

A Message from Principal Simon Addison

Welcome Back!

It's been wonderful to have all our students back at The Hastings Academy, and I hope you've seen my welcome letter detailing some of the exciting changes happening this year. Even though we are just two weeks in, so much has already taken place, and we are looking forward to a fantastic year ahead.

I am also pleased to share that Mr. Heafield, one of our experienced Vice Principals, has been appointed as Head of Academy. While I remain Principal and based at the Academy, this strengthening of our leadership team will provide greater stability and allow for enhanced collaboration between The Hastings Academy and other schools in our Trust as we navigate these challenging times together.

We hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter and thank you for your continued support.



A Message from Mr Heafield Head of School

I am delighted to take up the role Head of Academy this year having served as Vice Principal for the previous two years.



Last year there were many successes that Hastings Academy is extremely proud of; including the launch of Whole Year Group Curriculum Trips in Years 7, 8 and 9 to exciting and educational places such as the Science Museum in London, Hever Castle, Ice Skating in Guildford and a matinee performance of Wicked. We also partnered with St. John's College (University of Oxford) to provide two educational visits to the University of Oxford for over 100 students in Year 10 and 11 and I hope that our students are excited to take part in these trips when they are run again this year.

Hastings Academy is also proud of the success of last year's Year 11 cohort who on average achieved half a grade a higher in all of their subjects than the previous year did, meaning that a student who previously achieved all Grade 5s in their GCSEs now achieves half of their GCSEs at Grade 6 and half of their GCSEs at Grade 5. I am sure that our new Year 11s and Year 10s will continue to build on these results and ensure even greater achievements in future.

I would also like to draw parents' and carers' attention to some of the changes in the curriculum that we have introduced for this year with the introduction of a number of new courses for Year 10. Over the summer, we have invested in establishing an onsite small salon to facilitate running a new qualification in Hair and Beauty as well as creating a bespoke motorcycle workshop space for students who wish to study Automotive. The addition of these new courses alongside the wide range of academic qualifications such as Modern Foreign Languages, History, Geography, Philosophy and Triple Science helps support Hastings Academy to be an inclusive school with something for everyone and we will continue to look at new ways to expand our curriculum offer further over the next year.

James Heafield
Head of Academy

Event	Date
Y10 & 11 School Photos	16th Sept
Y6 Open Mornings	24th Sept- 27th Sept
Ski Trip Information Evening	1st Oct
Y11 Photography Trip (Old Town)	2nd Oct
Y6 Open Evening	3rd Oct
Y10 Photography Trip (Brighton)	7th Oct
Arts Academic Fair	17th Oct
Parent Forum	23rd Oct
INSET Day	25th Oct

Library Activities

Book Club

Wednesdays afterschool till
4.30pm

Homework Club

Thursdays afterschool till 5pm
Open to all years. Use computers,
printer and get any support needed
from your friendly librarian!

Termly Film Night

Thursday 17th October After School
until 5pm
We will be watching Hocus Pocus



PARENT COFFEE MORNINGS

(9.15 – 9.50am – Main Hall)

Thursday 7th November 2024

Thursday 9th January 2025

Thursday 27th February 2025

Thursday 24th April 2025

Thursday 5th June 2025

PARENT FORUM MEETINGS

(6.00 – 7.00pm – Main Hall)

Wednesday 23rd October 2024

Wednesday 18th December 2024

Wednesday 12th February 2025

Wednesday 2nd April 2025

Wednesday 21st May 2025

Wednesday 25th June 2025

PARENT EVENINGS

Y7 Parents' Evening 14th November 2024

Y8 Parents' Evening 28th November 2024

Y11 Parents' Evening 9th January 2025

Y10 Parents' Evening 23rd January 2025

Y9 Parents' Evening 6th March 2025

Dates

for the

Diary



Y7 Summer School

In the final week of the summer holidays the school was full of our current Yr7 students fully engaged in trial lessons and team building activities.

Over 100 students attended every day and engaged in Sport, Drama, Forest School, Science, Art and other games and challenges.

All of the students had a great time, made new friends and started at The Hastings Academy last week already familiar with the school, some key adults and lots of their peers.

All the staff involved commented on their positive behaviour, ability to work with others and learn new skills which is so essential for life at Secondary School. A fantastic week... Well Done Yr7!



Student Selected for Major Local Production



We are very proud of Toby, our Y11 student who has been chosen for the role of the youngest brother, Benjamin, in the Hasteleons production of Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat.

Toby is a very experienced actor, having previously played such roles of Michael in 'Matilda', Leeroy in 'Bugsy Malone', and graced our own stage last year playing Simba in our production of The Lion King

The production is due to take place from 16th to 19th October at the White Rock Theatre.

Break a leg, Toby!



Notice to Parents: ClassCharts Attendance Figures

Some astute parents have noticed that their child's attendance figures have not been accurate this term. This is due to a change in attendance codes, which were not recognised by Classcharts, resulting in Classcharts reading some marks as Absence marks incorrectly. We are looking to resolve this.

