

Headteacher's Newsletter – 15th February 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Spring Term is very much underway and students have been involved in a number of exciting trips and projects. Highlights include a year 7 visit to Bloomberg TV Studios, a Year 9 reward trip to the West End to see 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time' and a Year 10 architecture project with 'Scalerule' to design a new pavilion in Clerkenwell. You will have received the new enrichment booklet for the second half of the year. Please encourage your child to sign up for at least one club as these experiences really do add to students learning and enjoyment at school.

You will remember that I wrote to you in December as part of a consultation on changes to the school day which would allow us to incorporate enrichment for every child in the school into our weekly structure. I am pleased to say that there was an overwhelmingly positive response to this consultation with 90% of parents in favour of the change. We agree that the new structure will bring real benefits to students, and governors have now approved the proposal to come into effect in September 2019. Details of the changes are included at the end of this letter. There were a number of questions raised by parents during the consultation which we are now in a position to answer:

1) If tutor time is moving to the end of the day, how will the school ensure students are not late to first lesson?

From September, we are planning to open the canteen from 8 - 8.30am and to offer students a free breakfast. Options will include porridge, cereal and toast with jam or honey. We hope that this will incentivise students to get here earlier and prepare for the day. We will also ask students to be on site from 8.30am and will ring the bell for line up at 8.35am (5 minutes earlier than the current school day) to make sure there is ample time for them to get ready for their first lesson. The vast majority of students are on time every day for school. We feel the current sanction of a one hour detention for lateness is an appropriate deterrent and we will work specifically with individual students and families where punctuality is a persistent problem to identify causes and resolve issues.

2) What provision will there be on a Friday for students whose parents would prefer them not to finish early at 2.35pm?

We will run homework clubs on a Friday after school and the library will be open until 4pm to allow students to remain on site and study or read in a safe, supervised space.

3) How will the school ensure that students have enough time to eat their lunch if the lunch break is reduced by 5 minutes?

We have revised the school day schedule to retain a 55 minute lunchtime. This will allow us to move to a two-sitting arrangement which is due to happen after half term. We hope this will reduce time spent queuing.

We are excited by the opportunities presented by the new school structure as we will be able to incorporate some important activities, such as reading, enrichment, intervention, study skills and pastoral time (tutor and assembly time) into the school day. These activities are critical in supporting students learning, engagement and enjoyment of school. In addition to this change, we will also be introducing half-termly 'Character Days'. These will be drop-down days where we suspend the

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curriculum to focus on personal, social and health education, including mental health and wellbeing. We will also use these days for whole year group trips, cultural experiences and careers education. A full programme of activities will be published later in the year but we believe that investing in students' awareness of themselves, their world and their future will have a beneficial impact on their happiness, health and motivation to learn.

Finally, we are inviting all families to join our new Friends of Haggerston School group on Facebook. As you will be aware, we launched our Twitter and Facebook pages last year to make it easier for parents to stay in touch with news and information from school. We hope you are already signed up to these on your preferred social media platform. An active parent's page has grown from our pages and you are welcome to take part. It is a closed group which means you will have to apply to join. Please click the link for more information: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/HaggerstonFriendsSchool/>.

I wish you all a happy and restful half term break and look forward to welcoming students back to school on Monday 25th February at 8.35am.

Kind regards



Ciara Emmerson

Headteacher

Key Dates for your Diary:

Event	Date	Time
Spring Half Term	Monday 18th - Friday 22nd February	All Day
Assessment Weeks	Monday 25th February - Friday 8th March	
Year 8 Parents Evening	Thursday 28th February 2019	5:00 - 7:00pm
Year 9 Immunisations	Monday 11th March 2019	9:00am
Inset Day	Monday 25th March 2019	All Day
Head Teachers Coffee Morning	Tuesday 26th March 2019	9:00 - 10:00am
Year 9 Parents and Options Evening	Thursday 28th March 2019	5:00 - 7:00pm
Year 8 HPV Immunisations	Monday 1st April 2019	9:00am
Last Day of Spring Term	Friday 5th April 2019	Early Closure 1:20pm
Start of Summer Term	Tuesday 23rd April 2019	School Day Starts at 8:40am

Messages from the Senior Leadership Team:

<p>Behaviour and Engagement - Ms Moran</p> <p>Congratulations to students for engaging so well with the new rewards system. We have some students who have been awarded almost 1000 credits this academic year. This is an outstanding achievement and these students have shown that they are consistently able to demonstrate our key character traits of aspiration, creativity and character.</p>	<p>Achievement & Curriculum - Mr Lynch</p> <p>The public examination period is fast approaching and students in Year 11 and Year 13 are preparing for their upcoming mock exams. We will be running intervention classes in the half-term and continuing our after-school lessons. There will also be targeted sessions for Year 11 to support study skills, English and Maths.</p>	<p>Teaching & Learning - Ms Ray Choudhuri</p> <p>A reminder to students taking mock exams after the half term that a revision timetable is a good way to start planning your time. Ways to revise can be found in your planner and if you need support please speak to your teachers before the holiday so you can be as prepared as possible.</p>
<p>Behaviour, Inclusion & Safeguarding - Dr Taylor Mullings</p> <p>After half term, we will be speaking to students in assemblies about taking responsibility for their behaviour in the community and around school. This includes dropping litter, going home in groups of less than 4 and being conscious about other people in the community.</p> <p>Your support in this is invaluable. Please speak to your child to reinforce the school rules about going straight home after school and not buying junk food from local shops etc. on the way to and from school.</p>	<p>Assessment (DPR), Homework & Attendance - Ms James</p> <p>Assessment (DPR): The second assessment cycle will begin after the half term. Parents can log onto the DPR at any time to see their child's progress. As with cycle 1, students will have an opportunity after the assessments to address any knowledge gaps during the re-teaching weeks.</p> <p>Attendance: A reminder that students will receive 3 corrections for lateness after 9am.</p>	<p>Sixth Form - Ms Pumphrey & Ms Eagleton</p> <p>Work experience: Year 12 have had their 'Introduction to Work Experience' assembly and should now begin to locate and organise places of work that inspire them. We encourage parents and carers who may be able to offer placements to contact the sixth form team.</p> <p>Year 13: Mock exams after half term mean this should be a focused and structured time of revision and progress. At this point of the year, the amount of hours worked make all the difference.</p>
<p>Options & Enrichment - Ms Lewis</p> <p>Year 8 students should have received their options information. Please contact us if you do not have it. Options information for Year 9 will be sent home to parents in March.</p> <p>Students should have submitted choices by now for Spring/Summer enrichment. Allocations will be shared with students towards the end of the week.</p>		

Timings of the School Day:

Current School Day:	School Day Sept 2019 Onwards
	8-8.30am Free breakfast club
8.40am Bell rings for line up	8.35am Bell rings for line up
8.45-9am Registration	8.45-9.40am Period 1
9-10am Period 1	9.40-10.35am Period 2
10-11am Period 2	10.35-10.55am Morning Break
11-11.20am Morning Break	10.55-11.50am Period 3
11.20-12.20pm Period 3	11.50-12.45pm Period 4
12.20-1.20pm Period 4	12.45-1.40pm Lunchtime
1.20-2.15pm Lunchtime	1.40-2.35pm Period 5
2.15-3.15pm Period 5	2.30-3.30pm Period 6 (Monday - Thursdays only. School will finish at 2.35pm on Fridays)
3.15-4.15pm Intervention/Clubs/Extra lessons	

Typical Weekly Timetable for Year 7 and 8 Students:

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
8.45-9.40	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1
9.40-10.35	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2
10.35-10.55	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
10.55-11.50	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3
11.50-12.45	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4
12.45-1.40	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1.40-2.35	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5
2.35-3.30	Tutor Time: Assembly & Class Reading	Enrichment	Tutor Time: Independent Reading & The Pledge	Tutor Time: Study Support (Prep)	

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Typical Weekly Timetable for Year 9 Students:

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
8.45-9.40	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1
9.40-10.35	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2
10.35-10.55	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
10.55-11.50	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3
11.50-12.45	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4
12.45-1.40	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1.40-2.35	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5
2.35-3.30	Period 6	Enrichment	Tutor Time: Study Support (Prep)	Tutor Time: Assembly & Independent Reading	

Typical Weekly Timetable for Year 10 & 11 Students:

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
8.45-9.40	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1	Period 1
9.40-10.35	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2	Period 2
10.35-10.55	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
10.55-11.50	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3	Period 3
11.50-12.45	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4	Period 4
12.45-1.40	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1.40-2.35	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5	Period 5
2.35-3.30	Period 6	Intervention	Tutor Time: Assembly & Tutor Session	Period 6	