event'. The presentation will take place between 17:15 and 18:15. Parents will be able to ask questions (during the meeting) through the 'Q & A' function but they will not be able to ask 'live' questions. A presentation will be recorded, a link to the recording will be available in the Hub next Friday (18th June)

Link to Parental Presentation: <https://tinyurl.com/darengoldpresentation>

2. Friday 18th June

Presentations to Years 7, 8 & 9

New Rules - a live, interactive online musical presentation from this up-and-coming boy band, covering health and mental wellbeing, particularly in relation to the impact of national lockdowns and Covid restrictions. We are in discussion with 'New Rules' about recording this event. If we are able to do so, a link to the recording will be available in the Hub next Friday (18th June).

GCSE Results Day

This summer we hope to run a traditional GCSE Results day at the College with students' collecting their results from St Albans between 8.30am-10.30am on 12th August 2021. If you are unable to attend in person, please complete this [Form](#) to request your results via email.

On the morning of the 12th of August all students will be emailed a letter confirming their place at the College. Some students may be asked to attend a meeting to discuss their IBDP option choices. These meetings will take place at the College unless the student requests an online consultation.

We also plan to have an Ice Cream van at the College between 9.00am-10.00am! We look forward to seeing you all then.

Mr R Jones

Assistant Principal

Form Tutor Groups from September 2021

We are making changes to the way we organise our Form Groups next academic year as each Year cohort will be increasing in number and will become too large to be managed as one group.

Projected student numbers from September 2021 will be as follows:

Year 7 - 155

Year 8 - 134

Year 9 - 131

Year 10 - 137

Year 11 - 110

We will be increasing the number of form groups from 4 in each year group to 5 for students in current Years 7, 8 and 9. The new groups will have representatives from all four Equipes and the process for reorganising the groups will be completed over the next two weeks. Students will be informed of their new group during the last week of the Summer Term.

Year 12 will have 8 form groups and in Year 13 there will be 12 groups.

Mr A Mackenzie

Vice Principal

Non Uniform Day - Saturday 19th June

We will be holding a Non Uniform Day on Saturday 19th June to raise money for the our partner school in India and a charity in Uganda, please find further details below. If students would like to take part, £1 should be paid via WisePay. If you cannot use WisePay, students should bring their £1 to Reception before Saturday 19th June.

The Kings School in Tamil Nadu has been a partner school for the past eleven years. The school, like all schools in Tamil Nadu, has been closed since March 2020. The school has had to raise funds to buy laptops or pads for many of its students.

The College has worked closely with Amigos Worldwide (www.amigos.org.uk) for a number of years supporting their work with disadvantaged young people across the Uganda. Sixth form students in the past have been able to visit Kira Farm, their flagship project located outside the capital Kampala, and see for themselves the difference that Amigos makes. The College also sponsors four families through the charity to help them afford the school fees for their children. These are Veronica (Brunel), Dorcus (Da Vinci), Ibrahim (Goethe), and Joshua (Pascal).

Residential Trips

The College arranges a number of trips which support our academic programme and also provide students with opportunities to extend their experiences beyond the classroom. We are very aware of the financial demands these trips place can place on parents and wish to assure you that we always endeavour to make these trips as accessible to as many students as possible. We will always notify parents of trips at the earliest opportunity to maximise the length of time for parents to pay.

To enable you to make family plans and manage your budget I thought it would be helpful to inform you of the residential trips that are planned from September 2021 - August 2023.

Please be aware that dates and costs are approximate until they are confirmed by the trip organiser.

I hope you find this information helpful. [Please follow this link](#)

Mr A Mackenzie

Vice Principal

Congratulations

The Drama Department would like to congratulate Beth Honeyford in Year 9 and Remy Jones in Year 13 who were successful in their auditions for the National Youth Theatre. NYT has launched the careers of many famous actors we know, and love and we hope to see their names in lights in the future. We are absolutely delighted for them and looking forward to hearing about their training, which begins this summer.

THANK YOU - Fundraising for Macmillan Cancer Support

On 29th and 30th May, Mrs Graves completed the London2Brighton Ultra challenge and walked 100km. Thank you to all the parents and colleagues who supported her and donated. £780 has been raised for Macmillan Cancer support!

