



Weekly Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our Friday newsletter, which again has found the academy to be with its foot firmly on the learning and engaging pedal.

I must immediately pay tribute to our students and to our parents and carers who have supported the brilliant standard of uniform.

Every morning our teaching assistants, leadership team and pastoral staff welcome the students into the academy and check their uniform (and lack of chewing gum!) and it is a delight to evidence very little non-compliance, to our expectations. We will always work with our parents and carers, when struggling to source uniform and will give some sway to the delay in gaining full uniform. We do have clean, spare uniform to lend to the students, but all in all the students look great and I very proud of them. Thank you.

More thanks has to go out to our Teaching Assistants. Often the unsung, backroom heroes and heroines of a multitude of students and staff. Daily they steadily engage in learning our students who need their additional and specialist support. The progress in confidence and ability is evident and the positive relationships developed with these vital staff, boosts self esteem and self-worth. Our Teaching Assistants are invaluable and the academy could not function without them. I was delighted to help celebrate National Teaching Assistants Day, this week and we have some fabulous photographs of our valiant crew within this letter.

On Wednesday we met, virtually, representatives from our parent and carer community who attend our Parent Forum Group. We hold this evening once a term, where we share key strategies and updates and enables academy-based questions to be raised by our attendees. This week, Mr Sadler presented the great work of our Covid Testing Team, an analysis of our Year 11 GCSE and BTEC examination results and an explanation of our Key Stage 3 Assessment process. A very well informed presentation.

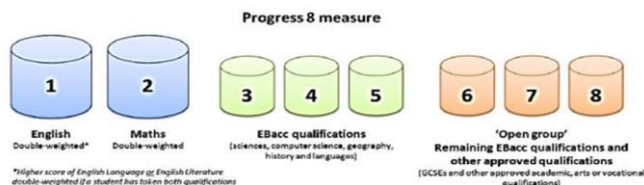


Measuring Progress and Attainment

Students and Academies will be measured on how much progress they make from when they start in Year 7 to when they complete their exams at the end of Year 11. This will be known as Progress 8

The Progress 8 measure is designed to encourage all students to study a broad and balanced curriculum. measure will be based on students' progress measured across eight subjects.

For each student the 8 subjects must be a combination from the diagram below.



The Progress 8 score will always be determined by dividing the points total by 10 (the eight qualifications with English and Mathematics counting double), regardless of how many qualifications your child sits or in which subjects.

Year 11 and Year 10 Parent and Carer GCSE & BTEC Course and Examination Information Presentations

We would like to highlight to our parents and carers of our Key Stage 4 students that we will be presenting GCSE and BTEC information evenings, virtually, as below.

While we are delighted to welcome our children into the academy and back into their pastoral houses, we are still mindful of the ever-present pandemic knocking at all our doors. With this in mind, we have taken the decision to continue to secure our protective measures, that we will conduct the above two evenings remotely, online.

This will serve many purposes, for at these evenings, as good as it is to listen to our subject experts, it is always a challenge to remember every slide and the emphasis on the 'musts' and 'ensure you do' comments and golden nuggets within conversation, therefore, presenting these as pre-recorded information gives parents, carers and students the opportunity to view and review this vital information, at leisure or when reassurance is needed. This also enables conversations to be held with students, by our parents and carers about the learning taking place and our expectations and for questions to be raised with our subject teachers or leaders, where needed.

The online recordings for each year group, will go live on the academy website on the respective calendar dates (see below). The dates for these two important evenings, are below:

Thursday 23rd September is our **Year 11 Information Evening**, where you will have chance to hear from both the school leadership and key department heads, ensuring you and your child are aware of all the support available to them in Year 11 in the lead up to their exams and completion of coursework.

Thursday 30th September is our **Year 10 Information Evening**, where again key heads of department will be available to help support you and your child as they enter their GCSE courses.

We will also be providing you with direct contact information should you have any follow up questions, where you will be able to email office@thehastingsacademy.org.uk and your questions forwarded to the individual department team.

As always our staff are here to support your child and our parents and carers, when needed. If you do not receive a response, please do contact the above email again, for these will always be sent directly to the staff member you need and the academy will follow this up to ensure your needs are met

We wish you all a very informed evening and of course great success for your child as they work through their final phase in their secondary career.

