

WEEKLY PARENT BULLETIN

KEY SCHOOL DATES, EVENTS, AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - SPRING TERM 2024

Monday 11th March 2024 - Ramadan begins

Friday 22nd March 2024 - End of Spring Term 2 - Easter Holidays

Monday 8th April 2024 - Summer Term 1 begins

Wednesday 9th April 2024 - Eid-ul-Fitr (TBC)

Monday 15th April 2024 - Year 10 Parents Evening - 4:00pm till 6:30pm

Monday 6th May 2024 - May Bank Holiday (School Closed)

Monday 15th May 2024 - Year 7 Parents Evening - 4:00pm till 6:30pm

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Ramadan 2024

As Ramadan begins on or around Monday 11th March 2024, Hodge Hill Girls School would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our community Ramadan Mubarak.

Attendance Rewards - Ramadan Rewards

Starting from Monday 11th March 2024 we're launching an exciting attendance challenge for all pupils! If a pupil attends school everyday during Ramadan, they'll automatically be entered into a prize draw for a chance to win one of 15 Aldi gift cards worth £30 each!

On the last day of Ramadan we'll conduct a random draw from the pool of pupils who achieved 100% attendance during this period. Three lucky winners from each year group will be selected to receive the £30 Aldi gift cards. Don't miss out on the opportunity to win a fantastic prize – your perfect attendance could be your ticket to an Aldi shopping spree!

February Half-term Supermarket Vouchers

Last half-term we informed you that supermarket food vouchers worth £20 per child are being provided by the DWP's Household Support Fund to help families during February half term. Voucher codes have now been sent by email to all priority 1 parental contacts. Please click the unique link in your email and follow the instructions to redeem your voucher by Tuesday 12th March 2024.


Codes are valid at the following shops: Aldi, ASDA, Farmfoods, Iceland, Morrisons, M&S, Sainsbury's, Tesco and Waitrose.

You must redeem your code by 12th March at the latest.



Ramadan

March-April 2024




The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:
"Whatever is prayed for at the time of breaking the fast is granted and never refused."

What is Ramadan?

- It is the 9th month of the Islamic calendar.
- The lunar calendar rotates every 10/11 days- which means dates change each year.
- It is the month that is chosen by Allah for Muslims to fast in.
- It was the month when the Qur'an was first revealed.
 - Muslims look for this night (Laylatul Qadr- The Night of Power) in the last 10 days of Ramadan. The Qur'an describes this night as 'better than a thousand months' (Al-Qadr 97:3).
- Allah (SWT) divides the Holy month of Ramadan into three Stages that's known as Ashra of Ramadan:
 - First part reflects Mercy of Allah (Rehmah)
 - Second part reflects Forgiveness of Allah (Maghfirah)
 - Third part reflects Safety from the Hell (Nijat).

@HHGS-RSdept

What do Muslims do during Ramadan?	Hadith Al-Bukhari and Muslim	Why is fasting important in Islam?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Muslims will fast 29/30 days. They will not eat, drink etc. from sunrise to sunset. Muslims will wake up before dawn to eat sahoor (breakfast) and break fast at Iftar time (sunset). Muslims will engage daily in reading salah, the Qur'an, doing dhikr (remembering Allah). They read special prayers called taraweeh. Muslims will try to disengage from any thing that displeases Allah (SWT). 	<p>"Verily the one who recites the Qur'an beautifully, smoothly, and precisely, he will be in the company of the noble and obedient angels. And as for the one who recites with difficulty, stammering or stumbling through its verses, then he will have TWICE that reward."</p> 	<p>Some of the reasons why Muslims fast:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> It is one of the pillars of Islam. <input type="checkbox"/> Helps to draw closer to Allah. <input type="checkbox"/> An opportunity to guard against sin. <input type="checkbox"/> Opportunity to cultivate good character. <input type="checkbox"/> Increases will-power & self- control. <input type="checkbox"/> To seek forgiveness for past sins. <input type="checkbox"/> To feel compassion for others. <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>"The Pr. Muhammad (PBUH) said: 'Whoever does not give up false speech and evil deeds while fasting, then Allah is not in need of his leaving food and drink.'" (Sahih Bukhari)</p> </div>

"Whoever prays on Laylatul Qadr out of faith and sincerity, shall have all their past sins forgiven," (Hadith, Bukhari and Muslim).

