

Weekly News – 13th March 2026

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE: This week has seen a wide range of industries presenting in assemblies about their careers, including: Business, Police, NHS, film production and an alumni Hamna Mahmood on Audit Apprenticeships. Year 9 also completed an extended morning on careers to support them with their forthcoming Options. The year 11 Geographers have been to the Olympic Park this week for fieldwork, and selected students have represented the school at the Bucks Youth Summit. Netball and football tournaments have also been plentiful this week. Well done to all those who have represented HGSS during this busy week. Lastly, the Government is consulting on how children use digital technology as well as measures including:

1. setting a minimum age for children to access social media;
2. restricting risky functionalities and design features that encourage excessive use, such as infinite scrolling and autoplay;
3. whether the digital age of consent should be raised;
4. how age verification and age assurance technologies can support effective implementation;
5. whether the guidance on the use of mobile phones in schools should be put on a statutory footing;
6. better support for parents, including clearer guidance and simpler parental controls.

The Government wants to hear from everyone, including young people, whose voices are central to this process. A dedicated version of this consultation has been published for children, and a separate version for parents and carers [here](#).

Wishing you a good weekend.

WEEKLY DIARY - Please click [here](#) for the diary for the week commencing 16th March.

YEAR 9 OPTIONS: A reminder that Year 9 Options Evening is on **Thursday 19th March**, with doors opening at 5:50pm. There will be two welcome speeches in the main hall:

- 6:00pm – students with surnames from A-M
- 6:45pm – students with surnames from N-Z (a bell will ring 5 minutes prior to this speech starting)

Subject teams will be based in classrooms and you will be able to visit them to discuss their curriculum offer up until 8 pm.

The event will be ticketed, and you can book your tickets at the following link: [Options Information Evening - 19th March 6-8pm – Fill in form](#)

The online portal will open from 8pm on Thursday 19th March and the deadline for students submitting their options via the portal is **3pm on Thursday 26th March**.

Please click [here](#) for instructions for **students** to support them in selecting their options on the SIMS app and click [here](#) for instructions for **parents** to use to approve the options your child makes.