Summer Holiday Food Vouchers

A reminder to our parents and carers, who were eligible to receive summer holiday food vouchers, to redeem your summer holiday food **by the expiry date of 30 September 2021**. To redeem your voucher, parents and carers need to log onto the Huggg website to pick which supermarket you want – you will then have a longer period of time in which to spend the redeemed voucher. You can read [full instructions here](#). All unredeemed vouchers cannot be extended beyond the 30 September 2021 deadline.

Conservation Studies

As part of the curriculum for Conservation Studies, the children learn to care and conserve the woodland's natural wildlife. It is always a privilege to observe the animals that choose to dwell amongst us. No less this wonderful woodland mouse.



Student Bullying Survey

Please can your child complete the following survey so that we can review how we support students and promote anti-bullying work within the Academy: <https://forms.office.com/r/frtHHBYrPN>

History Revision

Our fantastic year 11 History students at the weekly revision session. These students are showing amazing commitment and resilience by attending revision every Thursday. We have put together a clear revision schedule to help ensure all our budding historians achieve the best possible outcome at GCSE. Students have been regularly attending revision, some since year 10, as well as intervention sessions to make sure they are prepared as possible for their exams. The revision sessions are fuelled by biscuits and lively debates around the topics covered. Well done Hasting Academy Historians!



Our Vision

To nurture, within our community; the qualities of aspiration, self-worth, courage and a respect for life-long learning.

To aspire, in all, the drive for a successful personal and collective future and the desire for all to achieve and prosper.

Food Tech

Year 7's cooked vegetable stir-fry. For this they were involved in chopping vegetables using safe knife chopping techniques and then frying their veg, adding flavours and mixing with noodles.

Year 8's made bean chilli. Again, they were cutting up vegetables, practicing their safe knife chopping techniques, cooking the chilli and adding herbs and spices to enhance flavours.

Year 11's made lovely lemon meringues. They made all the dessert from scratch, from the shortcut pastry which they blind baked to the lemon curd filling and the lovely meringue toppings.

DFE Information: COVID-19 vaccine update for 12 to 15 year olds

This autumn, all young people aged 12 to 15 are being offered a first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Vaccinating young people should help to reduce the need for young people to have time off school and should reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19 within schools. The main purpose of the COVID-19 childhood vaccination programme is therefore to provide protection to the young people who receive the vaccine and to reduce the disruption to face-to-face education this winter.

Like all school-based vaccination programmes, the School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) team will be the primary provider of the vaccination programme and will be legally responsible for the delivery of the vaccine. More information on the COVID-19 vaccine, the vaccination programme and how it will work, as well as answers to some frequently asked questions, is included in the [Public Health England guidance for schools](#).

[NHS leaflets](#) are available to provide more information to parents, carers and eligible young people on the vaccine, including how it works and what to expect after having the vaccine. Accessible versions and translations are also available.

Happy National Teaching Assistants' Day!

Today marks National Teaching Assistants' Day 2021. Below, you can see how our wonderful TAs celebrated.



Road Safety

On behalf of the safety and welfare of all the community, can I please ask that you do not drop your child off within the near vicinity of the academy. You will know it is on a busy road, with a crossing, two bus stops and an additional road running parallel with Rye Road, with a dangerous entrance/exit for cars to navigate. Please do not park or drop your child anywhere near the zigzags, parked cars, crossing or bus stops, for the traffic thunders past, buses pull out and we do not wish for anyone to get hurt.

In addition, if you choose to drive your child onto the school premises, again, I kindly ask you not to drop your child near the zebra crossing. Should you have to drop your child please drive to the top, where the drop-off area is located and wait until there is a safe space. Your patience relating to this is very much appreciated.

I would also be very grateful if you could kindly instil into your child that they must cross over the Rye Road using the official crossing areas, only and when they do, to only cross the road when they hear the 'beeps'

Too often some students think it is good enough to run across the road. I have to reinforce with you the dangers this brings, not only to your child, but to the driver/s of the vehicles involved and any staff members, who have to manage the situation.

At the end of the day, with staff in attendance, there was a near miss purely because the red light and beep were ignored. Thankfully, no harm was caused, however staff and students and driver who witnessed this are rightly shaken by the prospect of what could have been.