Products of a Pandemic

"Products of a Pandemic" is a book that has been written by a small group of Year 12 and 13 Roding girls who remained at the College between the months of January and March 2021, as each of us were unable to travel home due to tight restrictions in our home countries. It is during this time that Ms Davids (Deputy Head of Roding House) introduced us to Ted Smith (an editor and publisher) who proposed that each of us completes a series of pieces that he would then publish in a book. The pieces take on a variety of forms: haiku, articles, photography and drawings for example and offers an insight into how the Pandemic affected each of us individually.

The eight girls involved in the project have lived through some really unique circumstances over this past year. Not only have we had to endure numerous lockdowns, we have had to do it separated from our family and away from home. Therefore, the book is based around the many experiences each of us has had to overcome; for example, hotel quarantines, quarantining in school, contracting COVID-19, exam cancellations and being separated from our loved ones.

The writing process of the book was really interesting because, in true 'Covid' spirit, everything was completed online. Editorial meetings were conducted weekly via Microsoft Teams, work was submitted online, and feedback was received upon request through the exchange of emails. During these editorial meetings we proposed ideas, shared drafts, discussed titles/cover pages and received feedback when required. I found the whole process really interesting, more so when the book was "near completion" and we were all being emailed drafts of the book. Therefore, I am now proud to announce that from June 14 2021 our book, "Products of a Pandemic", will be available to purchase on both the UK and US Amazon website.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/1838443169/ref=cm_sw_r_tw_dp_WYCHXKH98F7K0T4TFH9

https://www.amazon.com/dp/1838443169/ref=cm_sw_r_tw_dp_2NWE845FX762Q25DSDH8

Through a group consensus it was decided that all proceeds will be donated to The Circle NGO, an organisation founded by women with the aim of achieving equality and safety for all women and girls.

Tiffany Torrie

Year 13 Boarder



BOARDING NEWS

Pre-Flight Testing

As we approach the end of the academic year parents of international boarders will no doubt be thinking about any Covid testing necessary prior to travelling.

It is the responsibility of parents to check the necessary testing requirements for their child to travel. Heads of House will be able to support junior boarders in ensuring that they have completed the required test, but it will be the responsibility of parents to organise the purchase and delivery of these tests.

The College has experience of using two main providers;

[Collinson](#) at Stansted Airport provide onsite testing and our experience is that they have been very efficient, although this involves taxi transportation (with its associated costs) to and from the airport (and supervision by an adult if they are under 16 years old).

Alternatively, [DNA Workplace](#) offer postal tests, and the College Nurses are trained and authorised to administer their tests. However, it should be noted that we have experienced occasional delays with this service, due to the post. If you opt for a postal test, please can you ensure that the test is posted to your child (addressed to them at their boarding house), it will be their responsibility to bring the test to the Health Centre in the relevant time frame prior to their flight.

Parents are welcome to use other companies, the above are not recommendations, purely providers that we have some experience with.

Please also be aware that the College Nurses are only authorised to administer to administer tests from DNA Workplace, some other providers require trained professionals to administer their own tests, but College nurses will not be authorised to administer these, therefore parents must ensure that the specific requirements of any tests they order fits the criteria to allow them to fly.

Canterbury Diversity Week

Canterbury Diversity week during 24th-28th May. Every day there were different activities that were both educational and insightful as well as being fun and engaging. We participated in a pebble painting competition; a creative writing competition; a group discussion; as well as a couple of whole games and films focusing on diversity and all that it entails. One of the nights as a different House, we watched Edward Scissorhands which tells the story of a man who has scissors for hands and is outcasted because of his looks and his background. The best part of the week was a game we played in which we understand privilege and how it would negatively or positively impact our life outcomes and how people are viewed.

The week gave us the opportunity to learn to appreciate diversity and how as a boarding House, we can learn to be more accepting of one another and learn to celebrate each other's differences.