The Big Debate





Religious Studies Department @HHGS!

Benefits of DEBATING!

Allows quick-thinking.
Inspires articulation.
Allows for broader view of the world.

Develops critical thinking skills.
Supports presentation skills.
Builds research skills.


Shapes emotional control.
Nurtures resolution of conflict.
Builds greater empathy.
Helps find meaning in complex situations.


What can we do at home to support our young people to develop key 21st-century skills such as self-confidence, communication, and empathy. Take some time as a family to take part in the BIG debate statement that will be sent home weekly. Religious Studies debate-led practise puts our young people at the centre of their learning and equips them with the critical-thinking and leadership skills required to tackle big questions in the world.

Only weak people are hopeful.


Evaluate



What do you believe & why?



What would other religious traditions say?



What would non-religious traditions say?

RS Disposition: Being hopeful and visionary.

Spring 2- Week 3

A good debate is more than just an argument: 'It's the ability to see one statement or idea from various perspectives, through critical thinking, critical listening and critical speaking.' Leela Koenig



Job of the Week

This week's job of the week is a Dancer.

Dancers are performers who move their bodies in creative and expressive ways to entertain audiences. They can work in a variety of industries and genres, often performing to different kinds of music. Dancers typically work with instructors and can perform solo or as part of a group.

Find out more [here](#).



Solihull Approach - Free Parent Resources

Hodge Hill Girls' School sits in a free access area for in our place which is an online hub for parent resources in children's and teenager's emotional health and wellbeing. This is one of many courses available to our parents for free.

Access free parent resources [here](#).

An advertisement for a free online course titled 'Understanding your relationships'. The background is a green gradient on the left and a photo of a smiling couple on the right. Logos for 'UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD SOLIHULL APPROACH', 'inourplace', and 'NHS' are at the top. The text describes the course as a free online resource for understanding relationships and mental health. A list of topics includes understanding emotions, communicating feelings, reading behaviors, and managing conflict. It mentions the course is designed by expert psychologists. A QR code and the website 'www.inourplace.co.uk' are also present.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD
SOLIHULL APPROACH

inourplace

NHS

Understanding your relationships

Free online course to follow in your own time to help understand your relationships and your mental health.

- Understanding your emotions in your relationships
- Communicating feelings and expressing yourself
- Reading others behaviours and different communication styles
- Managing conflict, self-regulation and anger

Designed by expert psychologists in partnership with people

www.inourplace.co.uk

Course costs £24. You may be in a funded area thanks to our network of sponsors!



Bring It On Brum

Bring it on Brum is back for the spring holidays!

Click [here](#) to book your slot.

Reminder: You will need you BIOB/ FSM/ HAF code to book.

We have a number of Bring it on Brum! providers that offer holiday clubs for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

View SEND Provision.