We all have to play our part in doing our level best to avoid an accident. The students will be reminded, again, during tutor time, next week.

Year 11 Information

Our Year 11 students have embarked on their final year of studies at the Hastings Academy, we are really pleased with the approach to their studies on their return. We have focused this week on Year 11 students completing Self Reviews and Target Setting, we have also focused on importance of their own organisation and commitment to their studies. In the upcoming weeks we will be preparing students for College opening evenings, career guidance interviews, applications and revision sessions. It is important that all our Year 11 are clear about setting themselves goals to support them in reaching their potential. We have set out our after school Revision Sessions (Period 6) which are up and running for all students, we will also be having clear student targeted Revision Sessions.

Period 6



Year 11 Period 6 Revision Session – 3-4pm

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
English	Science	Maths	Geography History French Spanish	Art/Photo Sport Dance Drama Music Media Food DT Digital IT Business

Below are some of the themes we have focused on with Year 11.

What's happening with GCSE and Btec exams in 2022?

The DfE and Ofqual set out their plans for 2022's exam season in a proposal that was open for consultation in July. We are waiting for the outcome of the consultation.

Exams and assessments for GCSEs and Btecs are set to go ahead in summer 2022.

We are waiting for confirmation;

Choice of Topics

Changes to practical subjects/assessments

Advance information about exams

Support material for exams



How to achieve just about anything...

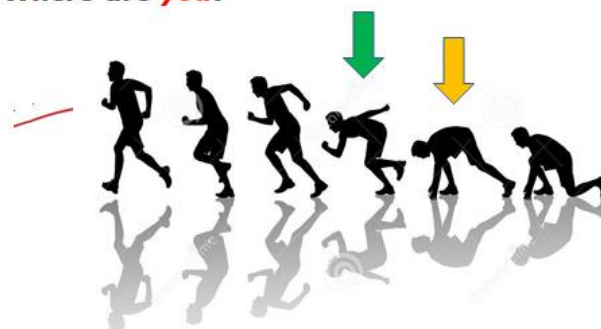


PRIDE THROUGH SUCCESS



Year 11

Where are *you*?



Spotlight on...



Each week our 'Spotlight On...' feature brings you a closer look at what's happening in a different curriculum area. This week is the turn of our MFL department.

Join the MFL Cinema Club!



The Modern Foreign Languages Department will be hosting a Foreign Film club for KS3 Y7-Y9 supported by *Into Films*, which is a teachers and educators streaming platform. We will watch the films together in Silverhill honeycomb with members of the Modern Foreign Languages team. Students will use an educational resource from *Into Film Club* that will challenge students to apply, analyze and evaluate the concepts, events and characters in the films they watch.

Letters and the parental permission slip will be shared via Parent Pay..

All information displayed in corridors and in Silverhill honeycomb!

Coming up..



Wednesday 22nd September: *Luca* certificate U 'Luca' is a sweet coming-of-age tale about friendship and growing up which also provides a gentle introduction to Italian culture and language-learning



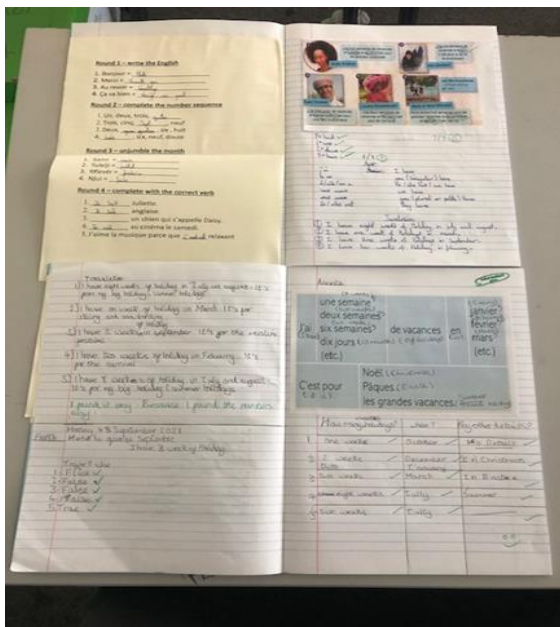
Wednesday 29th September: *Coco* certificate PG 'Coco' is a colourful celebration of the importance of family, the significance of memories and the power of music which encourages viewers to seize the moment and follow your dreams.



