



# Hebburn Comprehensive School

Campbell Park Road, Hebburn, Tyne & Wear, NE31 2QU

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Head Teacher: Mr D R Thompson

19 December 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the end of term, I would like to take this opportunity to share with you pupils' achievements and whole-school events from the Autumn Term, as well providing you with some key dates for our return in January.

## KEY DATES



- As parents and carers are aware, school finishes at 12.00pm on Thursday 21 December. Throughout the morning, pupils will have the opportunity to watch the performance of the staff panto and will be able to purchase a hot grab bag priced at £2.20.
- Pupils return to school on Monday 8 January. All pupils should be at entry points for 8.30am prompt for morning line-ups. All year groups have been given information about line-up points for January.
- Year 11 Parents' evening is on Thursday 25 January.
- Pupils break up for half term on Friday 16 February, returning on Monday 26 February.
- We break up for Easter on Thursday 28 March and return on Monday 15 April.
- May Day is on Monday 6 May, meaning that the school is closed.
- Pupils break up for May half term on Friday 24 May and return on Monday 3 June.

## EXPECTATIONS FOR THE NEW TERM

### Basic Equipment

A huge thank you to parents and carers for your support with basic equipment throughout the term. Pupils should continue to bring their basic equipment with them every day in the new term. This helps to instill a sense of responsibility and allows lessons to proceed without disruption.

#### ***What is meant by the term 'basic equipment'?***

The following items of stationery constitute your child's 'basic equipment': a blue or black pen, pencil, ruler and green pen. Your child is expected to bring all of these items with them to school every day. They should also have a school bag to carry books, folders, homework and their PE kit.

#### ***What happens if my child forgets or loses their basic equipment?***

Equipment checks will take place at the start of each new school day. If your child is missing their basic equipment, or any part of it, they will be issued with an after-school detention. Our prefect team will continue to run a stationery shop every day, on morning entry, so that missing items can be replaced promptly and inexpensively. Please refer to the price list below for further information. The stationery shop can be found in the packed lunch area every morning from 8.30am.

### ***Why does my child need these items every day?***

It is hugely important that children are prepared for learning. As part of our marking policy, your child will be required to use a green pen when self-assessing and/or developing work marked by their teachers. We also have high expectations in relation to how classwork should be presented. For example, pupils will need a ruler to underline the date and title, and a pencil for any diagrams or sketches that may need to be recorded in their books.

#### **Price List**

- Blue/black pen: 20p
- Pencil: 20p
- Ruler (15cm): 30p
- Ruler (30cms): 50p
- Green pen: 20p

#### **UNIFORM**

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As a school, we have high expectations in relation to all aspects of school life, including the wearing of school uniform. It gives pupils a sense of belonging and is an important part of our corporate image. It is important that staff are not wasting valuable teaching and learning time dealing with issues relating to uniform.

Some important reminders:

- Blazers are a compulsory part of school uniform. They should not be replaced with an alternative outer layer/jacket.
- Leggings are not part of school uniform.
- Tube skirts/elasticated skirts are not acceptable. School skirts should be knee length and follow school policy.
- Pupils are required to wear black, polishable footwear; canvas/material footwear is not permitted. As you are already aware, boots are not allowed.
- No false, gel or acrylic nails.
- No false eyelashes.
- No jewellery, with the exception of a watch.

#### **YEAR 11**

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In November, as part of our first assessment cycle, Year 11 students sat their GCSE mock examinations. The buy-in to additional revision sessions and study support in the run up to the exams was good.

As parents, carers and students are aware, examinations are now back to normal. It is hugely important, therefore, that students return to school with real determination and focus. As has been the case throughout the first term, there will be lots of additional study support sessions on offer across a range of subjects.

## YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING

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Our thanks again to all pupils and parents who attended our Open Evening in September. There were lots of happy children engrossed in all the exciting activities on offer around the school. We were delighted with all the positive feedback and look forward to meeting families again in September.

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS

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Pupils, across year groups, have been taking part in our extensive range of extra-curricular clubs after school: [After School Clubs - Hebburn Comprehensive School](#). Well done to all pupils involved. We would like to see even more pupils involved next term!