Women's History Month Activity Grid

March 2024



1. Read about the history of International Women's day	2. Watch a film by a female director	3. Listen to an inspiring podcast FAQs - Rebel Girls	4. Watch one of the Makers documentaries https://www.youtube.com/@makerswomen	5. Read a poem by a female poet	6. Send a female you admire a text or an email of appreciation	7. It is world book day. Begin to read a book by a female author
8. Post on social media raising awareness of IWD Happy International women's day!	9. Take a virtual field trip Online Exhibits National Women's History Museum (womenshistory.org)	10. Mothers Day! Make a card for a motherly figure in your life expressing your appreciation.	11 Investigate the men who have made their 'stamp' on History Women Who Left Their Stamps on History (factmonster.com)	12. Research the longest reigning Queen	13. Research a female scientist https://www.weareteachers.com/women-scientists/	14. Explore this timeline of first ladies and pick your top 3 First Ladies Timeline National Women's History Museum (womenshistory.org)
15. Explore the women of NASA The Women of NASA National Women's History Museum (womenshistory.org)	16. Watch this and complete your own act of kindness The woman who was kind every day for a year - BBC Ideas	17. Listen to some music by a female artist/band	18. Find out and learn the names of Britain's female Prime Ministers and first ever female MP.	19. Choose a woman who you believe deserves a stamp but doesn't have her own yet and design one	20. Take a quiz! https://www.playbuzz.com/TIME/how-well-do-you-know-womens-history	21. Bake something using a recipe from a female chef/baker https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/celebs/mary_berry
22. Attempt to recreate an iconic piece of art made by a woman https://www.britannica.com/topic/Girl-with-a-Pearl-Earring-by-Vermeer	23. Educate yourself on the Me Too Movement	24. Compliment a woman you know that is not connected to how she looks!	25. Colour in a page about women https://www.crayola.com/free-coloring-pages/people/womens-history-month-coloring-pages/	26. Watch a TED Talk by a woman	27. Listen to an audiobook narrated by a woman	28. Engage in a women's history scavenger hunt https://hostme.blob.core.windows.net/images/bex/bic/docs/Womens%20History%20Scavenger%20Hunt1.pdf
29. Go onto BBC news and read an article linked to women	30. Watch a women's football match or another sport where females are competing	31. Watch the new Barbie movie!	Whether you do all 31 activities or just a few we want to thank you for making a positive difference to your own life and those around you.			



Autism Empowerment Webinar

This one-hour lunchtime webinar is a brief exploration of how Autism can present, the history of Autism, diagnosis as well as differences in communication and social interaction. We will also be looking at how the environment can impact on someone with sensory processing challenges.

The main aim of this webinar is to focus on the many strengths autistic individuals have and how we can increase understanding and Neuro-inclusivity through education and raising awareness.

Webinars are held on Zoom on the following dates:

Thursday 29th February 12:30 to 13:30

Friday 29th March 12:30 to 13:30

Friday 26th April 12:30 to 13:30

At the end of the webinar, you will receive a certificate of attendance that will be emailed to your given email address.

The cost of this one-hour webinar is only £5.50!

To book your place on the webinar please either scan the QR code below or go to: www.theautismtrainingnetwork.com/training

"For every person who understands Autism better, another Autistic person will be happier."
Libby Scott, Autistic Author (at age 11)





Help in Brum

Find Help In Brum Are you concerned about the rise in cost of living?

Find some helpful contact details for advice and support.

Birmingham City Council and partners are working to support and offer guidance to our residents during the cost of living crisis in the UK.

We want to support as many of our residents as possible across key areas which are outlined in this leaflet.

Warm Welcome:

We are working with the local community and a partnership of voluntary and community sector organisations to expand a network of warm spaces. These spaces will be available for people to use and visit during the winter period and beyond.

There are several existing Warm Welcome Spaces within local communities across the city. Warm Welcome Spaces are:

- inclusive and non-judgmental
- heated and free to access

The services at each space will vary but may include:

- information on further support and available guidance
- opportunities to participate in activities and learn new things
- free internet access, computers and charging points
- a friendly environment to connect with others within the community

You can find details of our current Birmingham Warm Welcome Spaces at

www.birmingham.gov.uk/warmwelcome

Keeping checking back online as more spaces will be launched weekly.

Benefits and Money Advice:

During the cost of living crisis, it is also important to ensure you have access to the right benefits and money advice for you. There are several information portals below which can help.

To find out what benefits you are entitled to, it is best to use the Benefits Calculator provided by the Government. Find out more by using this link www.gov.uk/check-benefits-financial-support

Birmingham City Council has also developed several support factsheets which provide useful information on a range of debt related issues. You can view and download Information on www.birmingham.gov.uk/debtadvice team

If you are struggling with debt and need advice and support you can also visit www.birmingham.gov.uk/helpinbrum which can help direct you to the right information.

