



**THE
HASTINGS
ACADEMY**

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Principal: Hilary Morawska

Friday 9th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

REMINDER: FRIDAY 16TH JULY IS AN INSET DAY – THE ACADEMY WILL BE CLOSED TO STUDENTS

As we race towards the end of the academic year, we are still very much continuing with the planned curriculum being taught to our children and this week I have met with our head of department for Modern Foreign Languages of which we study French and Spanish and our curriculum leader for Music, to discuss the current provision and what has been previously learnt to inform understanding for our students. Part of this curriculum review involves; visits to the subject lessons with the leaders, talking through the learning with the children and reviewing their completed work. It is always a delight to talk with our children about their classroom experience and to see reflected in their work, to date, the intended planned curriculum. Listening to children share with you, with great enthusiasm, that what they have previously learnt that has helped inform the learning in that lesson, is immensely powerful and a privilege.

Before the end of this term, we will be sharing with you the curriculum plans for the forthcoming year, to help inform your understanding of the future learning of your child. Each term, thereafter, an update for each subject, for each year group, will be shared. Do always contact your child's teacher or Head of Department, if you wish to gain further cognisance of the learning to be taught, for they will be pleased to speak with you.

Woodland Trust trees

Mrs Dunne has managed to secure a donation from the Woodland Trust of 420 trees for our academy site. They will be arriving in November as saplings and will be planted and cared for by our staff and students. This will definitely keep our Forest School and Conservation staff and students busy! We are delighted that Mrs Dunne took the time to apply for the saplings and we believe this will be a wonderful legacy for the students and staff who plant them.

The Woodland Trust is a brilliant organisation whose sole purpose is to plant a tree for every person in the UK and to create new woodland in the heart of our communities. <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/about-us/what-we-do/>

Year 6 Meet the Tutor evening

On Wednesday 7th July between 5pm-6pm we held a virtual meet the tutor evening in order to bring



together our wonderful parents, children and staff in readiness for joining our Academy in September.

We had 130 families on-line. The event was ably compared by Mr Rose our transition lead member of staff. Proceedings were opened with a warm welcome from The Principal Miss Morawska. Mr Snelling and Miss Feeley our Vice Principals presented on our expectations and aspirations for the children around their pastoral wellbeing and academic progress. Mr Russell SENCO gave an outline of his role in supporting students and we had a video from Miss McCallum on the role of the Head of School followed by a virtual tour of the Academy.

For the second part of the evening families were able to go into virtual break out rooms in order to meet and speak with the tutors in order to get a full insight into life as a student in Year 7 and what it will be like to be a member of our Hastings Academy community.

If you were unable to attend the evening and wish to watch the two videos shown on the evening then you can access them via the following links:

[Emma McCallum talk](#)

[The Hastings Academy tour](#)

You can also access our Year 7 Induction handbook via the following link: [Year 7 Induction Booket 2021](#)

This will give you access to all of the important information to prepare you for the move from your current Primary School to The Hastings Academy.

I should like to thank all staff and families who took part in this event and we look forward to welcoming you face-to-face in September.

Year 6 Meet the Principal Virtual Meetings

I have had a wonderful time, over the recent weeks, as I have had the greatest privilege of engaging in virtual meetings with our Year 6 students, Knowing that we would not be able to work with our new cohort, face to face, this side of the academic year, I was determined to meet with as many Year 6 students as possible and to welcome them and ensure they all know that we cannot wait to see them in September. I fully assured them that we will look after them upon their arrival. It was so good to see inside their primary classrooms and evidence their infectious enthusiasm. We look forward to seeing them, very soon and I wished them all a wonderful last few weeks of Year 6.

Borrowed laptops

If your child/ren have borrowed a laptop from us, we ask that you kindly return it to the academy at your earliest convenience. These laptops were issued to us by the Department for Education and they have informed us that essential software updates need to be carried out by our IT Team. Without the relevant updates, the laptops will be rendered unusable.

In order to update such a large number of devices, our IT Team will work on them during the summer break, ready to be returned to your child upon in September.

If you have a child who has just left Year 11, please also ensure that their laptop is returned to us.



Year 10 Food Tech

This week year 10 cooked spaghetti bolognese. Looked, tasted and smelt great! They all really enjoyed cooking and most students couldn't wait to take their dishes home to eat for dinner!



Year 11 PROM – Thursday, 22nd July

The year 11 prom gets ever closer, and we are extremely excited for this special event at Azur on Thursday 22nd July. There will be mixed emotions, as we celebrate this fantastic cohort's time and achievements with us but knowing it will be goodbye, as the students get ready to move on to the next phase of their lives.

We still have an abundance of evening wear, available to those who may have yet to find the right outfit, which students are welcome to come and take a look at. If any student wishes to do this, please email Miss Wright at e.wright@thehastingsacademy.org.uk to make arrangements.

