

Weekly News – 13th February 2026

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE: It was great to see our assembly programme highlighting 'International Women in Science Day' being presented by some of our own female, year 13 scientists, of whom we are very proud. It was also wonderful having our Year 13s engrossed in a day of English Literature lectures to support them accessing the higher grades at A-Level. This provides another opportunity to promote our [wider reading list](#) for competitive university and apprenticeship applications. It is never too early to start this reading.

As an outward facing school, we have visited two other schools in different areas of the UK – one of which was this week - to see and share good practice, ensuring that we are constantly improving. A final point from me, with the first GCSE practical exams beginning shortly after this next half term, a reminder that study leave for years 11 and 13 will begin after their last day of term on the 22nd May, 2026. Wishing everyone a good half-term break.

WEEKLY DIARY - Please click [here](#) for the diary for the week commencing 23rd February.

YEAR 8 ASSEMBLY On Tuesday March 3rd, Year 8 have an assembly called 'Hooked', which positively challenges attitudes and explores the effects of addiction, vaping and smoking. Using hard-hitting drama and emotional engagement, they show the potential consequences of peer pressure and influence, risk-taking behaviour and short-term decision making. It has been developed with guidance from Public Health Specialists and the NHS and was a great success last year with our students so we look forward to their return.

YEAR 9 PARENTS' EVENING – A reminder that this will be held online on Thursday 26th February. The system will go live for bookings at 6.30pm on Monday 9th February 2026 via this link [SchoolCloud - Holmer Green Senior School](#). **Bookings will be limited to 5 appointments per student initially**, and all spare appointments will be released on the 18th February at 9am.

Year 13 AP2 Content Guide can be found [here](#).

ATTENDANCE HGSS has been awarded the certificate below for our attendance (September 2025 to December 2025). We are in the top 25% of schools nationally for attendance. There are just under 3,000 secondary schools out of a total of 4,000 in the UK whose data is analysed by the FFT charity. This is a good validation of our attendance systems, and we want to thank parents, staff and students for their efforts in helping us to achieve this.



WEBSITE REDESIGN Our website will be getting a facelift later this year and we would really welcome your feedback on what changes, if any, you would like to see. We would be very grateful if you could please complete this very short form to provide us with your feedback: [Website feedback – Fill in form](#)

PA QUIZ NIGHT A reminder that tickets are still available to buy on www.schoolgateway.com. Many people have said they are planning on coming and have not yet bought a ticket, so if you are planning to come, please do get your tickets so we have a better idea of numbers and know how many to cater for!

DAY TO WORK

What?

Spend a day in the workplace of a family member or trusted adult to learn more about a career path, job or workplace

Who?

All year groups are encouraged to take part

When?

23rd February 2026 (INSET day)

How?

Contact the employer using the letter template on the HGSS website.

Why?

- ✓ Experience work life first-hand
- ✓ Discover likes and dislikes
- ✓ Get a flavour of a professional environment
- ✓ Find out which skills and qualities are needed to succeed
- ✓ Facilitate the study and career decision making process
- ✓ Opportunity to network, which may lead to future paid work

Remember:

- Collect a **Day to Work** booklet from the Careers Office in 6th Form off the Purple Study Room
- Share photos with Miss Matthews, Careers Lead by emailing matthewsk@holmer.org.uk.
- A prize will be awarded for the best submission in each year group!

And finally, to celebrate **Chinese New Year**, we would like to share with you this picture by Leah R, Year 8 – one of the winning entries in last year's card competition run by the Art department winners. Huge congratulations to Leah for such a superb piece of work!

