



CH/lw

7 September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Drama production – 2 October 2018

Children across the UK are spending increasing amounts of time on the internet, and at younger ages. Although this brings many opportunities to enjoy themselves and learn, it also brings potential risks.

Buckinghamshire County Council is very lucky to have been awarded money, as part of the Cybercrime grant from the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner, to help children stay safe online.

Buckinghamshire have commissioned school drama specialists AlterEgo Creative Solutions (creators of Chelsea's Choice) to provide a play suitable for children in Year 7. It will help them learn about online risk and healthy online behaviour and relationships.

The play will be visiting 40 schools in Buckinghamshire and our school has secured a performance so that your child can benefit from this opportunity. The play will be visiting our school on 2 October 2018.

The play is age appropriate and is called "Click". It lasts approximately 45 minutes and will cover issues such as online safety, cyberbullying and good online communication. Our school will be doing follow up work to ensure that children get the maximum benefit from the play and it will be an important part of our online safety curriculum. As a follow up to the play, the children will also take part in a short, anonymous, opinion survey to measure the impact of the performance.

We hope that this will be a memorable way to enhance their safe internet usage and help our children to stay safe on line.

We would welcome your support to maximise your child's benefit from the performance. We know that you already take time to ensure your children know how to keep safe on the internet. Talking to your child about the play and what they have learnt would be a great way to support this learning.

If you would like further information about the issues that children may face online, how to have conversations with your children, and where to go for help and support please visit the following website provided by the police Child Exploitation and Protection Centre (CEOP) <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/> or the NSPCC website net aware <https://www.net-aware.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely
Mrs C Hawkins
Designated Safeguarding Lead



September 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Cashless catering with sQuid

At Holmer Green we use a cashless card system for paying for food in our Canteen. This means:-

- **Less queuing and more break time**
- **No need to carry cash to school**
- **Protection of the card balance should it be lost or stolen**

The card costs £2.50 and all you need to do is logon to the SchoolComms payment system and order the card. The cards will be issued by sQuid and will come home via your child. You will then you will be able to top the card up online. The on screen instructions are clear and easy to follow.

This facility is also be available for students who claim Free School Meals and will avoid any distinction with other students. Free School Meals cards will be paid for and ordered by the school.

Once you have created a sQuid account and registered the card you will also be able to manage your sQuid account online at anytime to:

- **Check your child's account balance and view their transactions**
- **Top up your child's sQuid account from your bank account, credit or debit card**
- **Update their details and preferences**

To find out more go to <https://www.squidcard.com> and refer to the sQuid web site for full Terms and Conditions.

We are currently accepting cash in the Canteen but from 1 October we will only be accepting card payments so please make sure you order your card at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely

Lynda Jackson
Director of Finance, HR and Resources



VW/lw
7 September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

Reading Records

Year 7 students will be provided with a Reading Record for their reading. Students are expected to read a book (of their choice, which they can get from the school library) for at least one hour each week as part of their English homework. We ask that you sign their Reading Record each week before their library lesson. Students may have one or multiple boxes filled in for each week, and they will need to state how long they read for each time.

Thank you in advance for helping with this important activity to encourage their reading!

Yours sincerely

Miss V Wilson
Head of KS3 English



LJ/lw
7 September 18

Dear Parents and Carers

I am emailing to notify you that we have moved to online payments only from 1 September 2018 and therefore we will no longer be accepting cheques or cash. This is safer for students, more reliable and as a parent you can guarantee a payment has reached us and can easily check online a record of all your payments to the school. This move is in line with other schools in the area, many of whom have made this change several years ago.

Please can all parents make sure they can login to their SchoolComms account and access the payments page in readiness for September. If you are not registered please go to:

<https://login.schoolgateway.com/0/auth/login>

and create an account using your email address and mobile phone number which you have registered with the school. If you have any problems please email into the main office on office@holmer.org.uk

[School Gateway Login](#)

login.schoolgateway.com

SCHOOL GATEWAY APP - NEW FEATURES You can now make payments via School Gateway app. Download from your app store.

With many thanks.

Lynda Jackson
Director of Finance, HR and Resources



LJ/lw
7 September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

Student Planners

Your son or daughter will have been issued with their new Student Planner at Registration.

The Planners should be used for recording homework, timetable, achievements and much more. The school would be grateful if you could make a voluntary contribution of £3 towards the cost of producing the diary.

