

The

NEWSLETTER



21 September 2021 • ISSUE 1 • AUTUMN TERM

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

For the first newsletter of the new academic year, we would like to say 'Welcome Back Team HART' and we are really looking forward to celebrating your accomplishments and activities in this newsletter every fortnight.

A special mention for our new Year 7 and Year 12 students who joined us last week – welcome aboard!

I always look forward to the first week back at school, seeing our students come through the gate, that bit taller, more mature, refreshed from the break and ready to learn. This week, they continued to match our high expectations and settled into their new routines with resilience, determination and enthusiasm. It has been a privilege to visit classrooms and observe strong teaching and learning taking place.

I am hopeful that we will have an uninterrupted year at The Hart School and am genuinely excited at the prospect of students being able to move around the building and learn in classrooms where there are less restrictions. We do,

of course, have our most up to date risk assessment on our website, in line with government guidance, should you wish to read it.

I have felt very privileged this week as I have witnessed students engaging well in their learning and getting excited in lessons.

Students have returned from their summer holiday refreshed, looking smart and ready to learn. I would like to thank parents and carers for your support in ensuring that your child(ren) have been equipped for school and dressed in line with the school uniform policy.

We have been very busy over the summer holidays. Firstly, our Summer School was a huge success with on average 165 students attending each day, experiencing a

packed week of engaging and challenging activities before starting their journey at The Hart School.

I am also delighted to share that we have significantly invested in ensuring that we provide our students with the very best learning environments and facilities.

We are thrilled that many students will have access to our: new library, four new high spec laboratories, a refurbished canteen, 33 fully re-decorated classrooms, three new ICT suites with

the latest technology, three outdoor court areas resurfaced with polymetric coating, along with an additional outdoor lunchbox servery and an impressive bespoke lecture theatre providing collaborative space for an audience of 250.

Once again, I'd like to thank you for your support and I look forward to another successful year for your child, for you and for our whole school community.

Miss Sandham



WE CAN • WE WILL • WE DO

The Hart School Sixth Form

The Hart School Sixth Form creates a bespoke curriculum for each student intake's needs. Recent investment includes newly refurbished Sixth Form areas, library and new ICT suite.

"Sixth Form students are taught very well" – Ofsted



OPENING EVENING TUESDAY 19 OCTOBER 2021

For more information visit www.hartschool.org.uk/sixth-form or email Head of Sixth Form ben.brennan@hartschool.org.uk

STAY SAFE ONLINE

The NSPCC has produced excellent parental guides to help support teenagers navigate the challenges of the online world. These include practical guidance on a range of topics such as setting parental controls.

Please remember that you can always contact school should you have a concern regarding online safety.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

NSPCC

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Over the coming weeks we will be sharing exciting news following the relaunch of our revamped student leadership team.

Following on from the successful appointment of our Head of School, Holly Matthews, students will have the opportunity to vote for their Head Student.

Students in all year groups have also been applying for the new revamped student leadership roles. Over the coming weeks we will be sharing news of each of these

- teams and the work they will be undertaking.
- Diversity Ambassadors
 - Wellbeing Ambassadors
 - Members of Student Council
 - Prefects
 - Teaching & Learning Ambassadors
 - Eco Ambassadors
 - Sports Leaders
 - Community Ambassadors



YESS EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

Emotional Wellbeing Support Sessions available to our young people and parents.



Your Emotional Support Service (YESS) is a mental health and well-being charity based in Uttoxeter, Staffordshire and operating throughout the Midlands, including Staffordshire.

The fabulous group of counsellors and well-

being practitioners provide emotional support and opportunities for children, young people and adults.

Every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 3.30pm to 5.30pm they are facilitating telephone emotional wellbeing support sessions

for young people and parents, please call 07794 473442 for more information.

<https://www.yess.uk/>



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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.

INTRODUCING... MRS. MAHON

Vice Principal Curriculum & Standards

I am so excited to be starting at The Hart School this year as Vice Principal. Having taught English for over ten years, I'm passionate about fostering a love of English Literature and inspiring students to read widely, write confidently and speak eloquently to explore cultures around us, past and present.

Originally from near Manchester, I began my teaching career in Warrington and then moved to the United Arab Emirates to teach in a school in Abu Dhabi for two years. This was a wonderful experience and gave me a fascinating insight into other cultures; the school had children from a wide range of

backgrounds and countries and it was inspiring to see the mutual respect they had for each other and the ways in which their different backgrounds complemented each other. After two years in Abu Dhabi, I moved to a school in Shropshire as Head of English where I have been for the last eight years before moving to The Hart School.

In addition to the study of English, my passions lie in inclusivity and building relationships with children and young adults, supporting them to be the very best that they can be.