There are also other services who offer free and confidential advice:

- The Project - Benefit, debt and housing advice
0121 453 0606 | www.theprojectbirmingham.org
- Citizens Advice Birmingham - Advice on benefits, debt, housing and more
Freephone 0808 278 7990 (Mon – Fri 9.30 am – 4.30pm) | www.bcabs.org.uk
- Disability Resource Centre - Advice and advocacy services for disabled people
03030 402 040 | www.disability.co.uk

Energy Efficiency:

As energy costs rise we are committed to reducing energy bills and helping everyone to keep warm as we head into the winter months.

There are several schemes already available for residents, with full information and guidance available at

www.birmingham.gov.uk/energyhelp

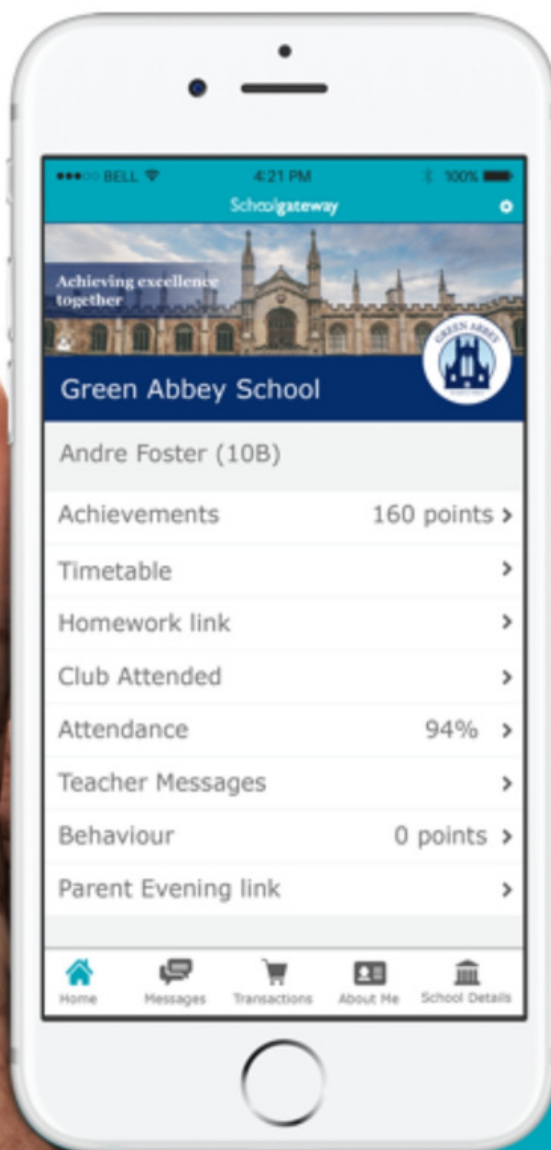
There has been a significant rise in energy scams linked to the cost of living crisis.

There is some helpful support on the Birmingham City Council website to avoid these scams.

www.birmingham.gov.uk/energyscam

Schoolgateway

School Gateway: keeping you up-to-date with your child's school life, wherever you are.



"School Gateway genuinely gets me more engaged and involved at home with my daughters' schooling and rates a 10 out of 10 from me!"

Rohan, Queen Elizabeths, Exeter

Download the
app for free today



Available on the
App Store



Get it on
Google play

School Term Dates 2023/2024

Spring Term 2024

Term Starts: Monday 8th January 2024 to Friday 9th February 2024

Half Term: Monday 12 February 2024 to Friday 16 February 2024

Term 2 Starts: Monday 19th February to Friday 22nd March 2024

Term Ends: Friday 22 March 2024

Summer Term 2024

Term Starts: Monday 8 April 2024 to Friday 24th May 2024

Half Term: Monday 27 May 2024 to Friday 31 May 2024

Term 2 Starts: Monday 3rd June 2024 to Monday 22nd July 2024

Term Ends: Monday 22 July 2024

Teaching Training Days

Friday 28th June 2024

Monday 22nd July 2024

