

02 May, 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

The last two weeks have been extremely busy in school. Our Year 11 and Year 13 students are working extremely hard on their studies. I have visited a significant number of lessons, and preparations for examinations seem to be going very well. Year 10 students have just completed their practice examinations and I hope that they have found the experience a positive one.

Examination's Guidance for Year 11 and Year 13

Guidance can be found [here](#) for important information about external examinations.

BROMCOM

We've had a really positive start to the roll-out of our new Bromcom platform, and I want to thank our staff for their hard work in implementing this significant upgrade. The feedback we've received from parents has been encouraging, and we're particularly pleased that you are now able to access real-time information regarding your child's attendance and any lateness or detentions, homework assignments, and school reports. This immediate access will, we believe, further strengthen the home-school partnership in supporting your child's progress. For any parents who are yet to log in, please click [here](#) and enter your email address to set your password. Please do not hesitate to contact our IT support team itsupport@haydonschool.com for assistance in getting set up.

Robotics Trips

The Easter break saw our talented Year 12 students put their engineering prowess to the test at the prestigious Student Robotics competition, held at the University of Southampton. The Student Robotics competition itself is a fantastic arena where young minds collaborate, innovate, and learn. This national challenge tasks teams of 16 to 19 year-olds with the exciting (and often demanding!) task of designing, building, and programming fully autonomous robots.

For the past six months, our students poured countless hours into building a fully functioning, autonomous robot, and we are incredibly proud to announce that our Year 12 robotics team demonstrated exceptional skill and dedication, making it all the way to the quarter-finals of the competition! This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to their hard work, collaborative spirit, and the technical abilities they have developed.

Participating in Student Robotics is about so much more than just building a robot. It's about fostering a passion for STEM, developing crucial technical and soft skills, and experiencing the power of teamwork. Our students embraced this challenge wholeheartedly, and their success at the University of Southampton is a clear indication of their talent and potential. This competition was their first experience of working together on such a complex, long-term project. This experience not only honed their technical skills but also gave them an experience of teamwork, problem-solving, and time management that is truly invaluable and will undoubtedly serve them well in their future academic and professional pursuits.

Congratulations to all the members of the Year 12 robotics team! Your hard work and dedication have made the school incredibly proud. I would like to thank Ms Bedi for supporting the students.

Silverstone Trip

58 Year 9 students visited Silverstone Race Track earlier last week. The trip involved visiting the track, the racing museum, and attending a talk to hear about some of the engineering involved in the construction of Formula 1 cars. The trip was extremely enjoyable for all students who attended, and their behaviour was impeccable. Being able to compare the weight of Formula 1 parts with road car parts was particularly enlightening for some of the students, who did not realise how lightweight carbon fibre is, and the effect this has on the performance of the car. Hopefully for some of our students this may be the first step in considering a career in this field!



Uniform update

This half term, we've provided an update to our existing uniform policy ([this is a link](#)) for greater clarity. There are no changes to the required clothing items themselves, but we have specified how they should be worn. Please take a moment to review the policy, which now explicitly states that shorts or tracksuit bottoms should not be worn underneath trousers, facial coverings (other than medical face masks) are not permitted on site, and hoods should be down when inside the school building. We appreciate your support in ensuring your child adheres to these guidelines. Please contact the Year Office if you require any assistance with uniform. Students who do not follow the policy may be sent home.

Rewards: "Living the Values: Recognising Excellence at Haydon School,"

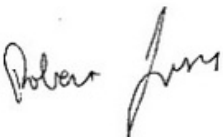
Finally, I'm delighted to share an update regarding how we recognise and celebrate our students' achievements and embodiment of our school values through our rewards policy, "Living the Values: Recognising Excellence at Haydon School", details of which are now on our [website](#). In an upcoming special assembly, we will be awarding badges to students who have consistently displayed our core values throughout the last half term, in addition to those who have accumulated a high number of achievement points. For those students who haven't yet received a badge, they will receive an Aspire certificate, acknowledging their commitment and encouraging their continued growth. We are looking forward to celebrating the many ways our students contribute positively to the Haydon School community. Thank you also for your ongoing support.

Mobile Phone Procedure

All parents of students in Years 7-10 should have received a letter this week detailing a change we are planning with regard to how we manage mobile phone use in school. The letter is [linked here](#) in case it was missed by anyone.

Wishing you all an enjoyable Bank Holiday weekend.

Your sincerely,



Robert Jones
Headteacher

Key Dates

- Monday 5th May School closed due to the Bank Holiday
- Year 10 Work Experience: Wednesday 7th May - Friday 9th May 2025
- Year 7 Parent Evening - Early Closure: Thursday 8th May 2025
- Year 12 Parent Evening - Thursday 22nd May 2025
- Half Term: Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May 2025

Headteacher: Mr R Jones BSc(Econ) MBA NPQH

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