



HASTINGS HIGH SCHOOL

Care and Excellence for All

SPRING NEWSLETTER

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you had a good half term break and have been enjoying this recent spell of warm weather. Fingers crossed it's a sign of another great summer coming!

Rajiv Popat

Hastings is part of a national organisation called Speakers for Schools which arranges school talks from a very wide range of business people. In the last couple of years we have held talks from David Cameron's legal advisor, a director of Facebook and a BBC News Director.

Our next visitor is Rajiv Popat who is an ITV news presenter who you may have seen on Central News. He will be visiting the school next week to talk about the media to some of our key stage 4 pupils.

Cashless Catering

Many parents have requested that we use online payments for food in school and I am pleased to tell you that we will be introducing this later on this year. It is likely to be fully operational for the autumn term. I will let you know more in the summer when we hope to start trialling it.

Lockdown Strategy

Schools nationally are being advised to have a lockdown strategy in place to keep pupils safe if there is an intruder on site. Whilst we have not needed one in the past and don't expect to need one in the future, we feel it is prudent to introduce this based on DFE national advice.

We will be launching it later on this year in assemblies and are likely to have a practice in the summer term. The procedure will involve staff locking pupils in their classrooms for a short time until the all clear is signalled. When we do the drill we will warn pupils beforehand and make it clear it is only a practice to avoid any undue worry.

Parent Governor Vacancy

Included with this newsletter is information about a parent governor vacancy. If you are interested, please contact Nick Goforth at school for further details.

Red Nose Day – 15 March

The annual spring charity event this year is Red Nose day and is on 15th March. The day will be non-uniform with the usual voluntary contribution of £1 going to the Comic Relief charity.

Sporting Success

Ellie Beasley, Morgan Parsons, Hollie Bailey Wykes and Sophie Beasley took part in the regional schools trampolining competition at Hinckley Leisure Centre earlier this year and did very well coming second. Well done to you all!

Seneca Revision

All students and teachers now have free access to Seneca - a revision and homework website. Their web app covers 150+ exam board specific courses condensing what students need to know for their exams. The software is able to identify gaps in learning, for instance, when you get a question wrong, the web page will repeat the topic in different formats. Seneca is totally free for students, teacher and parents. You can sign up via [senecalearning.com](https://www.senecalearning.com)

Charity Events

We held two charity events last term and raised a significant amount of money for both. We raised £129.00 for the Poppy Appeal and over £200 for Save the Children. Thank you to everyone for your generosity.

Lego Donations

Many thanks to those of you who sent in donations of LEGO. Our lunchtime club started just before the half term break and one student remarked that it was “a sterling success”.

If your son or daughter is still interested in joining please ask them to come and see me and I will add them to my reserve list.

Michelle Cobley, Teaching Assistant

Exam Invigilators

We are currently recruiting exam invigilators for the summer exam series. If you are interested please contact the school and ask for Mandy Kuhnert, our exams officer.

Hastings Alumni

Hastings High School has launched an alumni association this year and is actively seeking ex-students to sign up and receive updates on their old school. If you know any ex-students or are an ex-student we would be grateful if you could pass on your details or subscribe to our "LinkedIn" account to receive updates. Alternately please email your details to Hastings@hastings.leics.sch.uk and we will get in touch.

Nut Allergies

I would ask that parents exercise care and consideration towards pupils in school with a nut allergy when planning the contents of lunch boxes. We have a number of students who have severe nut allergies and can be seriously affected by someone else who is eating – or may have recently eaten – nuts. We would kindly ask for your support on this important medical issue.

Please note that although we are striving to be a nut-free school, it is impossible to provide an absolute guarantee that no nuts will be brought onto the premises.

Calendar Dates

- Friday 15 March Red Nose Day – Non uniform
- Wednesday 13 March Personal Development Day 4
- Friday 12 April End of Spring Term
- Monday 29 April Start of Summer Term
- Monday 13 May Start of GCSE examinations

Thank you

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support.

Nick Goforth, Head of Hastings