If you are ever unsure of your child's attendance figures, please contact the school and we can provide you with the accurate information- Classcharts can sometimes be misleading when it comes to Attendance!

BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast club has gotten off to a great start this week, every morning Mr Mellish and his team have had a great spread going and some banging tunes playing. Each day a big bunch of students have arrived for a healthy breakfast and some early morning socialising. Breakfast club is free for all, so why don't you give it a go?

Breakfast club runs every day from 7:30am. Last entry is at 8am and there is no entry after this time. No need to book; just show up!

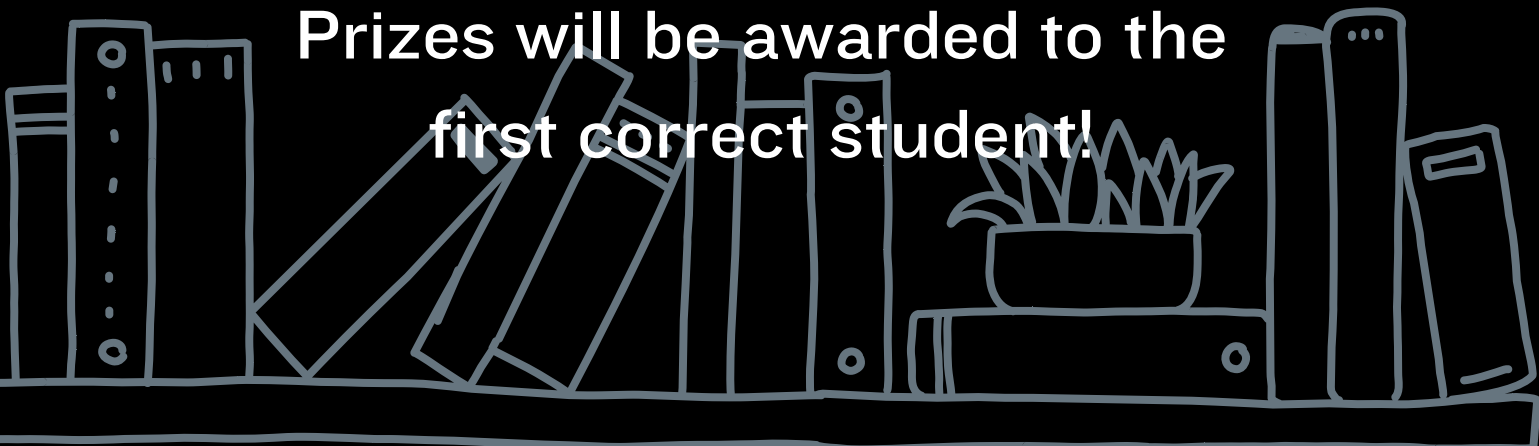


THE MASKED READER



**CAN YOU GUESS THE MEMBER OF
THA STAFF IN THIS PHOTO?**

Visit Miss Crane in the
Library to see if you are right
Prizes will be awarded to the
first correct student!



Forest School

Notices regarding our Forest School

Year 7 & 8 Curriculum

As part of our DT curriculum in Year 7 and 8, students will experience our forest school sessions. The Hastings Academy has a forest school provision, where sessions take place in our woodland setting and are run by a qualified practitioner. Your child will be informed of their session timings and will be required to change into outdoor wear suitable for changeable weather.

Forest School Intervention

Your child may be part of forest school as part of their support/intervention programme. Forest school supports emotional and resilience development. You and your child will be informed by your Head of Year after a referral process.



Notes from The Library

Are you ages 11-14 and have vast amounts of general knowledge stored in your brain?

If so come and see Ms Crane in the library to express your interest in taking part in the National School Quiz Champions competition. We have a space for our school to take part in the heats in November and if we get through could take part in an all expenses paid grand trip to the final in London and lots of book prizes, medals and trophy's. Ms Crane has an example quiz you can try so pop in the library to have a go.

Students who signed up for the penpal scheme with a school in Brazil are eagerly awaiting their first letters back. The school is Brazil is just starting back after their break so letters will be coming soon.

Watch this Space as we will be taking part in a sponsored readathon at the end of October. More details to follow!

Reminder: All students are welcome in the library break and lunchtimes Tuesday-Friday. Please remember to use the stairs near Easthill to come up and the staff member by the stairs will give you a library stamp to come up. Books can be borrowed for 3 weeks and their are also free books you are welcome to take and keep. It has been lovely to see a lot of yr7 students taking free books, learning chess, borrowing books, doing craft and meeting students from other years in the library.

CANTEEN

BRING A BOTTLE

The canteen tariffs have changed this term, alongside the meal-deal prices changing in line with the free school meals daily budget, many deals now do not include a drink, so we recommend sending your child into school with a bottle of water which can be filled at our water stations.



