

# The

## NEWSLETTER



15 March 2021 • ISSUE 4 • SPRING TERM

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

**It has been a very happy week having all students return successfully to normal lessons.**

We are delighted with their conduct, positive attitude and focus as they have returned to lessons and adapted very quickly after the long stint of home learning for most. Our corridors have indeed been buzzing with happy chatter as friends and classmates have been reunited.

We are incredibly proud of the hard work shown by students, their belief that they can always learn and improve and their commitment to doing their very best so that they can realise their full potential.

My continued thanks to staff, students and parents/carers for their hard work as we work together to re-establish the rhythms and routines of school life. A continued key priority is to manage the necessary changes to the way we work to put safety first. Our students have shown outstanding patience and kindness in adapting to these. This has included students participating in mass testing and wearing face coverings in lessons, as well as continuing with our new ways of working such year group zones, virtual



assemblies and adjusting to the different timings of the school day.

Students' conduct during the mass testing has been impeccable and the testing team have done an amazing job in helping us to scale up operations. It is important to keep reinforcing the message that testing students and staff helps to identify asymptomatic cases and therefore helps to

reduce the spread of Covid-19 within our community.

Our determination as a community has carried us through the last 7 weeks and the last 11 months and I'm sure we will move forward throughout the remainder of this year, embodying our motto, **WE CAN. WE WILL. WE DO.**

Miss Sandham

## TEACHING & LEARNING

**We were delighted to welcome all students into school last week and to get back to face-to-face teaching.**

We carried out over 2,000 lateral flow tests since 4 March to ensure that all of our students had been tested at least once before their return to school. We had already put in the

safety measures advised by the Department for Education when we returned at the start of this year and so the only new change is wearing facemasks in the classroom. Our students have already been used to wearing facemasks in communal internal areas. The government will review the advice to schools at Easter. Our priority is to settle students back into school, into routines and to ensure that they

are safe.

We know that our students will have all had very different experiences over lockdown; we used the final week of remote learning to recap materials taught that time. In the next few weeks teachers will be assessing students to find out where they are and what they need to revisit or consolidate and planning their lessons accordingly.

## VISITORS ON SITE

At present, to keep our School community safe, visitors on site are still restricted and, as such, parents/carers must only attend if an appointment has been made.

If you would like to contact a specific member of staff to make an appointment, then please call the school on 01889 802440 or email [enquiries@hartschool.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@hartschool.org.uk), thank you for your continued support.

**WE CAN • WE WILL • WE DO**

## ATTENDANCE

Following the successful restart to the school year on site, I wanted to thank you for your support in ensuring our students returned to full time attendance at school.

Attendance is now mandatory for all students and is imperative for us to ensure that we accelerate learning over the remainder of the academic year. Please do remember that every day in school makes a huge difference to supporting our students, improving their learning and preparing them for a successful future. We have high expectations of attendance at The Hart School and make no apologies for promoting this.



## PUNCTUALITY

As we return to school we will need to help our students to get back into good routines, getting up in plenty of time, setting off for school on time and arriving at school on time.

This is a habit that is easily lost, but is essential as a life skill.

We remind all students that they will need to attend every day, on time and arrive able to join their year group on the zone. We will be issuing consequences for students who are struggling to adhere to this expectation, so please do support us in training our youngsters in skills for life.

# NEW COURSE AVAILABLE IN THE SIXTH FORM

The Hart School is looking to introduce a new course in September into our Sixth Form. Partnering with Premier League club, Stoke City FC, we are looking for students wanting to start a BTEC in Sport in September 2021.

Our aim is to offer the Extended Certificate (worth one A Level) in combination with 2 other subjects taught at The Hart School Sixth Form or the full time Extended Diploma in Sport worth the equivalent of 3 A Levels.

Stoke City will provide a range of training and programmes that will give learners a broad range of skills and opportunities as a result. As part of the course they will also represent SCFC in the English Football League on a

Wednesday, during the school day.

We know that there are some incredible footballers in our wider community and wanted to give them an opportunity to sign up to this excellent course. We will be providing some development days where students can get involved if they are interested. During these, students will have the opportunity to take part in training sessions led by Stoke City coaches. If you are interested and want

to know more, please contact our Director of Faculty for PE & Health, Mrs M Dix by email [michelle.dix@hartschool.org.uk](mailto:michelle.dix@hartschool.org.uk)



# THANK A TEACHER

When did you last take the time to say THANK YOU?

Thank a member of staff who helped you though lockdown. Did someone at The Hart School make a difference to you and your family?

