

We are looking forward to our 11+ Open Events next week and the opportunity to welcome prospective students from Years 5 and 6 into our school. Students from across the school will be involved during the morning and evening events. These are always enjoyable events and we will for the first time be able to share all our new facilities with those coming to see us. With this in mind please do ensure that all letters and the associated reply slips have been returned. We welcome two new members of staff this week Mrs Sayers as our new Pastoral Support Manager for the Lower School, who will be based in the Lower School Office with Mr Gordon and Miss Newman and Mrs Bennett our new Teaching Assistant will be working with Mrs Lee and Mr Quiros. Well done to all Year 11 Mandarin Excellence Programme students who sat the HSK 3 paper in May last year and have now received their result. This is an exceptionally challenging qualification and we are really proud of all of the hard work which students put in to preparing for it. Year 10 and Year 11 students attended the Kent Youth Summit on Tuesday 4th October, hosted by the University of Kent. At the summit, students participated in workshops on the role of science in answering modern problems and the use of Mathematics and codes in our everyday communications. The group will be sharing what they learned across the school in the coming weeks. Look out for more detail in future editions of the bulletin! Our Year 13 A-level Biology students enjoyed a trip to Shorne Woods last Thursday, carrying out ecological sampling to investigate the diversity of plants growing in different places across the park. They enjoyed applying their biological knowledge to a real-life ecosystem and learning about the adaptations of different plants to their environment. Our Year 11 Geographers completed their GCSE fieldwork on Friday. Having worried all week what the fieldwork



weather gods would do we were lucky to head out on a largely sunny day. Working in two groups our students carried out their fieldwork measurements with excellent enthusiasm and good humour (not least because the River Darent was decidedly chilly!). It is always wonderful to carry out the river



fieldwork – it's a day that brings out the child in all of us and the students certainly got into the swing of things and got some really useful experiences for their GCSE preparations. Thanks to all the members of staff who supported on the trip and back at school.

Looking forward

Monday 10th October

Atholl House Assembly (HALL)

Tuesday 11th October

Chadwick House Assembly (HALL)

Tuesday 11th-Thursday 13th October

D of E Bronze training

Wednesday 12th October

Darnley House Assembly (HALL)

Year 7 Learning to Learn

Thursday 13th October

German morning at Bronte School (6th form work experience)

Monday 17th October

Year 13 mock interviews, 4.15-6.30pm

Lynton House Assembly (HALL)

Tuesday 18th October

Penfold House Assembly (HALL)

Tuesday 18th-Thursday 20th October

Open Mornings 9-11am (Booking via website)

Wednesday 19th October

Reekie House Assembly (HALL)

Thursday 20th October

Open Evening 6.00-8.30pm (No booking required)

Westbrook House Assembly (HALL)

Friday 21st October

"Show Racism the Red Card" – non-uniform day

National Poetry Day

For this year's National Poetry Day on 6th October, Greenpeace and National Poetry Day invite you to put your poetry hat on. We want your lively limericks, heartfelt haikus and polished prose on the theme of the environment and hope. The competition closes at midnight on **1st December**. Find out more about Poems for the Planet:

<https://www.greenpeace.org.uk/resources/poems-planet-competition>

Assembly theme

This week's Assembly theme: World Mental Health Day

A programme of the World Federation for Mental Health, was observed for the first time on 10 October 1992. They are working to understand the ways in which levels of anxiety, fear, isolation, social distancing and restrictions, uncertainty and emotional distress experienced have become widespread as the world struggles to bring the virus under control and to find solutions and support those around the world impacted by it.

Our School Environment

Please ensure all areas of school are left litter free.

Litter duty: 10W Please collect the litter picks and black sacks from the Premises shed and report to your Learning Leader at the end of lunchtime.

at break and lunchtime and remember to bring a bottle each day to minimise use of single use plastic bottles.

