



Hebburn Comprehensive School

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Head Teacher: Mr D R Thompson

28 March 2024

Dear All,

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 Spring Term, as well providing you with some key dates for our return after Easter.

KEY DATES



- Pupils return after Easter on Monday 15 April. All pupils must be on their allocated yard for 8.30am, ready for line-ups.
- Monday 6 May is a Bank Holiday (school closed).
- Pupils finish at the normal time on Friday 24 May for half term, returning on Monday 3 June.
- There is a staff training day on Friday 5 July, meaning that the school is closed to pupils.
- School finishes on Friday 19 July. I will write to parents with further information nearer the time.
- We will communicate arrangements for the collection of GCSE results in the next half term.

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. Pupils in Years 7 – 9 must remember to bring their learning packs to school each morning. 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 a C2, which is a same-day, 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. There will be a smaller shop in the Morning Meetings for Years 8 and 9.

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



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 REVISION TIMETABLE OVER EASTER

Please note that school will be open every day from 9.00am – 2.30pm, with the exception of Monday 1 April, Friday 5 April and Friday 12 April. Pupils will have access to Room 103, via the pupil entrance next to the ICT rooms.

Easter School

	9am – 10am	10am – 11am	11am – 12pm	12.30pm – 1.30pm	1.30pm – 2.30pm
Monday 1 April	School Closed				
Tuesday 2 April	Maths	English	Science	Triple Science - Biology	
	Science	Maths	English		
	English	Science	Maths		
	Health and Social Care & Child Development				
	Food Technology – Open Zone				
	Art Room 112 / 117				
	Art 113				
Quiet study – Open Zone					
Wednesday 3 April	Maths	English	Science	Geography	
	Science	Maths	English	Health and Social Care & Child Development	
	English	Science	Maths	History	
	Textiles 112				
	Spanish				
	Quiet study – Open Zone				
Thursday 4 April	Maths	English	Science	Triple Science - Physics	
	Science	Maths	English	Health and Social Care & Child Development	
	English	Science	Maths		
	Media Studies				
	Quiet study – Open Zone				
Friday 5 April	School closed to pupils				
Monday 8 April	French - Foundation				
Tuesday 9 April	Maths	English	Science		
	Science	Maths	English	French - Higher	
	English	Science	Maths		
	Art 113				
Quiet study – Open Zone					
Wednesday 10 April	Maths	English	Science	Geography	
	Science	Maths	English		
	English	Science	Maths		
	Textiles 112				
Quiet study – Open Zone					
Thursday 11 April	Maths		Science	Triple Science - Chemistry	
	Science		Maths	Music	
	RE				
	Quiet study – Open Zone				
Friday 12 April	School closed to pupils				

YEAR 11 EXAM TIMETABLE

The Year 11 examination will be issued after the Easter holidays.

Useful advice for parents and carers on how you can support your child through their GCSE exams can be found below:

[Supporting Your Child - Parent/Carer \(hebburn.net\)](http://hebburn.net)

As parents and carers are already aware, summer examinations will go ahead this year. The exam timetable is spread out over six weeks, which is longer than normal, but does mean that there is a slightly longer break between papers.

It is extremely important that students attend all examinations, unless there are exceptional circumstances. You will receive a call from the school if your child is absent for an exam.

We will be doing everything we can to support students through their exams this year, appreciating how stressful this time of year is, particularly given the ongoing disruption that schools are facing.

Y9 OPTIONS

The options process for pupils in Year 9 has started. All pupils should have received a copy of the Options 2024 booklet. If you have not, please see Mrs Moore in the Key Stage 3 office. Please see the timeline outlined below.

Options Timeline

Wednesday 20 March

Options booklet made available to parents and pupils.

Options Presentation for parents/carers.

Email to parents/carers explaining the process.

W/B Monday 15 April

Year 9 Options assemblies to take place during morning meetings. Recorded information will be available to parents/carers/pupils on the school website.

W/B Monday 29 April

Discussion with SLT and initial subject choices submitted. If a parent/carer would like to participate in this discussion, this will be via phone call at a pre-arranged time. Following this meeting, outcomes will be shared with parents/carers.

W/E Friday 17 May

Deadline for any adjustments to the option choices. Pupils must speak with either Mr Cleugh or Mrs Phillips.

W/B Monday 3 June

Letters/emails issued about final choices.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS

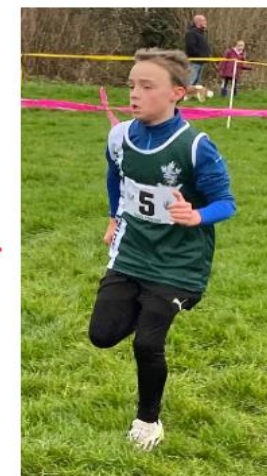
Pupils, across year groups, have been taking part in our extensive range of extra-curricular clubs after school: [After School Clubs - Hebburn Comprehensive School](#). Well done to all pupils involved. We would like to see even more pupils involved next term!