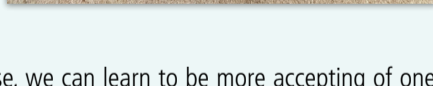
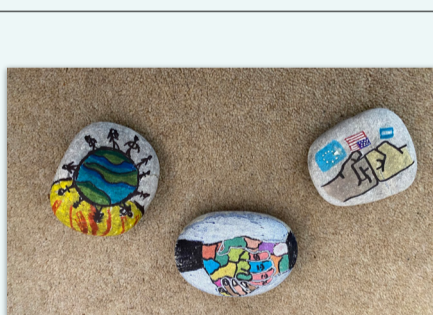
Solomon Waritay and Jac Gilks-Stokes

Thames 24-hour Snooker Livestream

As part of a fundraising initiative, Thames House is organising a 24-hour Snooker Livestream for Dementia UK; a charity aimed providing support to those affected by dementia. This livestream will take place on Youtube from 3pm on the 19th of June until 3pm on the 20th of June featuring Thames Year 12 boys and staff and very special guests. There will be links to donate during the stream and there is a QR code which is linked to our JustGiving page.



Will Hoffmann and Edoardo Bartoletti



24hr Snooker Livestream
Thames House

Saturday 3pm 19th of June
Sunday 3pm 20th of June

- All donations will be given to Dementia UK
- YouTube: [thameshouse24hourlivestream](#)
- Instagram: [thameshouse24hourlivestream](#)

Surprise Competitors - Full lineup will be announced on Instagram! Donation Links on Instagram and YouTube Bio

YEAR 10

GCSE Geography Trips - River Environment & Urban Environments

Thank you all for making the first payment and to those who have the whole payment towards the Geography GCSE River environment and Urban environment field trips.

This is a reminder that the final payment should be made by Friday 25th June 2021. Please look at your WisePay account regularly to see that the payments are up to date. If you have any problems accessing WisePay, please email finance@hockerill.com.

If you need to discuss any element of the fieldtrip with me please email mackenziea2@hockerill.com and I will endeavour to answer any questions you may have. It is my intention to give further details at the start of the new academic year in September when we will have a clearer picture in terms of COVID 19 restrictions and any potential impacts on our trip.

The trip is insured against any cancellations caused due to COVID 19 and parents should feel confident of a full refund if this were to occur. The trip will proceed in accordance to all Government legislation with regards to COVID 19 at that time and it is in anticipation that we will be able to conduct residential trips in October without any restrictions.

The Year 10 Geographers have made excellent progress this year despite having many difficulties presented to them. By the end of the academic year they will have covered Paper 1 and 3 of the course. Paper 2 will be taught from September which includes all the fieldwork requirements. This will allow plenty of time to revisit topics taught in lockdown this year and to revise effectively for their GCSE examinations in May and June 2022.

Mrs A Mackenzie

Head of Geography (acting)

LIBRARY NEWS

Student Volunteers for Summer Reading Challenge

There is a request for volunteers for a Summer Reading Challenge at Bishop's Stortford Library. This year's Summer Reading Challenge 'Wild World Heroes' will take place in Bishop's Stortford library from 10 July to 4 September 2021. They are looking for young volunteers to support them in making this year's Challenge a fun experience for all children taking part. In the past students have volunteered under Hockerill to help with the Challenge which is aimed at primary age children. This has involved enrolling the children in the Challenge, interacting with them and talking to them about the books they have read.

They would like to engage young volunteers to help us this year. Whilst they are unable to confirm the exact nature of the volunteering offer at the moment, interested students should direct any enquiries to srcvolunteers@hertfordshire.gov.uk

HOCKERILL PARENTS AND FRIENDS

CALLING ALL FANS OF SUSTAINABLE CLOTHING!

Do you want to do your bit for the environment and donate to Hockerill at the same time?

If so, perhaps you would consider donating any good quality school uniform your children have grown out of to HPF.

Post a photo on our Facebook page, 'Hockerill College Pre-Loved Uniform', marked with size, price and collection point.

Due to Covid, we are unable to arrange drop offs and collection via school, but this may change in time. We will keep you updated!

Keep checking the site if you are looking for something - textbooks and other school-related items are also available. You can post requests for specific items, too.

Please consider donating, especially if your child is a Year 11 leaver and has no more need for their uniform. All donations will be gratefully received by both HPF and parents!

For more information, please email hpf@hockerill.com