Black History Month

Black History Month is celebrated every October, as a focus on diverse history. This is a valuable opportunity to reflect upon the progress made in recent historical research and to highlight the new voices in history that are being heard. This year's assembly takes as its focus the activist Roy Hackett, one of the leading activists behind the Bristol Bus Boycott. We look forward to hearing more accounts from our students of the diverse histories they have been exploring and wish to share not just this month, but throughout the year.

Reminders

Uniform: Pupils should be wearing either black socks worn below the knee or black tights. Skirts should be worn on the knee or longer.

Arriva Buses: We have had the following message from Arriva stating further strikes are due to take place affecting the local area: "Strikes will take place on 30th September and dates below in October. We are extremely disappointed for all our customers to confirm that further industrial action will take place in October across Northfleet, Gillingham, Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells on the following dates: 6th, 7th, 10th & 11th October".

Online Cookbook: Mrs Johnston would like to share this online cookbook with us, there are some lovely recipes and it's free!

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/57ea401815d5db35a6482940/t/5c879b026e9a7f38beae6cce/155239111530/Et+Delicious.+Eat+Well+for+%C2%A32.57+per+day.+Limahl+Asmall+and+Tiphaine+Cheveau+-compressed.pdf>

Lost Property: If anyone loses a PE kit/blazer/coat/shoes, please look in the lost property bins at the bottom of the stairs by the staff room. Any valuables are held in the main office.

Coming prepared for lessons: Can we remind all students to look at timetables and pack bags with all equipment needed for the school day. Parents should not be bringing in items you have forgotten.

Lower School Uniform: Blazer is a compulsory uniform item which should be worn at all times, if you are too warm remove your jumper, not your blazer.

Please remind your parents that you may not be dropped off or collected on site without prior arrangement.

Parking on roads around the school: Please could we ask that parents/carers park considerately and safely on the roads around the school. There should be no parking directly outside or in the immediate vicinity of the school entrances to drop off or pick up children. We have recently received reports of parents blocking residents' access to their property – please can we ask that you be considerate to our neighbours.

Mandarin Clubs

Come along to:

- Mandarin Games Club on Monday lunchtime between 1:50-2:20pm in MF01. You can practise and improve your Mandarin whilst having fun at the same time!
- Lower School Mandarin Support Club on Tuesday lunchtime between 1:50-2:20pm in MF09. You can get help and practise your Mandarin.
- Upper School Mandarin Support Club on Wednesday lunchtime between 1:50-2:20pm in MF09. You can get help and practise your Mandarin.
- Chinese Culture Club on Thursday lunchtime between 1:50-2:20pm in MF09 to experience and discover more about all things Chinese!

Recycling



Have you seen our EcoVend recycling machine in the orangery?

For every plastic bottle or can purchased from the canteen can now be recycled and you can claim a 1p credit to your catering account.

Please follow the instructions on the screen of the machine and collect your receipt. You can now take this to the till in the canteen and it will be credited to your account.

Please ensure any surplus liquid left in the bottle is disposed of using the sink located in the canteen.

Enjoy and thank you all for helping our environment.

MGS Reader's Corner

Stuck for something to read? How about a book *about* books? There are no shortage of texts which explore the theme of books in varying ways. Have a look at our must-reads about books:



The Book Thief (*one of our 16 by 16 recommendations*) by Markus Zusak

The Book of Lost Things by John Connolly
Balzac and the little Chinese Seamstress by Dai Sijie

Fangirl by Rainbow Powell

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society by Annie Barrows and Mary Ann Shaffer
The Book of Speculation by Erica Swyler



There are some great videos on youtube which explore this genre and will give you more ideas for books to read inspired by books [The Best Books about Books | #BookBreak - YouTube](#)

Have a look at [Books about Books \(1191 books\) \(goodreads.com\)](#) for more book-related inspiration!

House Merits

	Merit	Community	Sport
Atholl	28	31	13
Chadwick	32	28	19
Darnley	26	23	18
Lynton	22	22	25
Penfold	9	22	19
Reekie	23	28	19
Westbrook	29	32	33