



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

"I never see what has been done; I only see what remains to be done."

Marie Curie



Marie Curie's words may resonate with many, as we are better able to focus on what remains to be done than acknowledging the gains made; most usually in our desire to constantly move forward and improve. As I drove into the Heart of England car park this morning the school was framed

under the perfect arch of a rainbow; a unifying sign across faiths and cultures of hope and promise. This term Public Health have stated that "our care for staff and pupils is second to none", our outcomes for pupils this summer have been exceptional and we have skilfully navigated the challenges of this new return. Extra-curricular activities are once again in full flow and a new school production is in rehearsal, quite literally music to our ears. In this time of social media and algorithm dominated news streams, let's focus on the true narratives; taking time to celebrate what has been done and work together to achieve what remains to be done in close partnership. Have a good holiday.

J Hughes-Williams, Principal

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD



**HEART OF ENGLAND
SCHOOL**

"This year's Duke of Edinburgh's Award programmes are in full swing, with over 50 Year 10 starting Bronze and 40 Year 11 students starting their Silver Award. We are excited to have record numbers this year, with many students and parents relishing the opportunity to get outdoors after so long under Covid restrictions.

Expedition training is provided by our able team of external volunteers, and we welcome anyone associated with the school with an interest in the outdoors to join our team. Email DofE@heart-england.co.uk if you are interested."

MOBILE PHONES

In our last newsletter we reminded you of the school policy around mobile phones which is that they shouldn't be seen or heard. Part of our message was a reminder that it is actively unhelpful for students to use their phones to contact their parents during the school day. If there are messages you need to pass on please do this via the school office. If there is an urgent problem we will contact you using the details you have provided.

It would help us to maintain an ordered, calm environment if parents helped support the mobile phone rule by not responding to texts or phone calls from their child during the school day. By reinforcing these boundaries you greatly help the smooth running of the school.

BULLETIN

There will be a Non-Uniform Day for Children in Need on 19 November. There will be £1 donation and there will be more information to come home soon.

Watch out after half term for parentmails inviting applications for Ridleys bus passes for next term.

CATERING

'Best of British' day in the canteen on Tuesday 16 November, serving traditional and modern British favourites.

Remember to top up Parentpay each weekend and get pre-orders in by 3pm each Friday. First week back after half term will be Week 2 menu.

UNIFORM REMINDER

Hoodies are not part of the Heart of England School uniform. Leave them at home!

Airpods and earphones should be put away on arrival at school and not worn on site.

DEVELOPMENT DAY DATE CHANGE

Due to different layers of pressure on exams this year and a late published 2022 JCQ schedule we have moved the Summer Term Professional Development Day back a week to 8 July 2022.

YEARS 11 AND 13

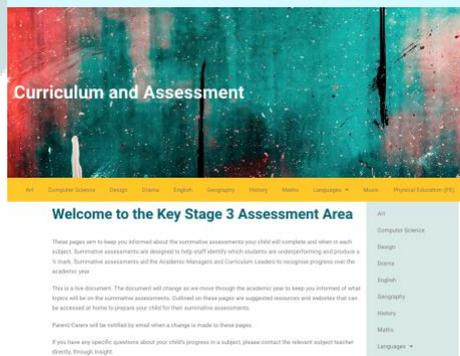
A parentmail has been sent to all parents of students in year 11 and 13 this week regarding changes to the GCSE and A level courses for this cohort. Students will be informed in their lessons but we also wanted parents/carers to be aware. We will of course keep you updated if there are any further changes.

Also this week, examination candidates have been asked to read some important documents in preparation for their mocks and real exams. These can be found on the school website: <https://heart-england.co.uk/academic/examinations/> and they include:

- 2021 mock timetable (individual timetables are available on Insight)
- 2021-22 student handbook - everything you need to know about exams
- 2021-22 JCQ notices - all the current regulations

Miss Walters and Mrs Theyy will also highlight key information for students in assemblies or through tutor time following half term, before the mock exams.

KS3 CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT



Years 7, 8, and 9 Parents/Carers

The new KS3 assessment area of the website has now been launched. This part of our website is designed to demonstrate what topics will be on assessments and when. We will update this part of the website regularly and will inform you when this happens. For each subject is a section designed to help your child at home with suggested websites and resources.

To access this, head to the main school website, click on

- [Academic > Curriculum > Curriculum and Assessment \[bit.ly/3vCwsWE\]](#).

Mr Haston: Assistant Principal

THE SCHOOL SHOW IS BACK!

After a two year absence of any kind of show, we are excited to announce that we will be performing Buggy Malone next year.

The popular show of slapstick comedy, songs and general mayhem tells the story of rival street gangs vying for dominance with a lot of splat guns and smooth talk.

Auditions have already taken place and the cast is being formed and finalised. "The students are raring to go! It's been a long wait and there is real energy for the show," said producer and drama teacher Mr Taylor.

Performances will take place 15-17 February 2022 so lookout for tickets on ParentPay.



MERIT POINTS

Congratulations to the Top 10 students in each year group for the number of merit points they have gained this half term! A fantastic start to the new school year. [See the Merit Points table here...](#)

