



## Weekly News – 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2026

**HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE:** The exam hall has been taken down this week, giving PE back their sports hall. It is amazing how quickly the GCSE and ALevels exams have finished. We worked collaboratively with a range of primary schools earlier this week on a project, led by Papaya, to provide advice to children in Key Stages 1, 2 and 3 around social media and mobile phone awareness. The guidance produced will be shared by the schools involved. A huge well done to all the pupils and staff involved in this project. Lastly, it was great to see almost the whole year 13 cohort at their Prom on Wednesday night. It is striking each year, to see another cohort leaving after 7 years and the pride felt in another great group of young people moving on to their next chapters. Have a great weekend.

**Uniform** Temperatures set to rise again next week, but not to the level we had recently. Students will remain in school uniform for Monday to Wednesday, but we will keep an eye on the situation. Students will be wearing PE kit on Thursday and Friday though, as they will be participating in the Personal Development days.

**Attendance** With temperatures rising, it is important to note that we do expect students to attend school and we will always endeavour to remain open. Students need to take measures to be comfortable in the heat. They should bring in large water bottles (750ml minimum ideally), which they can refill during the day; wear a sunhat; apply sunscreen; stay in the shade where possible; and keep exertion to a minimum in the middle of the day.

**Summer production:** It is our pleasure to invite you to this year's School Summer Production of *Our Day Out* written by Willy Russell. The play follows a school trip that does not go to plan and explores themes of the education system and the impact we can have on one another.

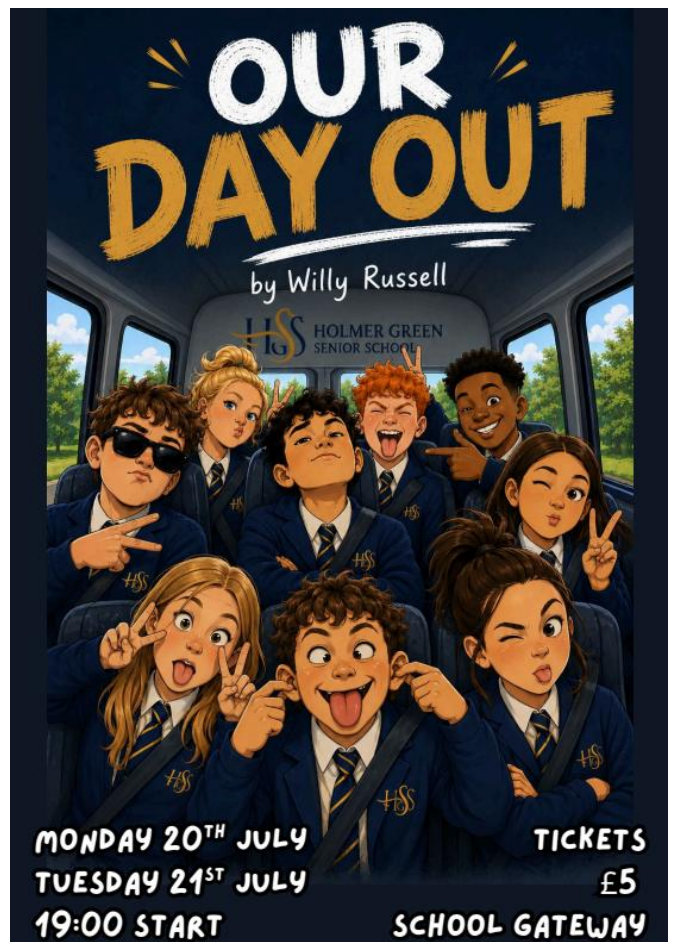
Due to the success of last year's production, we are pleased to announce that there will be two performances this year:  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 7pm

We look forward to welcoming you and celebrating all the hard work students have put into this year's production. The production takes place in the Main Hall and will open at 6:40pm and start at 7pm. We estimate the show to be 2 hours with a short interval. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer refreshments so please do bring your own

Tickets are £5 and available via [School Gateway](#).

**Mobile Phone Lockers - Policy Reminder:** To support our mobile phone expectations and ensure consistency across the school, students are expected to store their phones in their allocated phone locker at the start of the school day. If a student does not have their phone locker available and instead hands their phone in at Reception, the phone will be securely stored and not returned until 3.25pm. This approach maintains fairness for all students and encourages students to take responsibility for bringing and using their phone locker each day. Thanks for your support in reinforcing these expectations.