Parents and carers of year 11 students, please look out for a letter coming your way, with more information regarding the evening, and please ensure that the photo consent form and emergency contact information is filled in and returned to us in advance of the evening.

We look forward to seeing so many of you for what will be a fantastic evening!

When to use LFD tests and PCR tests

Who are COVID-19 LFD tests for and when to use them?

- An LFD test is for people without symptoms of COVID. You can do the test at home and get the result within 30 minutes.
- Twice weekly LFD testing is recommended for everyone aged 11 years and above who are asymptomatic.
- You should report your result whether it is positive or negative following the instructions in your test kit.
- Whilst the booklet accompanying some home test LFD kits does say that they are suitable for children under 12, using them for primary age children or younger is not currently Government policy.
- Anyone who has a positive LFD test through asymptomatic testing should have a follow up PCR test as soon as possible and within 2 days of their positive LFD.
- Please note: Although primary school children are generally not recommended to do LFD testing, if they have done this and test positive, contact tracing in school and isolation of contacts should start on the positive LFD notification and the case should get a PCR test ASAP.



When to take a PCR test?

- If you, your child or anyone in the household has symptoms that could be COVID, no matter how mild, you need to get a PCR test - do not use an LFD test.
- Anyone who has a positive LFD test through asymptomatic testing should have a follow up PCR test as soon as possible and within 2 days.
- As an extra precaution, the Government have recently updated advice to recommend that, in addition to isolation, all close contacts of a PCR positive case should get a COVID-19 PCR test, even when they have no symptoms. You should arrange for the close contact to get this test as soon as possible within the 10-day isolation period, ideally through the home PCR testing service. Please note: If they test negative, they must still complete their ten days isolation.

Hastings Thrives Songwriting Contest

Our Year 7 music students have worked incredibly hard with local singer/songwriter Anna Page, who helped them write a song around the theme of 'nature'. Their song, 'Living in a Dream', has now been entered into a competition – where the winners will be treated to a session in a professional recording studio!

If you would like to listen and vote, please do so by following this

link: <https://hastingsthives.org/enrichment/songwriting-competition-2021/popular-vote/>

The public votes closes on Sunday 11th July and each household can vote up to 4 times. Good luck, Year 7!



Year 11 RESULTS DAY - THURSDAY 12 AUGUST AND APPEALS

We have written to Year 11 Parents/carers and students to update you on the awarding of grades for Year 11 Students and in particular the arrangements for the sending of GCSE results on Thursday 12 August and the appeals process linked to the awarding of grades. Students will be sent their results via the supplied email on Thursday 12 August. Please look for the email and a letter will be posted.

Summary of arrangements for publication of results - summer 2021:

Please send your up-to-date personal email address to the Academy Exams Officer

at; i.wilson@thehastingsacademy.org.uk by no later than 22nd July providing your full name as well.

The Hastings Academy will send an email to Students registered email address so they can have access to their Results from 09:30 on the 12th August (look for an email from The Hastings Academy titled Results).

A letter will also be sent via the post service to students registered address – this letter will arrive from Friday 13th August.



Progress Reports

We can confirm that progress reports for Year 7 and 8 have been published and are with the postal service. You will receive a progress report providing information on current working levels and attitude to learning, also included is a guide to assessment at Key Stage 3. Further information on Assessment at Key Stage 3 can be found on the Academy website under Teaching and Learning and follow the link from Assessments.

We will be publishing Year 9 and 10 Progress reports next Friday

Student Break and Lunch

We can confirm that this week we have extended the outdoor space for students during their break and lunch. We are making use of the field for all students during the improved weather. It is pleasing to report the appreciation that the students have shown to the changes we have made to improve their break and lunch environment.

Race for life 2021:

‘Schools don’t break records, they beat cancer’

The PE department have a challenge for you!!! Over summer we would like you to train and raise money in preparation for The Hastings Academy Race for Life. The third week back in your PE lessons, we will be completing the Race for Life. We want you to feel ready and have some time to raise as much money as you can.

A ParentPay will be set up for you to transfer the money your child raises and prizes will be given to each age group winners in all hills. All students that participate and raise a minimum of £1 will receive a medal.

We look forward to seeing how much as a school community we can raise – remember every little helps!

Follow this link for the sponsorship form to keep track of your progress before transferring to ParentPay: [Sponsorship Form](#)



Final day of term

We would like to remind parents and carers that our summer term ends of Friday 23rd July at 12pm.

I hope, as always, that you have enjoyed our weekly newsletter and thank you for your positive feedback.

Keep safe and well and enjoy your weekend

Kindest regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Hilary Morawska'.

Hilary Morawska