January

- A group of Year 7/8 students took part in the Tyne & Wear Sportshall Athletics Finals, competing against students from all over the North East. They gave it their all and did us proud, demonstrating outstanding behaviour and sporting etiquette. Well done!
- A huge well done to our runners who represented South Tyneside at the Durham County Schools' Athletic Association Secondary School Cross Country Event. In what were very muddy conditions on a difficult course, they ran with great spirit and determination. Well done Erin, Maja, Ada, Harvey, Declan and Alfie!
- Miss Siddiqui has been blown away by the artistic talents of Cyan P in Year 7, who has produced some incredible portraits in her sketchbook. Brilliant work, Cyan!





January

- Our Y9 and Y10 student librarians enjoyed a trip to Newcastle University and the Hancock Museum, where they learned more about careers in librarianship and life at university. They had a great time, asked insightful questions and were a credit to our school. Special thanks to Kirsten at Newcastle University and Becca at the Hancock Museum Library for taking the time to show us around and answer our (many!) questions.
- A big well done to Jake in Year 11 who produced an outstanding final piece of work for his portraiture project. His graffiti mural pays homage to the works of Basquiat and Picasso and it's ENORMOUS! Well done, Jake!!
- Our GCSE Drama students enjoyed a trip to the Theatre Royal in Newcastle to see a performance of Blood Brothers in preparation for their GCSE examination. The show was fantastic and everyone had a great time.





February

- Well done to the KS3 Boys Badminton Team (Charles O'Neill, Finlay Currie, Rishabh Parashar and Zachary Cummings), who were runners-up in the South Tyneside Secondary Schools KS3 Badminton Tournament at Boldon School. They played extremely well and were unlucky not to win gold in the competition. Well done, boys!
- Miss Siddiqui was super impressed by the incredible graffiti research page produced by Lucie-Jayne Scott – and rightly so!
- Our new chess club launched in February and has been a real success. It takes place on a Monday Week 2 from 2:45-3:45 and is a great opportunity to practice with students, sharpen your chess skills, or learn for the first time. Speak to Mr Ozuzu to sign up!
- Our pupils had a great time exploring our Careers Convention and were left feeling inspired after speaking with local employers and education providers. A big thank you to all of our guests for attending and sharing their knowledge and expertise with our pupils.





February

- Year 7 were treated to a visit from The Punctuation man and had a great time! Who knew punctuation could be so fun?!
- Year 9 pupils were given a brief introduction to the world of forensic science in February. A simulated crime scene was set-up in the classroom allowing pupils to explore evidence types and significant exhibits useful to the investigation. During the session, pupils were introduced to basic crime scene examination skills including fingerprint lifting and footwear casting. A brilliant activity - not to mention lots of fun!
- Earlier this week Year 7 took part in a Fairtrade workshop as part of the FairAware Award. They learnt about how shea butter is made and how it benefits the local people in the communities where it is made. A highly informative and engaging workshop. Well done, Year 7!





February

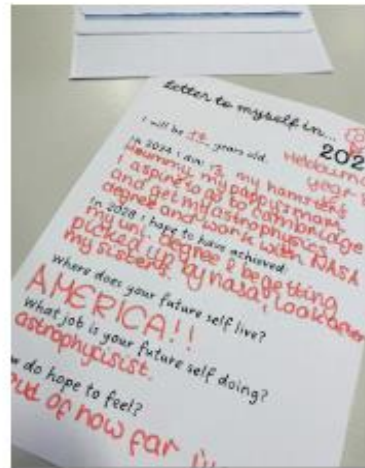
- Our anti-bullying ambassadors have been celebrating Random Acts of Kindness Day by hand delivering cards and chocolates to staff and kindness notes (with bendy pencils!) to pupils. It was a lovely gesture, and it counts towards their anti-bullying badge for the Diana Award so everyone's a winner! Thank you!
- A special shoutout to Lily Lewis and Colton Hopper in Year 7, who have produced some outstanding portraits. Miss Siddiqui is really impressed by their effort and talent.
- Well done to all our Key Stage 3 pupils who took part in the Centre for Advanced Training (CAT) Dance workshop!