## Girls' Football – Year 8/9

- Mrs Broadway wanted to provide an update on our year 8/9 girls' football teams. The girls' football has really taken off and regularly have over 40 students attending training on a Thursday after school. For this age category we have fielded two teams. They are competing in the South Tyneside Central Venue League against 10 other teams.
- So far, team (A) are unbeaten and have only conceded 1 goal. They are sitting top of the table with only 1 set of fixtures to play. The girls have played to an outstanding level. They have really knitted together as a team and have a brilliant team ethic. Well done girls and good luck for your next and final fixture.

### Team A

Georgina Hubble  
Lilly Knight  
Erin Ogden  
Caitlin Weild  
Tia Jenkins  
Kelsie Martin  
Maja Matuszek  
Lexi Fowlie



## Girls' Football – Year 8/9

- Team B is a fantastic team with an excellent attitude. Their work rate has been hugely impressive and overall performances have been good. They are a fantastic set of girls with an amazing attitude. The team has had 2 draws and 1 win, so it is all to play for over the remaining fixtures.

### Team B

Emily Nipper  
Phoebe Breeze  
Lilly McKie  
Lilly Isherwood  
Sofia Lawson  
Lyla Carr  
Isla Wallace-Bertram  
Eleanor Stock

- Girls' Football is open to all on Thursday Night – Please come along!!





# Girls' Football – Year 7

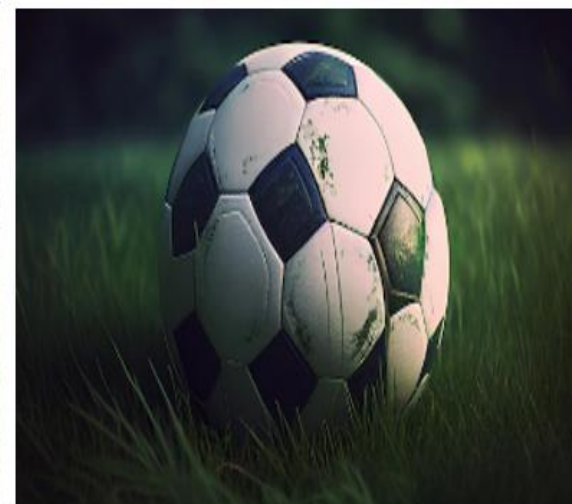
• Two teams have taken part in this competition. Both teams have worked together and have shown great resilience against some really good opposition. As the season has gone on, it is fantastic to see how the teams have developed. They have a real fighting spirit and, if they continue into Years 8 and 9, I am sure we will see them moving from strength to strength. Well done to all involved.

## Team A

Gracie Greenwood  
Aleesha Barker  
Libby Scott  
Ellie Griffiths  
Ella Wright  
Kate Hall  
Beth McGinty  
Maisy Knight

## Team B

Daisy Reavley  
Amelia Stansfield  
Jessica Holder  
Summer McGinn  
Phoebe Patrick  
Lexi Chappell  
Ellie Nichol  
Freya Frisk



# September

- Our Year 10 pupils enjoyed a celebration breakfast in recognition of achieving 100% attendance during the last school year. Well done everyone!
- Our Year 11 prefects and peer mentor team were selected based on their strong work ethic and exemplary behaviour in school.
- The MFL department celebrated Languages Fortnight across school with language-themed lessons, competitions and even a MFL film club! Our languages teachers also invited parents into school for a language workshop where they had the opportunity to learn some Spanish and discover more about our MFL curriculum here at Hebburn Comprehensive.





# September

- We were joined by BAE Systems, the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force for their STEM Roadshow, which took Year 8 pupils on a journey from the depths of the ocean to the far reaches of outer space! Mr Obee was extremely impressed by Year 8's behaviour and the enthusiasm and interest they displayed.
- Our Year 7 boys' football team won 3-2 against St. Joseph's in their final CVL game, securing a place in the March finals. Well done!
- Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors surprised staff with a lovely treat of tea, coffee and biscuits to say "Thanks a Latte" for all their hard work this term. It put a huge smile on our faces and their efforts contributed towards the Wellbeing Badge of their Diana Award.