All payments for trips and school events can be made by logging on to www.schoolgateway.com. You will need to select New User and enter the mobile and email address that you have already registered with the school. You will then be sent a PIN number by text to use for future use. If you experience any problems with registering please contact the school.

If your son or daughter needs a replacement at any time, this will be charged for also.

Yours sincerely

Faculty Support



VW/lw
7 September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

Talk the Talk

On Wednesday 12 September, Year 7 students will be participating in an all-day activity to develop their oracy skills. Talk the Talk is an organisation that we worked with last year to provide a fun and informative day to help students feel more confident when speaking in front of their peers. Students will not need to bring anything but a positive attitude, as everything is provided by the organisers and funded by the school.

We look forward to another successful event with Talk the Talk where students can build their speaking skills.

Yours sincerely

Miss V Wilson
Head of KS3 English



VW/lw
7 September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

The Garbage King

This half term in English, Year 7 will be studying *The Garbage King* by Elizabeth Laird. We are providing each student with a loaned copy of the novel that they will be using to read at home.

As such, it is important to emphasise that they need to be responsible for their course materials and notes, and so there will be a £5 charge plus £3.50 postage to replace their copy if it is lost, written in, or defaced. If you wish to replace the book yourself, the ISBN is 9781509802951.

We appreciate your cooperation with helping our students take on more responsibility for their English studies.

Yours sincerely

Miss V Wilson
Head of KS3 English



CH/lw
7 September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Significant Events and Dates for your Diaries

I hope that you have had a good summer break and that your child has had a positive start at Holmer Green. Please find listed below details of significant events and dates for your diaries for this half-term.

EVENT	DATE	TIME	COMMENT
Talk the Talk	Wednesday 12 September	All day	Letter attached
Year 7 Experience Day	Tuesday 18 September	All day	Letter attached
Meet and Greet Disco	Wednesday 19 September	7.00-9.00pm	Letter attached
Year 7 Photos	Wednesday 26 September	Morning	Information only
Internet Safety Drama production	Tuesday 2 October	Period 5	Letter attached
sQuid Card and SchoolComms payments			Letters attached
Planners			Letter attached
Early Closing for Open Evening	Thursday 11 October	12.40pm and 6.00-8.00pm	Information only
Advance Notice of Bushcraft Residential trip	Monday 1 July – Wednesday 3 July 2019	Presentation at Meet and Greet evening on 19 September	Information to follow
Reading Records			Letter attached
The Garbage King			Letter attached

We hope that you have found this helpful having this information sent to you in one correspondence.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Hawkins
Assistant Headteacher



CH/ec

7 September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 7 Experience Day

On Tuesday 18 September we are holding an Experience Day for the new students in Year 7 which is intended to build self-confidence, self-esteem and self-belief. We have arranged for four wellknown athletes (headed up by Paralympian Ian Rose) to come into school and run a full day of events. Students will be split into groups so they can work through activities on a rotation basis experiencing practical and theoretical workshops. There is to be a focus on Communication through Judo, Resilience through Football, Confidence through BMX and Determination through Fitness. Holmer Green Senior School form tutors will also be present with your children throughout the day.

All students need to wear PE kit and come prepared for the weather on that day, with appropriate clothing such as hats, sunblock, sweatshirt, rain jacket. Your son or daughter will still have the normal break and lunch times, but it would be advisable to send them with extra water and healthy snacks to keep them going!

In order to help the school cover the cost of booking this event, we would appreciate a voluntary contribution of £20.00. Please make payments via our online payment system. (Visit www.schoolgateway.com and follow the instructions for New User.) If you experience any difficulty please do contact the school.

We expect exemplary behaviour from all our students at all times in school and during events such as this. Students who behave irresponsibly leading up to the event may have their place withdrawn and committed costs will be lost.

Yours sincerely

Mr K McMaster
Head of Year 7

Year 7 Experience Day, in-school Tuesday 18 September 2018

Student's Name Form

Does your child have any medical condition?	DETAILS:	
Does your child need to carry any medication?	DETAILS:	
Parent Emergency Contact No:	MOBILE:	
I give consent for photographs/videos of my child to appear for promotion/marketing purposes (school website, prospectus and other information publications, classrooms, HGSS Twitter, HGSS Instagram, Show My Homework)		YES / NO

☐ I have made a voluntary contribution online of £20.00.

Signed (Parent/Carer)