

The Hart

NEWSLETTER

17 NOVEMBER 2021 • ISSUE 3 • AUTUMN TERM

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It has been another busy and purposeful couple of weeks on return to school.

Students continue to enjoy a wide variety of lessons and learning opportunities and to engage with these enthusiastically, as well as participating in a vast array of extra-curricular activities. This week, these have included several sporting fixtures, preparations for our CET Shakespeare performance, lunchtime and after school clubs and Remembrance Day.

We also welcomed several visitors into the school, including Marc Jordan, Chief Executive and Nicole McCartney, Director of Education, from The Creative

Education Trust along with Alan Murphy, Chair of the Academy Council. They were very impressed with our young people and the progress the school is making to ensure that our students receive the best possible opportunities and education that they absolutely deserve.

Setting the climate for learning

We've had a great start to the new half term with students firing on all cylinders, both inside and outside of the classroom. I feel incredibly privileged to have the job that I have. To be able to walk

this school each day, see our young people flourish and our staff teams deliver lessons and support of such high quality day in day out really is a joy.

Students have responded very well indeed to the high expectations that we have for all. School is calm and teaching and learning is focussed. This is incredibly important to ensure that there is no time lost to learning and I thank parents and carers for their support as we continue to embed our new behaviour for learning system.

Remembrance Day

The whole of The Hart School marked Armistice Day last week with a two-minute silence at 11.00 am on 11th

November by the sound of The Last Post, which was observed impeccably by the students. Their attention to, and respect for, the assemblies that were delivered was outstanding.

We were very proud to see how seriously the students conducted themselves. At the eleventh hour on the eleventh day of the eleventh month – we will remember them.

On that note, staff, students and I also attended the Cenotaph in town on Sunday 14th November to commemorate Remembrance Sunday to join the nation in commemorating those who have died in war.

Ms Sandham



WE CAN • WE WILL • WE DO



OUTDOOR WEAR

As we are approaching the winter months and as it gets colder (and wetter!), please remind students to bring a winter coat to be worn over their blazer. Students may also opt to wear The Hart School grey Jumper that can be worn under their blazer.

Can I remind you that hoodies are not part of the school uniform and are not permitted.

LFT TESTS

We'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.

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.



YEAR 11

Students have returned refreshed, invigorated and keen to learn.

This is particularly true of our Year 11 students, who have been preparing for their PPE (Mock) examinations ahead of this week. We are delighted to say that their behaviour, approach and attitudes to their studies has been exemplary, they are a true credit to you and to themselves.

Given the extraordinary circumstances that they have been through over their past two years of school, this is all the more remarkable and something to be celebrated and congratulated. We wish all students the best outcomes possible, which is what they truly deserve, and which will provide them with

support and guidance for their eventual GCSE exams in the summer.



Summer Examinations and Grading

Ofqual confirmed last week that their plans for examinations have passed consultation.

The main outcomes were:

- Subject Adaptations: there will be optional topics and content in GCSE English Literature, History and Geography
- Practical work in GCSE Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Combined Science may be delivered via demonstration if necessary
- GCSE and A Level Art will be assessed only on portfolios
- Students will be given a formulae sheet for GCSE Mathematics as well as a revised formulae sheet for GCSE Physics and Combined Science

- Exam Boards will provide information about the focus of the content of their exams for all GCSE, AS and A Level exams (except GCSE English Literature, History and Geography) by 7th February 2022
- Results for exams next year will return to their normal format, with AS and A Levels being released on 18th and GCSEs on 25th August.

Ofsted's Chief regulator, Dr Jo Saxon, has written a letter to students explaining the regulations and the letter and further details for parents can be found here.

Contingency arrangements
It is expected that exams will go ahead as planned. If the 2022 exams cannot go ahead due to further Covid disruption, students' grades will instead be determined by your teachers, using a Teacher Assessed Grade (TAG) approach. This means that your teachers will gather evidence through assessments, including your November PPEs, to help them determine Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs) if exams do not take place.



Kindness is more important today than it has ever been. The isolation of the last year has underlined how little acts of consideration can break down barriers and brighten the lives of the people around us. This is one of the reasons, that 'One Kind Word' has been chosen as the theme of Anti-Bullying Week taking place this week.