# October

- Congratulations to Alicia Lea who won Year 8's Halloween pumpkin carving competition with her truly monstrous masterpiece!
- The Year 9 student council organised a harvest festival collection for our local food bank, Hebburn Helps. They were delighted with the donations and blown away by our pupils' generosity and community spirit.
- Our library open-mic was a runaway success with pupils showcasing all sorts of talents – from beatboxing and live music to poetry recitals and ventriloquism! Everyone had a great time, and we can safely say that Hebburn's got talent!





# October

- A group of pupils were invited to South Tyneside's #LetsDebate event. Pupils had the opportunity to engage in discussions in council chambers with Youth Parliament members and develop their debating skills, presenting their ideas and opinions in a thoughtful and mature way. They represented our school brilliantly and we are so proud of how articulate and measured they were in sharing their views during debates. Well done!
- Year 7 enjoyed a live music performance and workshop of Twist and Shout with the Different Voices Project. A fantastic time was had by all!
- Our Year 7 pupils had a great time at their Halloween disco. Some spooktacular costumes (and dance moves!) on display. A well-earned treat for a fantastic first half term.





# October

- Year 9 thoroughly enjoyed their special treat PE lesson, getting to wear their own gym kit and dance to Waka Waka on Just Dance! Well done, girls – keep up the enthusiasm!
- Our student librarians launched their own KS3 book club, selecting A.F. Steadman's debut, Skandar and the Unicorn Thief as their first novel! Come along on a Friday after-school to join the discussion (and eat lots of biscuits!).
- Well done to Daisy, Pearl and Serena in Year 9, who represented our school at Northumbria Police's YIAG event for National Hate Crime Awareness Week and made their voices heard!
- A huge well done to eleven lucky students who were fortunate enough to represent our school as flagbearers at a recent SAFC game at the Stadium of Light. All students were a credit to our school, and we couldn't be prouder.





# November

- Our anti-bullying ambassadors took part in a training day with the Diana Award, building their skills and confidence to address bullying in different situations. Pupils received their anti-bullying badges, and we couldn't be prouder of how brilliantly they represented our school. A huge well done to everyone involved!
- Pupils involved in last year's show and this year's upcoming production of *The Addams Family* got to accompany GCSE Music and Drama students on a trip to the Sunderland Empire to see *Sister Act: The Musical*. Their behaviour was exemplary, and everyone had a great time.
- Throughout November, our Year 7 pupils took part in Diwali celebrations across school, creating colourful clay Diya lamps in Art, Diwali cards and crafts in RE, tasting delicious chocolate barfi (courtesy of Mr Cousins!) in Food Technology, and reading Jasbinder Bilan's gripping adventure story *Asha and the Spirit Bird* in form time. Pupils have loved learning about Diwali and have truly impressed their teachers with their brilliant discussions and colourful creations. Well done, Year 7!





# November

- Year 10 GCSE Music students took part in a music event with pupils from Keelman's Way. They were a credit to the school and Mr Wilkinson was extremely impressed with their conduct. Well done, Year 10!
- Year 8's bake sale for Children in Need raised £200! Well done, Year 8!
- In November, we celebrated anti-bullying week throughout school. Pupils took part in an odd socks day to celebrate our differences and show off what makes us unique, purchased wristbands from our anti-bullying ambassadors, and designed anti-bullying posters during PSHE lessons. This year's anti-bullying theme was "Make a Noise About Bullying" and we certainly did that!
- A special shoutout to Oliver Thompson in Year 9 who completed his Student Librarian First Award and received his official librarian badge. Congratulations, Oliver!
- On 10<sup>th</sup> November, Year 8 got to take part in a Samba workshop and live performance delivered by musician, Mr Bird. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed getting to practice their instruments and learn some new musical skills. Well done to all involved!
- To mark Remembrance Day, our school observed a two-minute silence and our pupils training as cadets took part in a touching tribute.