Lunch Break

Main Meal & Dessert	£3.12
Main Meal	£2.57
Main Dessert	£1.21
Meat Pizza	£1.65
Cheese Pizza	£1.46
Plain Jacket Potato	£1.37
Jacket with One Topping	£1.86
Jacket with Two toppings	£2.21
Plain Pasta	£1.65
Pasta & Sauce	£2.85
Pasta & Cheese	£2.60
Portion of Cheese	£0.57
Meal Deal	£3.12
Chicken wrap	£2.20
Panini 1/2	£1.40
Panini whole	£2.80

See to the left an example menu from our canteen. At this time of the year, we recommend going over the canteen menus with your child to explain your expectations around how much they are allowed to spend in the canteen.

New Anti-Bullying Webpage

As part of our ongoing work on anti-bullying at the academy, we have recently launched a new anti-bullying webpage on the academy website. It provides information on what bullying is, what forms it can take, an insight into the preventative work we do with our students and how to report bullying. It also provides information on the Anti-Bullying Quality Mark we are striving to achieve.

The QR code below provides a direct link and we would encourage you to take a look. We would also welcome any feedback you may have which can be sent to Mr Wall at g.wall@thehastingsacademy.org.uk.

<https://www.thehastingsacademy.org.uk/resources-for-parents/anti-bullying>



Tell us about your extra-curricular successes!

We absolutely love hearing about all the great things our students get up to out of school, from sports superstars or musical magicians to selfless charity work we want to hear about it all. If your child has done something amazing outside of school, and if they don't mind us celebrating it, please let us know and we can showcase their achievements here in the school newsletter.

Email Miss Mitchell to tell her all about it:

i.mitchell@thehastingsacademy.org.uk



Oliver!

We wish to extend our warmest congratulations to 4 of our talented students who have just finished a run of 'Oliver!' at the White Rock Theatre with the Hastleons (a local amateur dramatic society). 'Food, Glorious Food' - followed by Applause, Glorious Applause for well-deserved standing ovations at each performance. Daniel, Robyn, Myles and Toby had 'to pick a pocket or two' but at the end of the day they'd 'do anything' for Fagin as they delivered their well-rehearsed lines on stage. All we can say is that we are very much hoping that they will 'be back soon' on stage with more stunning performances. We are sure that we don't need to worry about 'who will buy' tickets to come and support them! 'Consider yourself' in for many more stunning performances from these budding performers!
(No apologies for the outrageous song-dropping!)
Mrs C.Pepper

Hastings Music Festival



A huge well done to all our students who have taken part in this years Hastings Music Festival. It has been great to hear how well our students have done in a number of classes. We are looking forward to celebrating all your future achievements in the Performing Arts, thank you for all your hard work.



Elijah Bigg Triathlon 2nd place
This Sunday our very own Elijah Bigg not only took part in and won 2nd place in the Brighton Triathlon, but he also won 2nd place! Putting in a massive 32 second place! Putting in the third place! Elijah was especially proud to win the first place neck with the...

We look forwards to celebrating all your achievements in the podiums in the...

PARENT FINES FOR MISSING SCHOOL: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Under the new national framework, all schools will be required to consider a fine when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) for unauthorised reasons.

From August 2024, the fine for school absences across the country will be **£80 if paid within 21 days**, or **£160 if paid within 28 days**.

This rate is in line with inflation and is the **first increase since 2012**.

In the case of repeated fines, if a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of £160.

Fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action like a parenting order or prosecution will be considered and applied for by the academy.

If you're prosecuted and attend court because your child hasn't been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500.



allsorts youth
project

Drop-in at i-Rock



A safe, confidential space* for LGBT+ young people aged 14-25 to talk, get support or information.

**in line with our confidentiality policy*



From 2pm to 5pm, no appointment needed



Thursday 26th September



i-Rock, Rock House, 49-51 Cambridge Rd,
Hastings TN34 1DT



For more information please contact
irockeastsussex@spft.nhs.uk



Join us on
SUNDAY 5pm-7pm
15th SEPTembeR
at ORE COMMUNITY hall

ORE PEOPLE

ARE STANDING UP

FOR THEMSELVES

QR
CODE

COME ALONG to set our OWN agenda
SAY what WE think the PRIORITY
issues should be and what
WE want to change

ORE PEOPLE ARE GETTING TOGETHER

We are holding community assemblies for everyone who is despairing about the state of our country our world and the 2 party system that offers more of the same – climate breakdown, genocide, crumbling services such as housing, health and water

ORE people now have a new Green Party Ward Councillor and Labour MP but do they KNOW what's needed for Ore residents, services and businesses?

What do YOU think the top issues are for ORE?

How can we make Jo Walker and Helena Dollimore best represent us and can they even do this whilst serving a Political Party?

Do we need an Independent, grass roots representative elected by our local ORE assembly to make sure what we need gets done?

If you want to have YOUR say get involved.....

Check out **Hastings Assembles** on Facebook for more info about the local people who have come together to build self-reliance and power back into our Hastings communities.

Check out timetoassemble.org/ for the bigger picture of building a national House of People.



REGISTER: <https://bit.ly/ore-assembles> – **CONTACT:** HastingsAssembles@proton.me