



HOE VALLEY SCHOOL

Newsletter

Friday 24th Sept 2021

Already, the feeling in school is very much one of focus and walking around the corridors we are delighted to see such inspiring lessons taking place across all faculties. Whilst it is still early in this first term of the new school year, we know our students are working hard and we are already seeing the results of this.

Our Year 7 tutor team held a virtual Parent-Tutor evening on Wednesday which was a great opportunity for our newest families to get to know us better, and us them. Spending time talking this early on in Year 7 really does pay dividends as it allows us to understand what makes each of our students tick, as well as giving us an opportunity to update their parents on how they have settled in to life at secondary school. Thank you to all who were able to attend.

On Thursday, our Hospitality and Catering students in Year 10 and 11 truly got their bake on, and all in aid of charity! Year 11's baked a beautiful selection of cakes and sweet treats, and then Year 10 stepped in to decorate them and present them beautifully for a staff charity cake sale in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support as part of their annual 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning'. We look forward to letting you know the final fundraising total, but huge congratulations to the students for their efforts.

From talking to your child about their lessons, you may be hearing about a change in the way they are learning and this is because we are redeveloping our curriculum and teaching methods around the principles of Cognitive Science. Our teachers are up skilling themselves in how the brain learns and how to apply this in your child's lessons. We want all of our students to leave Hoe Valley knowing more and being able to do more. The methods we are using are rooted in evidence of what actually works in the classroom and could be seen as more traditional with a modern, research-informed twist and working with the mantra "If you don't know it, you can't think about it and if you don't know it well, you can't think with it". We look forward to sharing more information about this approach with you as the year progresses.

Ahead of European Languages Week next week, we are delighted to let you know that we have been awarded Foundation Level status for the International School Award by the British Council. This prestigious award recognises our ongoing work to bring the world into the classroom so that young people gain the cultural understanding and skills they need for life and work in today's world. We look forward to sharing with you the exciting week of activities that take place to mark European Languages Week including a much anticipated International Bake Off!

We are delighted to let you know that we are re-launching our PTA but we need your support! PTAs are really important to schools, not only because of their fundraising events but also because working together as a group really helps cement us as a school community. We have included a flyer on Page 3 of this newsletter and would ask you to email us to register your interest in supporting the PTA in whatever capacity you are able to - many hands make light work after all. We look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes for a pleasant weekend.
Mrs Davies



Dates for your Diary

Autumn Term 2021

04/10/21	Open Evening for Prospective Students and Families 6pm - 8pm
25/10/21 -	01/11/21 Half Term
02/11/21	(Tues) School Re-opens
17/11/21	Year 10 Parents' Evening
30/11/21	School Production 7pm
01/12/21	School Production 7pm
02/12/21	School Production 7pm
10/12/21	End of Term - 1.00pm

Spring Term 2021

04/01/22	Start of Term
11/02/22	INSET Day
14/02/22 -	18/02/22 Half Term
01/04/22	End of Term - 1.00pm



Year 10 & 11 Students studying Hospitality & Catering baked, decorated and set out a fantastic selection of delights for staff to purchase to support the Macmillan Cancer Support 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' on Thursday



SPORTS NEWS

On Monday, our Year 8 and 9 girls represented HVS for the first time in the English Schools Cup. Not only was this the first time we have played in this cup but it is the first time the new kit has been worn. We played against a very experienced Tanbridge House team. Due to Covid the girls haven't had a chance to play together and this was their first ever 11 a side match. 2 goals were scored early in the first half giving Tanbridge House an early advantage. The team continued on battling until the end with the final score finishing 3 - 0. Huge mentions go out to Alessia L who won player of the match due to her heroic efforts in goal. The team played well considering the lack of training. We look forward to more success later on in the year with our district cup matches and 6 side tournaments.

On Wednesday it was the turn of the Year 10 boys who also faced Tanbridge House in the English Schools Cup. The boys started nervously against a very strong side and found themselves 2-0 down after the first 20 minutes. They settled into the game and created a number of chances but unfortunately could not find a breakthrough. Tanbridge House were clinical with the chances they created and the game finished 4-0. This is the first time the boys have played together since year 8 and we have no doubt that they will go on to achieve good results in the district cup and league.

Our Athletics Performance Training enrichment club have been working on Barefoot Training to increase the strength of the ankle complex and improve understanding of foot contacts in preparation for Max Velocity Training. Our students strong work ethic has been noted by the coaching team from West London Track and Field and we are getting great positive feedback from the students too. We look forward to seeing this important training paying dividends as the year progresses.



Year 8 & 9 Girls Football Team from the English Schools Cup match this week and Athletics Performance Training after school on Tuesday



HOE VALLEY SCHOOL OPEN EVENING FOR YEAR 7 SEPT '22

MONDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2021

6pm to 8pm with Head Teacher's talks at 6pm & 7pm

NO BOOKING REQUIRED

Hoe Valley School, Egley Road, Woking. GU22 0NH

Follow us on Twitter for all the latest school news and photos @HoeValleySchool

J O I N U S

6 reasons why your PTA really matters



“I love to see my mum in school helping at the fun events the PTA run for us.”



1. For the kids

Being active in the PTA not only improves your child's school but makes you an excellent role model. Research confirms what we've always known: when children see us involved in their school and learning, it encourages them to do their best.



“Through being a part of the PTA I've really got to know the school and have confidence in how to fit in.”



2. It builds trust

Becoming part of the PTA is a great way to get to know other parents and teachers while gaining an insight into the workings of the school. With parents and teachers striving towards the same goals, the parent group is instrumental in making a real difference in the school life of all children.



“It's great that we finally have some decent kit at school for a change.”



3. It raises welcome funds

Whether it's creating an outdoor classroom, stocking the science lab with new Bunsen burners or arranging a visit from a top author, the funds raised from your activities impact massively on the opportunities and experiences of all the children at school.



“It felt great when the head teacher asked the PTA for our views on the new school uniform policy. It made me feel listened to.”



4. It gives you a voice

Many PTAs already act as a consultative group for the school leaders and governors. So whether it's deciding on where PTA funds are spent or getting parent views on wraparound care, you can make sure parents have a voice in how your school operates.



“We've been able to really grow the scale of the PTA with some great local contacts.”



5. It forges connections beyond the school gates

PTAs are brilliant for building relationships with the local community, from events, sponsorships from local businesses, and mentions in local press. Some Parentkind members have worked with local employees to run career fairs.



“I've been able to use my design skills to help the school, it feels great to be able to make a difference.”



6. It's good for you!

Every parent has plenty to offer a PTA, and whether it's being on the committee, helping out at events or organising meetings, your talents will be put to good use. As well as being enjoyable and satisfying, you can build your confidence and learn new skills too.

Want to help support our school? Got a little time to spare? Our PTA needs you! We are re-launching our PTA and we would love your help!



Come and join us and help make a difference! Email PTA@hoevalleyschool.org for more information