Why not say 'thank you', it's free, and it's open to all The Hart School community. Simply fill in the form and add a message to the member of staff, and we will present them with a lovely card.

A thank you can be for a teacher, teaching assistant, student support officer or member of support staff and can be for anything – helping your child during

lockdown, helping you though a difficult time, understanding something tricky or just being supportive, kind or funny!

We've all had a great teacher. They show a real interest in who we are, listen to our thoughts, inspire us to learn and encourage us to achieve our best, no matter what our goals are. Following this last year and the commitment our staff have shown it would mean so much to a member of staff to receive a thank you. Deadline Friday 26 March 2021.

[Click here to thank a member of staff.](#)



ALTHOUGH THIS YEAR DIDN'T GO TO PLAN, I AM ALWAYS YOUR NUMBER ONE FAN!



Thank you



# RECOGNISING ACHIEVEMENT DURING LOCKDOWN

In the current climate, it is more important than ever that students are recognised for their achievements and that this is celebrated.

## Welcome Back

Now we are all back in school, the way in which students are rewarded will change. Classroom teachers will now be awarding Class Chart points for each lesson that students meet the classroom standards. We will also ensure that Praise Postcards

and Positive messages continue to be sent home. Congratulations to the 285 students across the school who have achieved the 500 points and above threshold for their bronze badges. Keep it up! All points will go towards their Hart Badge. The following

tariff will apply:

- Bronze Learner**  
500 ClassChart Points
- Silver Learner**  
750 ClassChart Points
- Gold Learner**  
1000 ClassChart Points



# WELLBEING TIPS

Our Mental health is linked to our wellbeing:

- It changes across a spectrum from healthy to unwell.
- It fluctuates on a daily basis and changes over time.
- Learning coping strategies and accessing support is beneficial regardless of where you consider yourself to be along the spectrum.
- Self – care is really important.
- There are some apps to try, or try one of the suggestions on the 'To Do List'.

Click on each app to find out more.



# LEARNING GAP CHECKS

The KS3 Learning Gap Checks have been carefully designed to help identify the areas of the curriculum that students find most difficult.

Students in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 will be asked to complete a Learning Gap Check for most of their subjects during the week beginning 15 March.

a thorough understanding of each student's strengths and their areas of development, enabling them to shape and adapt the curriculum over the coming weeks to meet the needs of students.



This will allow teachers to gain

# VIRTUAL REWARDS EVENING

As a school, we are always looking for opportunities to celebrate the achievements of our students.

We have currently moved to an online model for our rewards evening and this is hosted on our YouTube Channel. Students will be shortlisted for an award based on our Hart School values and then a winner will be selected.

If you are a local business and would like to celebrate the achievements with us then please get in touch at [enquiries@hartschool.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@hartschool.org.uk) In return, we would promote your business through our rewards evening and acknowledge local business in our community.

Thank you!







## RUGELEY RED NOSE DAY CHALLENGE

The last 12 months have been incredibly tough for all of us, but we're so proud of how our students have coped.

As parents, carers, and members of the community, you've also had your lives turned upside down, and we're so grateful for all of your efforts in our town. That is why The Student Leadership Team at The Hart School would like to welcome you all to take part in the 'Rugeley Red Nose Day Challenge' on Saturday 20th March 2020. They have hidden the 9 Comic Relief Red Noses in and around Rugeley. Your challenge is to watch our Rugeley Red Nose Challenge Video on The Hart School's Social Media and go out and find them! As a bonus, the first teams to find the Red Nose secret locations, get to take the real Red Noses home! All Red Noses have been sanitized and placed in Ziplock bags to ensure they are Covid safe. Happy Hunting!

Remember to have your checklist to tick off each Red Nose you find. As an extra challenge, we also have the Official Red Nose Day Quiz for people to complete with their households Friday evening in preparation for the challenge. You can download and view our Rugeley Red Nose Challenge Activity Pack [here](#) and please remember to donate to Comic Relief using our official Red Nose Day JustGiving page.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/student-leadership-team-hsc>

While not everyone will be able to donate, we're all in this together so we'd love you all to join us. However much or little we raise; we'll be helping change lives in the UK and across the world. As well as taking the opportunity to be part of something positive, we'll be using Red Nose Day as a learning opportunity. We'll explore the issues facing young people across the world, and how the money we raise can help. Please donate on our official **Comic Relief JustGiving page**.

The Student Leadership team are also holding a special 'Virtual Red Nose Day' at school packed full of fun, but most importantly, safe fundraising activities. These include specially designed Red Nose Day 'Bubble Challenge' Videos, for students to compete in tutor groups against each other to find out which tutor group knows their bubble the best. The Top Tutors in each year will win special Red Nose Day Prizes. More details will be shared in tutor and on our Facebook page.