Also, be reminded that any phone confiscated within the last 2 weeks of this term (i.e. on or after Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July) will not be returned until 16<sup>th</sup> October as per our [Mobile Phone Policy](#).



**Coach Parking - 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> July** A reminder that we have a number of school trips taking place on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> July which will require coaches parking locally. Timings will be approximately 8.15-9.15am and 2.30-3.45pm on both days and there will be 2 – 3 coaches at each of the 2 sites below (Watchet Lane and New Pond Road). Apologies for any disruption on those days.



**Subject: Sixth Form Procedures – Student illness and attendance expectations** As we continue to support our Sixth Form students in developing independence and responsibility, we would like to clarify our procedures regarding illness, leaving the school site, and attendance expectations.

If a student becomes unwell during the school day, they must report directly to the Medical Room and be assessed by our Medical Officer. Students should not leave lessons or the school site independently due to illness without following this process.

Please note that we will not authorise students to leave the site based on phone calls, text messages, or emails received directly from parents or carers to your child or to the Sixth Form team. All cases of illness must be assessed in school. Where it is deemed appropriate, the Medical Officer will contact home to arrange collection or discuss next steps. If your child has a medical appointment, please email [attendance@holmer.org.uk](mailto:attendance@holmer.org.uk) with confirmation of the appointment.

Regular attendance has a direct impact on academic outcomes, as well as on the quality of references provided for apprenticeships and employment opportunities. Strong attendance demonstrates commitment, reliability, and resilience - qualities highly valued by further education providers and employers alike.

We ask for your continued support in ensuring that students attend all lessons punctually and consistently, only remaining at home or seeking medical advice in school when genuinely unwell. Thank you for your cooperation and for working in partnership with us to support students' wellbeing and success.

**July's Safeguarding Factsheet:** Please click [here](#) for the July safeguarding factsheet. This month it is about AI Chatbots, why they present risks and how, as parents, the risks can be addressed.

**Preloved uniform donations:** Please donate any preloved uniform, PE kit, shoes/trainers/football boots and any other items (revision guides that are no longer needed for instance). Items can be left at Reception. Also, don't forget you can buy preloved uniform online [here](#), and we can send the items home with the student (or you can come and collect). You can also order over the summer holidays, and it will be ready once we return.



## Diary for week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> July:

Date	Time	Event
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July</b>	9am 9-11am 6-7pm	Year 7 Assembly (main hall) SEN transition morning for new Year 7s New Year 7 Parent Information Evening re Transition (main hall)
<b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July</b>	All day 9am	Transition Day Year 10 assembly (dining room)
<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July</b>	All day All day 9am 2pm 6-8pm	Transition Day Brilliant Club graduation, Year 9 – Oxford Year 9 Assembly (dining room) Year 12 assembly (dining room) Full Governing Board Meeting
<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July</b>	All day All day All day All day	Whipsnade Zoo – Year 7 Group A Hampton Court Palace – Year 8 group B Years 7b, 8a, 9 and 10 – Personal Development Activities Sixth form induction day
<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July</b>	All day All day All day	Whipsnade Zoo – Year 7 Group B Hampton Court Palace – Year 8 group A Years 7a, 8b, 9 and 10 – Personal Development Activities

### WATER SAFETY ADVICE

Stay safe near rivers, lakes, canals and open water this summer.

Spending time near water can be fun, especially in warm weather, but open water can be dangerous even if you are a strong swimmer. Rivers, lakes, canals, quarries and reservoirs can be much colder than they look, with hidden hazards and strong currents.

Do not jump, dive or swim in open water unless it is a supervised, designated place.

- Never go near water alone - stay with friends and make sure someone knows where you are.

Be aware that cold water shock can affect anyone, even strong swimmers, and can make it hard to breathe or move.

Rivers, canals and lakes may have hidden dangers under the surface such as rocks, rubbish, weeds, fishing line or sudden drops.

Do not take risks to impress others, including dares, bridge jumps or entering the water for social media content.

- If you fall in, try to stay calm, float on your back, keep your airway clear and control your breathing.

If you see someone in trouble, call 999, shout for help, and throw something that floats. Do not go in after them.

If possible, choose supervised swimming venues or pools instead of unsupervised open water.

**Remember: Enjoy the good weather, look out for your friends, and stay safe around water.**



**IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 999 AND ASK FOR THE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**