The tutor programme will focus on anti-bullying and there will be an opportunity for students to become Anti-Bullying Ambassadors for the school with The Diana Award.

BLOOD BROTHERS

After months of us all living without live performance, some of our Y11 students were finally able to experience a live and professional performance of 'Blood Brothers' at Birmingham Hippodrome.



Seeing a live drama unfold before our eyes was so uplifting and brought their GCSE text to life.

The students had seats in the heart of the action and showed habits of seasoned theatre audiences; I felt extremely privileged to sit amongst them as they experienced the play in a live setting for the first time. We have never seen

a performance that was so moving, hysterical and sobering all at once. Willy Russell's depiction of the harsh reality of Thatcher's Britain was executed beautifully by the production team. Their artistic props, smooth staging and phenomenal lighting brought it all together for them; if you have the opportunity to see this play live, I urge you to book tickets...



TRICK OR TREAT STREET

On Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st October, a group of 30 Hart school students from Year 7-13 took part in a very exciting 'scare fest' acting project for the Deer Park, Hoar Cross

To prepare for this, students had workshops in 'scare performing' (like you would see at a 'scare fest') and the piece required them to dress up as ghosts, ghouls and familiar fairy tale characters.

This was to entertain the local village with an immersive spooky walk around a dark woodland, aimed at younger children. A series of 12 magical doors were waiting for the children and guests around the woodland, where they had to knock on the doors (if they dared) and they then received lots of 'tricks and treats' from the characters. The students had to endure the mud, cold and high winds, but they were absolutely professional and did the school proud. The trail consisted of some of

the 'nice' characters from fairy tales such as Princess Aurora, Alice in Wonderland and Little Red Riding Hood interacting with the audience at every door, picking up a few Halloween 'treats' as they went. They also met some 'baddies' along the way, including Captain Hook, the Big Bad Wolf and The Queen of Hearts, who gave them a bit of a fright!

An enjoyable weekend was had by all, and we thank the Deer Park for having us and providing the Hart such an exciting opportunity. We have already been booked in for next year! Congratulations and well done to all of the students involved.



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HOLDERNESS COAST

With a brisk and very early start our Year 13s embarked on a trip to the glorious Holderness Coast in Yorkshire.

As the fastest receding coastline in Europe, the Holderness Coast offers a wide range of erosional and depositional landforms for our cohort to visit and understand their significance to their physical geography exam.

In great spirits, our geographers explored the arches and caves that Flamborough has to offer and following the coastline south we followed the sediment cell to the destructive nature experienced at Skipsea. Further south, the coastline management strategies were varied at Hornsea, Withernsea and Mappleton, bringing us to the low-energy estuarine environment at Spurn Head. All students were a credit to themselves and our school on what was a very long, but hugely enjoyable day.



CALLING ALL BOOK LOVERS!

Year 7 book club is now happening every Tuesday lunchtime in D14 with Mrs Ramm! Here you will have an exciting opportunity to read new and bestselling books. You will be starting with the thriller – They all Die in the End!

Year 8 and 9 book club is now happening on a Monday lunch in F23 with Mrs Dawson! You will be able to read a whole range of new and exciting books. You will be starting with Finding Violet Park!

The Hart School Christmas Fayre

THIS HOLIDAY SEASON,
SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES

*Up to Thirty Stalls from local Vendors,
Cakes, Crafts & Gifts for Everyone on your
Christmas list.*

THURSDAY 2ND DECEMBER 4:30PM-7:30PM. FREE ENTRY
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE.



For more information or to book a stalls please email
ptfa@hartschool.org.uk

Featuring live music from
The Hart School Choir.

Festive photo opportunities with
Christmas characters.

*The Hart School,
Penkridge Bank Rd, Rugeley WS15 2UE*

IKON GALLERY

Friday 12th November, a group of Sixth Form students visited the Ikon Gallery in Birmingham

They saw the beautiful paintings and installations of Thai artist Mitt Jai Inn and the collaborative drawings of internationally renowned sculptors Bill Woodrow and Richard Deacon.

The students took photos of the work and for many of them, it was their first gallery experience. They will use this work to develop their ideas in the classroom.

This was a fantastic day and enabled our students to see what is on offer in the local area.

