

Haydon School

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE LETTER

RWJ/jmp/Headteacher's Update
1 October 2021



Dear Parents and Carers

GCSE and A-level Examinations in Summer 2022

Yesterday, Ofqual announced their decisions with respect to GCSE and A level examinations this summer. [A summary of the decisions can be found here](#) Mrs Appleby will be giving an assembly to Year 11 students on Monday morning and we will send out further details to parents and Mr Gooch will speak to the Year 13 students in their assembly next week on Tuesday.

'Les Miserables'

I am delighted that our Performing Arts Faculty has started rehearsals for our first school production since the Covid pandemic started. This year's whole school musical is 'Les Miserables'. The ever popular musical is set against a backdrop of the French Revolution with songs such as 'I dreamed a dream' and 'Can you hear the people sing?' Over 70 students auditioned for a part in the show and the team were very impressed by the high standard of performance. Rehearsals are about to begin in St Mary's Hall. The cast is led by Isaac Algar (Year 11) as Valjean, Freya Thorpe (Year 11) as Javert, Natalie Wash (Year 13) as Cosette and Mia Dupree (Year 12) as Fantine. The production will take place on the 30 and 31 March.

Duke of Edinburgh

On the weekend of 18-19 September, 70 students in Year 10 undertook their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award Practice Expedition. On Saturday students started at Amersham Station, heading South to Paccar Scout Camp, which was to be home for Saturday evening. On Sunday students headed East to reach Haydon School as their finishing point.

Students practiced their navigation skills using map and compass as well as camp craft skills such as pitching tents and cooking with a gas stove.

This weekend (2 - 3 October 2021) the students will be undertaking their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award Assessment Expedition. On the long weekend of 23 - 25 October 2021 54 students in Year 11 will be undertaking their Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award Assessment Expedition.

I wish all students involved every success and would like to thank Mr Harding, Miss Brock and Miss Maisuria for their time running all expeditions. I do hope that the weather improves!



Early Closures – Wednesday 6 October & Thursday 14 October - 1.20pm

On Wednesday 6 October we will be holding a Year 11 Parents' Afternoon/Evening (virtual) and on Thursday 14 October we have our Sixth Form Open Evening. On both these dates the school will close early for all students at 1.20pm. All students will go to their period 4 lesson at 12.20pm. There will be a lunch service available from 1.20-1.50pm for students entitled to free school meals and others who wish to eat before they leave. Students are also welcome to use the canteen to eat their packed lunch. All students should then leave the site.

Sixth Form Open Evening: Thursday 14 October 2021: 6.00–8.00pm

We are incredibly proud of our Sixth Form, and I look forward to welcoming Year 11 students and parents to our Open Evening. The Headteacher's talks at 6:15pm and 7:00pm will be bookable on-line and further details will be sent out early next week and posted on the school's website following an assembly to the whole of Year 11 on Monday.

Some of the reasons why we are an exceptional Sixth Form:

- We develop students' study skills, wider social and emotional development and ensure they develop far beyond just academic achievement
- As a result 95% secured their first choice University
- 29% A*-A, 55% A*-B, 80% A*-C grades
- Consistent track record of multiple students securing places at Oxbridge and Medical schools
- Highest University placements at Russell Group universities in the borough – 50 students last year
- Extensive track record in securing Higher Level and degree Apprenticeships including *TfL, Heathrow, Skanska, Warner Brothers Studios, Civil Service Fast Track with the Ministry of Justice, British Airways and others in accounting and finance*

Breakfast

We are pleased to inform you that from Monday 4 October we will start serving breakfast in the school canteen again. Both students and staff are welcome to have their breakfasts from 8:20am.

Covid Vaccinations

I am currently in correspondence with the local authority about the vaccination programme for 12 to 15 year olds. The vaccination team will be in school between 18 and 20 October. I will be sending out consent forms in the near future.

I have been notified of the following:

Please ensure that parents are made aware that children who have had a positive COVID test within 28 days of the team attending will not be able to be vaccinated - there must be a 28-day delay between being positive and being vaccinated. The NHS have raised that from some schools (in other Boroughs) they had some children who appeared unwell, with symptoms of COVID, presenting for vaccinations on the day. Where this is the case, they will not vaccinate these children.

Please also note that we have been informed that children who have had any other vaccination within 7 days will not be able to be vaccinated.

A reminder that students aged 16 or above can get their vaccinations at the local walk in centre. [Details can be found here.](#)

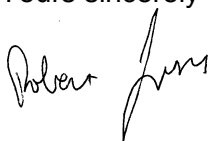
We have had a number of positive Covid cases over the first four weeks of school and it is very important that students continue to undertake lateral flow tests and report all results to:

1. The NHS Test and Trace self-report website – <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> or call 119 free from a mobile or landline
2. The school - haydonschool.com/covidtestresult (You can also access on our website under the Parent Tab).

Deputy Headteachers' Update to Students

The first letter from Mrs Appleby and Mr Kidd can be found [here](#)

Yours sincerely



Robert Jones
Headteacher

Key Dates

Wednesday 06 October Year 11 Parents Afternoon/Evening (**Early Closure – 1.20pm**)

Thursday 14 October Sixth Form Open Evening (**Early Closure – 1.20pm**)

Monday 25 October to Friday 5 November (2 weeks) – HALF TERM