European Day of Languages! 26th September 2021

The MFL department will invite pupils to celebrate and promote the rich linguistic diversity and raise awareness of the importance of lifelong language learning for everyone.

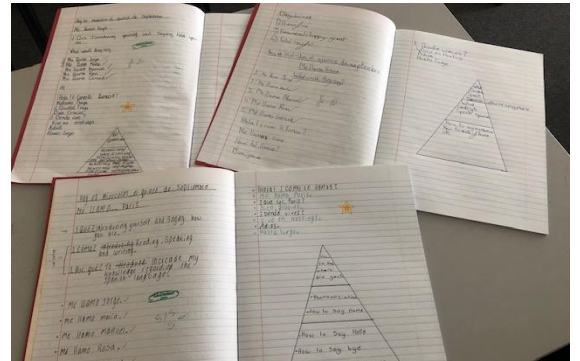
Special assembly , international food at the canteen, and activities during the week starting 20th September.



Since the start of term, Year 8 have been looking back at their previous learning to get them back into the swing of the new academic year and start building up their knowledge and skills. They have started a new unit on 'Holidays', where we are exploring holiday activities, the past tense and French speaking countries around the world. We are really pleased to see how well they are engaging and taking pride in their work.

Bravo!

For Year 7, this is the beginning of their journey into the Spanish language. They have been exploring Spanish sounds, as well as key words and phrases, to introduce them to their studies. We have been really impressed at how our new students are showing their readiness for this new challenge and taking it in their stride. ¡Vamos años 7



A message from Mrs Pepper about her Tutor Group, SH8:

I am happy to report that SH8 are now in the full swing of school life and launching themselves into school life and activities. We had 4 fabulous students step-up to go for the role of Tutor Group representative and they shared with us their vision to help and support others. It was certainly a very close run vote! So congratulations for all who put themselves up for the role: Ash (Y7), James (Y8), Jessica (Y7) and Archie (Y7) and well done for Jessica and Archie who were elected.

On Monday we were talking about things that we do to relax and Alby (Y7) told us that he liked to paint and he stunned us all by bringing in some of his amazing watercolour pictures. We are looking forward to hearing more about what other talents we have yet to discover. Keep up the fabulous work SH8 and keep smiling! Mrs Pepper.



After School Sports Clubs - 2021/2022

Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 <p>All Years Badminton & Volleyball Miss Gibbons & Mrs Crease</p>	 <p>Year 8-10 Football Mr Collett, Mr Mellish & Mr Cocks</p>	 <p>Year 7-10 Netball Miss Gibbons, Mrs Crease</p>	 <p>All Years Basketball Mr Collett & Miss Gibbons</p>
<p>Year 11 Football Mr Matthews</p> 	<p>Year 11 Volleyball Miss Gibbons</p> 	<p>OCR Intervention Mrs Crease</p> 	
<p>Year 7 Football Mr Collet</p>			
<p>Year 9, 10 & 11 Dance Miss Dengate</p> 		<p>Year 7&8 Dance Miss Dengate</p> 	

Break time Clubs

- * Monday – Yr 7 break 1 & break 2
- * Tuesday - Yr 8 break 1 & break 2
- * Wednesday - Yr 9 break 1 & break 2
- * Thursday – Yr10 break 1 & break 2
- * Friday – Yr11 break 1 / **break 2 none**
- * Girls and boys welcome
- * **First 20 Big Hall – First 10 in Small Hall**

You will see within this letter notice of the government's intention to use schools as a base for Covid vaccinations. I will always share what I need to with you, but I do need to advise that no child will be forced to have a vaccination against their will or that of their parent or carer. Consent is consent. It is not the academy's business to engage with consent issues. This is between the child, NHS, carer and parent. The academy, as with all vaccination programmes (for example HPV), will only enable administration upon consent. I do hope this allays any concerns from parents who may think that the academy will enforce this. Thank you.

The weather is set fair, this weekend. September has been kind to us, so far. I wish you a warm and restful weekend.

Kindest regards



Hilary Morawska