# December

- A competitive evening of basketball for the Minnesota Timberwolves in the Year 8 Junior NBA league. 2 wins, 1 loss – a great start to the competition with fantastic energy and teamwork!
- Our annual Year 7 Carol Service took place at St. John's Church on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you to all of our pupils who took part.
- Our Year 7 pupils got to enjoy futsal during a day of taster workshops earlier this month. Their enthusiasm was great and there were some fantastic tricks and skills on display. A big well done to our Year 9 Sports Leaders who supported each session and led by example.
- Year 7 and Year 8 welcomed a guest speaker from Show Racism the Red Card and took part in an anti-racism assembly workshop. Pupils were thoroughly engaged and asked some great questions. Well done everyone!
- Local author, Daniel Tawse, visited our school this month to run a creative writing workshop with Year 10. With guidance, pupils developed their own characters and came up with a crucial conflict to help drive their narratives. Some fantastic ideas and excellent behaviour throughout. Well done, Year 10!





# December

- Year 11 Health and Fitness students had the chance to administer fitness tests to their clients as part of their controlled assessment. Everyone did a great job!
- Match Night #2 at Gateshead Stadium. Well done to the team who played some fantastic basketball and held their own against some tough competition! It was lovely to see some new faces representing our school. Special mention to Matthew Sweet and Joseph Holt who both scored three pointers!
- Our student council met with Councillor Adam Ellison where they had the chance to ask him about his role as a councillor. They also got to present some of the ideas and initiatives they would like to roll out across school over the course of the academic year. An insightful opportunity for our school council and a very productive meeting indeed. A big thank you to Councillor Ellison for taking the time to meet with our pupils!
- Three of our Y9 student librarians visited Hebburn Lakes Nursery School to assist with a storytelling workshop from Seven Stories. Our students raised the funds for the event through a Key+ project and gifted a picture book to each child in attendance. Everyone had a great time and our librarians – Azra, Oliver and Bethany – did a great job!





# December

- Well done to our pupils who took part in Dance City's taster sessions. Everyone had a great time, and it was great to see our pupils developing new skills. Thank you to South Tyneside School Sport Network and Dance City Newcastle for the amazing opportunity.

- A big thank you to everyone who attended our annual Christmas Fayre and special thanks to our pupils who greeted guests, assisted on stalls and helped with the event set-up. You were a credit to our school, and we couldn't be prouder.

- Two of our Key Project teams took over stalls at the fayre – Azra, Lauren, Bethany and Serena in Year 9 were also granted £250 by The Key to organise fun activities at the Christmas Fayre, including the tombola, Santa Splat and Nutcracker ring toss which were a massive success on the night! Lucy, Felicity, Evie, Sky, Zoe and Molly in Year 11 were granted £250 by The Key to set up their drink & snack stall "Santa's Scran Shack" and the Selfie with Santa activity which were both huge hits at the Christmas Fayre! £1050 was raised at the Christmas Fayre across games; raffles and Santa's Scran Shack. This money will be used to fund exciting events and activities in school for pupils.





# December

- Key Stage 3 Christmas Card Competition winner was Tallulah, Year 9. Tallulah's design has been used as the school's official Christmas Card to be issued electronically by the school. Well done Tallulah we hope you enjoy your art supplies and gift card.
- Shoeboxes for the Homeless Appeal has been run by the School Council. The school council have been collecting items to put together in care-pack shoeboxes for the homeless in our communities. We are donating them to a local outreach shelter. Thank you to everyone who sent in donations. They will make a huge difference to those living on the streets this winter.
- A big thank you to Year 9 who have collectively written and delivered Christmas Cards to the community with the support from Mrs Moore, Mr Moore and Mrs Harbison.
- A group of Y7 pupils visited Willowdene Care Home and Hedley Community Hall to sing carols and spread some Christmas cheer. They sang beautifully and represented our school brilliantly. Well done to everyone involved!



## Christmas Care Packs for the Homeless

This Christmas we are making up care packs gifts for the homeless, which will be donated to Hospitality & Hope to distribute amongst their users.

Please help us by donating any of the following items:

- Gloves
- Hats
- Scarves
- Chocolate (Big bars/Selection Boxes)
- Warm socks
- Food items to donate alongside the care packs (tins; packets & treats!)

Donations can be dropped off at reception or handed into form tutors by Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you!

(Gloves; hats & scarves can be pre-loved but please wash first)





Merry  
Christmas

May I take this opportunity of thanking all parents and carers for your support over this past term, and of wishing all families a pleasant and enjoyable Christmas and New Year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Thompson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Thompson  
**Head Teacher**