I have really enjoyed my first two weeks at The Hart School; it's a wonderful, vibrant community and I am really looking forward to getting to know you all better.



AND... MR. QUEENSBOROUGH

Head of Year 8 and Teacher of Mathematics

My earliest memory involving maths is my grandad teaching me that 90 divided by 2 is 45, because a football match is 90 minutes long and half time is at 45 minutes. This has always stuck with me and must be the reason why I find a connection between maths and sports. It is also the basis of my love of mathematics and more specifically statistics. My aim is to not only teach students how to do a certain topic in maths but to instil a passion in students for them to unearth

their own connection between mathematics and the real world.

Prior to my teaching career I was a youth worker, around the West Midlands and Central Bedfordshire, going into schools and helping with mentoring schemes and raising achievement programmes. Hence the reason I gravitate towards roles in pastoral care. I will use my experience to tailor initiatives for specific students and help to push the school rewards system. I am thrilled

to have joined the excellent mathematics and pastoral departments at The Hart School and I am excited for the journey ahead.





FREE GARDENING EQUIPMENT FOR OUR SCHOOL

For every £10 you spend (in store or online) at Morrisons, you'll get a Grow Token to help us get everything we need to get growing.

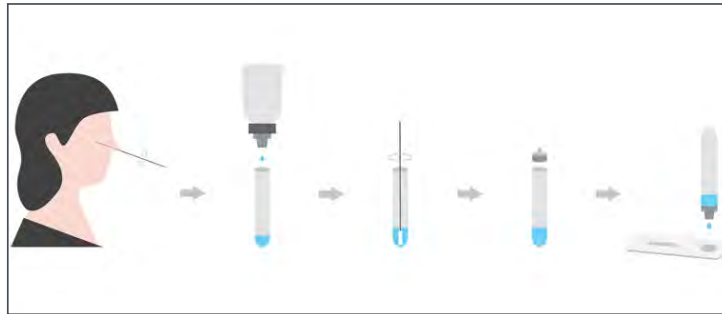
Download the MyMorrisons app today to start collecting Grow Tokens and choose The Hart School as the school you would like to donate to.

We will then be able to exchange the Grow Tokens for FREE gardening equipment which our gardening club will be able to use to support our local care homes with planters and baskets.

[Click here to find out more details.](#)

LATERAL FLOW TESTING (LFT)

We encourage all students to continue twice-weekly testing at home.



It is clear that the LFT tests are picking up asymptomatic cases. I'd like to thank all parents for your support in reporting these results to school and keeping your child at home if the test is positive whilst you await the result of a follow-up PCR test.

Lateral flow tests are available for all students and we encourage students to continue testing preferably on a Wednesday and Sunday evening. Test kits are available from tutors if these are required. If your child has coronavirus symptoms or tests positive, please contact our attendance team at covid@hartschool.org.uk.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Parents' evenings are important events which enable parents and carers to discuss their child's strengths and weaknesses, share concerns, and take an active part in their education.

As such we would like to share with you the dates for our Parents Evenings/Events for this academic year.

More specific details regarding each evening will be shared nearer each event.

Thursday 23 September 2021
Year 7 Settling-in Evening

Monday 11 October 2021
Year 11 Parent Study Skills Evening

Thursday 14 October 2021
Year 11 Parents Evening

Tuesday 19 October 2021
Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 13 January 2022
Year 13 Parents Evening

Thursday 27 January 2022
Year 10 Parents Evening

Thursday 31 March 2021
Year 9 Parents Evening

Thursday 7 April 2022
Year 11 Parents Evening

Thursday 5 May 2022
Year 8 Parents Evening

Thursday 26 May 2022
Year 7 Parents Evening

PARENT PARTNERSHIP

The PTFA is a great way to bring together parents, teachers and our local community to raise funds and to support the school.

We pride ourselves as being a school at the centre of our community.

We would like to invite our parents and carers to join our PTFA to help support the school with:

- fundraising
- student and community events
- ideas and parent voice

If you are interested in supporting the school then please email:

Joanne.Crofts@hartschool.org.uk

Who is our Parent Partnership lead in school who will be able to share more details.

The PTFA team meet every half term.



OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

We are delighted to announce that a broad programme of clubs and enrichment opportunities will commence this week.

We would encourage students to try as many of these exciting opportunities as possible. Our extracurricular offer changes each half term to allow for more opportunities.

After school clubs will finish at approximately 4.15pm. It is the students' responsibility to communicate with parents/carers and organise transport home. Lunch time clubs will be shared with students during tutor time.