If you enjoy any of our Red Nose Day Activities, please donate using the link below.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/student-leadership-team-hsc>



# LFD MASS TESTING UPDATE

The Hart School's mass testing programme began on Thursday 4 March with staff and Sixth Form students participating, and will be completed on Thursday 18 March.



By the close of Friday 12 March we had carried out 2374 tests in this round of testing. We extend our thanks to our students, parents and carers, staff and volunteers for their incredible support in this achievement.

Sixth Form students have already collected their home testing kits, KS3 and KS4 students will move to home testing from Tuesday 16 March. Students should begin home testing on the following day after they've received their kits, and then every 3 to 4 days.

The box contains 3 kits and each student will receive two boxes, so 6 test kits in total. It's really important that students don't open the boxes before they get home because the kits may become contaminated and, therefore, unusable. **NHS Test and Trace guidance on home testing can be found here.**

We are expecting a delivery of student home testing kits for use over the Easter holidays and we'll send these out at the appropriate time. Also, if you share a household or childcare bubble with a Hart School student, you could be eligible to receive free home testing kits for the rest of the household. **More details can be found here.**

# ENRICHMENT TIMETABLE

**Enrichment gives students opportunities to try new and varied activities that may not strictly fit into the curriculum, but that develop character, resilience and motivation, and encourage them to pursue wider goals.**

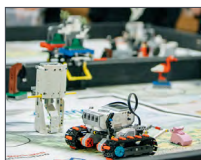
Enrichment helps to teach life skills that benefit students beyond the classroom, and can develop an appreciation for cultural and community issues, teamwork and social responsibility.

We will start our enrichment activities from next week, and as we continue through the academic year and in-line with government guidance we will be adding more activities to our programme.

Here is an overview of some of the activities that will be available:

## Lego Challenge Club

The Lego Challenge Club aims to develop an understanding of how machines are constructed and programmed to complete a job in industries around us. Creativity and problem solving will be fundamental to solving any issues you face in the process of designing and testing your creations.



## Medical Science Club

Medical science club is for KS3 students with an interest in a wide range of real-world medical topics. We will cover a broad spectrum of

topics that will include blood, the treatment of cuts/wounds, dissecting, the importance of kidneys, skin and skin cancer and medical testing and advances.

## School Newspaper

We want to create a newspaper for the community of Rugeley, led by the students of the Hart School. We are looking for students to write, edit, report, photograph content for the newspaper so that members of the community can see just how talented our students are. We will cover content not just related to The Hart School, but also about the local community, local history, charity work, events and sports.

## From Field to Fork

We wish to promote the key ideas of locally grown produce and healthy eating with students. This will provide an opportunity for students to learn about growing plants and the important role they play in our everyday lives.



## History Film Club

Historical films provide us with an intricate and valuable insight into the past, the issues and attitudes of the day. As members of History Film Club students will have our knowledge of history widened beyond the curriculum, leading to a better understanding of the world we live in.

## Virtual Kodu Club

Kodu is designed to teach kids students basic programming principles. Kodu allows creators to build the world's terrain, populate it with characters and props, and then program their behaviours and games rules in a bespoke visual programming language.

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LUNCH TIME		Y11 Enterprise/ IT intervention (SWO)	Y11 Enterprise and IT intervention (SWO)	Y10 Enterprise Intervention (SWO)	Y10 Enterprise Intervention (SWO)
AFTER SCHOOL	Staff Development Meetings	Y11 History Intervention Y9 Rounders and Football KS3* Lego Challenge Club (DRY) Y8 Medical Science Club (JCR) Y8 Scholar Programme (NMO) Y8 Debate Club (RBU) KS3* Fortnight Film Club (AJO) Virtual* Performing Arts Club	Y7-10 Science Intervention Y11 Maths Intervention Y8 Rounders and Football Virtual Student Leadership meeting (RBR) Y7 From Field to Fork (DBE & SRA) Virtual* School Newspaper	Y11 Science Intervention Maths Intervention Y8 STEAM Club (DKI)	Y11 Photography Intervention (ECO/SDA) Y11 Art Intervention (SEV) Y7 Tennis, Rounders and Football Virtual* 'Kodu' Programming Club (RBR)

\*KS3 Clubs will run on a year group rotation whilst we are operating in bubbles (eg week 1, Y7, week 2, Y8, week 3, Y9). Details will be shared in tutor and on the school website.

\*Virtual clubs will run on Teams and allow students from all year groups to participate. Details will be shared in tutor and on the school website.

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