February

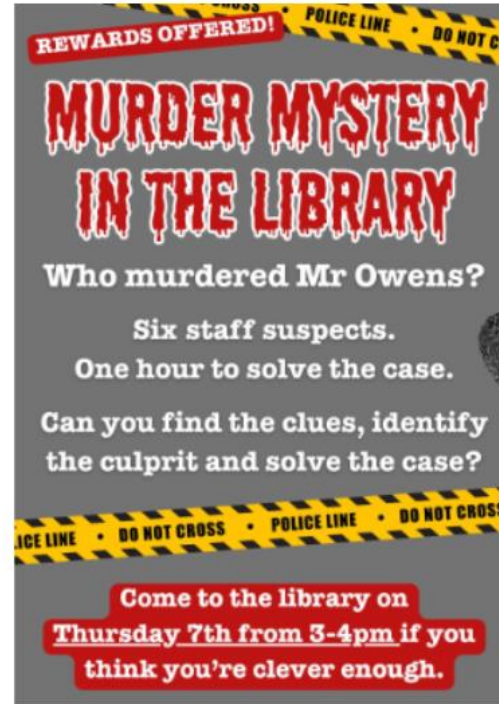
- The Bright Futures Young Women's Project has been running sessions in our school this term, and – to celebrate the leap year – asked pupils to write letters to their future selves to open in 2028. It was lovely reading about our pupils' ambitions for the future and we're confident they'll succeed in all their endeavors!
- We were delighted to be the proud winners of a FAB Award in recognition of our school's anti-bullying work. Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors were accompanied by three members of Youth Parliament to collect the award on our school's behalf at the celebration event at Jarrow Focus. They represented us wonderfully.
- On 29th February we received a special visit from award-winning author, Sophie Anderson, who spoke with Year 7 and Year 8 about her publishing journey and the inspiration behind her novels. Pupils had a great time and asked some fantastic questions. Some even felt inspired to buy a book at our book signing in the library!





March

- A huge congratulations to Archie Allan, Kadyr Ferguson, Freddie Taylor, Cyan Payne, Alisha Edgar and Mia Hill who all completed their School Library Association First Award and became official student librarians this month. Wear your badges with pride!
- Pupils had a great time taking part in our Murder Mystery event in the library. Our live-action Cluedo game was great fun and pupils did a great job at solving riddles and tracking down clues. Spoiler alert: it was Miss Ludlow on the Bridge with a Guitar! We can't wait to do it again next year!
- We had a great time celebrating World Book Day across school, with free book giveaways, scavenger hunts – and of course our staff fancy dress! Pupils loved bumping into their favourite book characters and it put a smile on lots of faces! Thank you to everyone who got involved and helped spread the joy of reading.





March

- To celebrate International Women's Day and Women's History Month, the History department have launched a creative project competition on the theme of "women who have had a significant impact on history". Prizes will be awarded for the most in-depth project and the most creative project!
- Our Year 9 pupils have been designing 3D letters during Art this term. Their designs pay homage to an artist of their choice and the work they have produced is outstanding! Well done, Year 9!
- A big well done to the Year 8 boys' dodgeball team who secured a win this month. They were unbeaten and played extremely well as a team. Well done Aria, Joe, Rhys, Dima, Levi and Archie!
- Well done to the winners of our World Book Day Wonka Bar Design Competition winners: Bran G, Imogen O, Aarii M, George W, Aimee-Lei B and Finley C. We hope you enjoy your chocolate bar prizes!





March

- A big thank you to all our staff who contributed to our staff joke book in aid of Comic Relief. Among the collective groans and eye-rolls we got some laughs and managed to raise money for a good cause in the process. Thank you to everyone who donated!
- Speaking of Comic Relief, we're pleased to say we raised £292 through our Red Nose Day cake sale and raffle. Thank you to everyone who bought cakes and donated!
- Miss Turner's Year 8 class have been learning about self-portraits and have produced some incredible work. The quality of their artwork is outstanding and it's clear they've all been working really hard!





March

- This month we launched our Carnegie Shadowing Book Club for 2024. We'll be reading all eight of the nominated books and voting for our favourite to win the Shadower's Choice Award. The Carnegie Award is the biggest and longest-running children's book award in the UK and we're incredibly excited to be a part of it. If you're in Y9-Y11 and want to join in, come along to our book club meetings on a Monday from 2:45-3:45pm in the library.
- A big thank you to all our pupils who took part in a litter pick this month, doing their part to keep our school and local community clean and tidy. You all did a great job!
- We've been celebrating Languages Fortnight this term, injecting modern foreign languages into lessons across the school curriculum. Pupils have tried their hand at making tapas in Food Technology, creating Diary of a Wimpy Kid-inspired French diary entries in library lessons, and even taking part in a Eurovision Song Challenge! As part of the event, our Year 9 pupils also got to attend an MFL careers talk with a special guest speaker. Thank you to the MFL department for organising.
- A huge congratulations to all our rowers who took part this week in the South Tyneside Indoor Rowing Championships at Boldon. Their attitude, effort and determination was exceptional! A special congratulations to Lilly McKie and Ewera Chukwuma who won gold and silver medals respectively.





March

- Our Year 11 GCSE Art and Photography students took a trip to Newcastle, where they collected images in preparation for their exam. All pupils represented our school beautifully and took some spectacular photographs!
- On World Poetry Day, our pupils taking part in the national Poetry by Heart competition got the chance to performed their learned poems in front of an audience of staff and pupils. All pupils involved did a tremendous job and we've got everything crossed that they progress to the next stage of the competition. Mr Owens couldn't be more proud of them all!



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 Easter break.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Thompson', written in a cursive style.

David Thompson
Head Teacher