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

DAY	CLUB	OVERVIEW	YEAR GROUP	TEACHER	ROOM
MONDAY	Art and Design Club	Students are able to work on a variety of different art projects within the school and the local community.	Year 7 - 9	Mrs Dawson	F23
	Football	Students will have the opportunity to train and represent The Hart School football team.	Year 7 - 9	Mr Brindley	Gym
	Maths Club	Students can come and get homework help as well as accessing different work beyond what they see in the classroom. Math's based games are also played to improve feelings towards maths.	Year 7 - 11	Miss Effler/ Mr Walter	B31
	Board Game Club	This is an opportunity for students to play board games and learn the skills associated with board games, as well as being an opportunity to mix with different students.	Year 7 - 9	Miss Caulfield	D17
	Y13 Maths Masterclass	Revision of Year 12 content and exam preparation.	Sixth Form	Miss Suen	B13
	Drama Club	Students will be able to put on a drama production where they can grow and showcase their skills! Students will improvise comedy sketches, rehearse scripts, play games, and meet new friends.	Year 7 - 13	Mrs Etheridge	Hall
	RockIt!	This is for guitarists and bassists who have peripatetic lessons with Mr. Walters. It will be on at certain times of the year, and Mr Walters will inform students when they can get involved.	Year 7 - 13	Mr Walters	C09
	Cheer Squad	Cheer Squad is a club in which to learn cheerleading stunts and routines. As the squad has to be a strict number of students, this club will be for experienced dancers who have been invited by the Performing Arts department.	Year 7 - 13 by invitation	Miss Davies	Gym
WEDNESDAY	Duke of Edinburgh	This is for students participating in the DoFE to develop their skills as well as having opportunities for team building.	Year 9 -11	Mrs Smith/ Mr Windows	D10
	Y10 Carnegie Shadowing Book Club	Students will be able to come together to read Carnegie shortlisted books and other challenging texts alternate Wednesdays (continuation of the Y9 group established last year)	Year 10	Mrs Harding/ Miss Dalby/ Miss Matthews	A11
	Sixth Form Film Club	Students select films and documentaries to watch. The Film Club Committee then prepare information and choices which are discussed at the following meeting once the film has been watched.	Sixth Form	Mrs Harding	Common Room
	BTEC Sport Club	To offer one to one support to students who have fallen behind in BTEC sport courses.	Year 10 - 13	Ms Dix	D15
	Gardening Club	This is an opportunity for students to complete the planter project and deliver them to local care homes.	Year 8	Ms Ramm/ Mr Bettany	Hub
	Boxing Club	This teaches students the basic fundamentals of boxing, including stance, shadow boxing and pad work.	Year 7 -11	Mr Lightfoot	Gym
	KS3 Dance Club	This is an opportunity for students both beginners and experienced dancers alike to get involved in dance.	Year 7 - 9	Miss Davies/ Miss Cowley	Hall
	Rock Choir	This is a chance for all singers to come and sing as a group and is open to all students. They will be learning a range of songs, and will develop their ability to sing in harmony.	Year 7 - 13	Mr Partridge/ Mr Hopwood/ Miss Cowley/ Mrs Askey	C09
THURSDAY	Archaeology Club	Students have the opportunity to look at discoveries/civilizations/paleontology, as well as developing basic skills.	Year 7 - 9	Mrs Knight/ Mr Ryan	D19
	Art competition club	This is a chance for students to create fantastic art work with the option of entering it into exciting external competitions for prizes. The first sessions focus on a wildlife competition.	Year 7 -11	Mrs Evans	F12
	KS3 Rugby Club	To promote and inspire students to participate in rugby and understand the core values of the sport.	Year 7 - 9	Mr Smith	Gym
	KS3 Hockey Club	To promote and inspire students to participate in Hockey.	Year 7 - 9	Mr Smith	Gym
	Dungeons and Dragons club	Students can come together to play Dungeons and Dragons (D&D): one of the most popular and famous tabletop roleplaying games. Members will go on adventures, fight monsters, discover treasure and explore a mystical world.	Year 7 -9	Mr Underwood	C31
	KS4 /5 Dance Club	This is an opportunity for students both beginners and experienced dancers alike to get involved in dance.	Year 10 - 13	Miss Davies	Hall
	Band	Band is for any student who plays an instrument and wants to get involved in playing in an ensemble. We would like to invite keyboard players, guitarists, brass, woodwind and string players, drummers, and solo vocalists.	Year 7 - 13	Mr Partridge/ Mrs Askey	C09
FRIDAY	Table Tennis Club	To promote and inspire students to participate in table tennis	Year 7 - 13	Mr Smith	Gym
	Football	Students will have the opportunity to train and represent The Hart School football team.	Year 7 - 9	Mr Brindley	Gym