

## Weekly News - 7th November 2025

### HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE:

I want to take this opportunity to thank all our students and staff who made the trips to Paris and the Venture Award so successful.

The homework timetable is available [here](#). We are keen for all our students to read, or listen to books and have a list of suggested reads [here](#), depending on which subjects/areas they are interested in. Students currently completing UCAS applications always wish they had started reading these works years earlier to add to their personal statements.

Assemblies have been based around this week's theme of Anti-Bullying, as well as mock exam preparation for our year 11 and 13 students who will be doing these in the forthcoming weeks.

Lastly, with firework events this week and a very bright moon, I thought I would share Adam Lindsay Gordon's haunting poem, "Doubtful Dreams", which suggests in the time we have today, let us make a brilliant spark in the dark:

*For the great things of earth are small things,  
The longest life is a span,  
And there is an end to all things,  
A season to every man,  
Whose glory is dust and ashes,  
Whose spirit is but a spark,  
That out from the darkness flashes,  
And flickers out in the dark.*

### GENERAL NOTICES:

Please click [here](#) for the diary for the week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> November.

This term, our focus remains on a culture of consistency and high standards for all, supporting every student to meet expectations and take pride in their effort.

Part of this is ensuring uniform standards are met by all and that students have the correct equipment each day. We have had a few instances of students wearing nail varnish this week, and of not being properly equipped for lessons. We kindly ask parents and carers to check their child's equipment regularly and replace any missing items so that students remain prepared for learning. Uniform guidelines and equipment list can be found [here](#).

### YEAR 11

Year 11 mock exams begin the week after we return from the half term break – 10<sup>th</sup> November. Please click [here](#) to view the full timetable.

We have a Sixth Form Open Evening on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December from 6-8pm. Tickets can be obtained [here](#).

We are offering a number of after school GCSE Intervention sessions this half term and would urge as many year 11s as possible to take advantage of this opportunity. We are advising year 11 to spend a minimum of 2 hours per evening revising, therefore attendance at a revision session would account for one hour before they have arrived home.

Please sign your child up to these interventions on SchoolCloud – link [here](#):

**Mondays:**

Chemistry with Mr Khalid  
Physics with Mrs Kang  
Spanish with Mr Larkin  
French with Mrs De Groot  
Business Studies with Mrs Towers  
Sociology with Ms Lary

**Wednesday:**

Maths foundation with Mr Richards  
Maths higher with Mr Ortega  
Biology with Miss Jakku  
French with Mrs De Groot  
Spanish with Mr Larkin

**Thursday:**

English with Miss Wilson  
English with Miss Simpson  
Music with Mrs Whitby

**Friday:**

Geography with Mr Wooller

**SIXTH FORM**

- Year 12 and 13 mock exams also begin on the 10<sup>th</sup> November. Please click [here](#) for the full timetable.
- A reminder that there is an A-level English trip on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November to the English and Media Centre.

**MESSAGES FROM OUR PARENTS' ASSOCIATION:**

With December fast approaching we would like to hold a HGSS Christmas Raffle and need your help to secure prizes. If you work for a company that could offer a prize such as restaurant/spa vouchers, theatre tickets or just a bottle of wine and other items to fill a Christmas Hamper it would be much appreciated. Please email [office@holmer.org.uk](mailto:office@holmer.org.uk) or bring them directly to reception.

Also a new fundraising event- PA members are taking part in the Santa Fun Run in Marlow on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December. All donations go directly to our school. If you would like to take part, please email [office@holmer.org.uk](mailto:office@holmer.org.uk) for more information. Alternatively, if you would like to just donate, please click [here](#). Many thanks for your support!