

Quickfire Week

The week in bullet points

Week commencing 9th May - Week B

Week commencing 16th May - Week A

- **Monday 9th May - Oliver Jr Production**
- **Tuesday 10th May - Oliver Jr Production**
- **Friday 27th May - Last Day of Term**



Aspire & Achieve Together

To all parents and carers,

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of the blog which is full of updates of the work that has been going on here at Holcombe this term.

A big priority for us this term is our Year 11 and Year 13 students who will soon be starting their formal GCSE and A level examinations; the first time public examinations have been sat since 2019. We are all working hard to support our Year 11 and Year 13 students as much as we can at this time. With this in mind we have put together a Revision Timetable to ensure they have extra sessions with their teachers immediately before examinations. This is being finalised and will be circulated to students next week. The revision timetable will operate from Monday 16th May until the end of the examination period so Year 11 or 13 students will be in school every day throughout this time either in an examination, or a revision lesson or a normal lesson. The last day of normal lessons for Year 11 will be Thursday 23rd June and for Year 13 will be Friday 24th June. There are one or two examinations in the week of Monday 27th June (with the final examination of the summer on 28th June), after which Year 11 and Year 13 can begin a well-earned holiday before results days on Thursday 18th August (Year 13) and Thursday 25th August (Year 11).

Whilst this is a priority at this time, we are very busy with other matters too. Next week sees our first drama production for several years with 'Oliver JR' being staged on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th May at Victory Academy. We are thrilled to be staging drama productions again and many students have been working tirelessly under the direction of Miss Stocker for many months now. We hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us for one of these evenings. We are also excited to announce that next year we will be able to host productions and concerts in our own newly refurbished hall which should be opening ready for September 2022. Plans for this extensive refurbishment are being finalised with work due to commence later in the summer -we will keep you updated.

For Years 7-10 and Year 12, usual lessons continue and we are reminding students of the high expectations that we have in lessons in terms of behaviour, effort and dress. In this edition of the blog we provide information about coats and hoodies to clarify what is and what is not allowed in school. Please discuss this with your son or daughter as we will be clamping down on

hoodies from next week. Students simply should not have hoodies in school and if they do they will be confiscated from next week.

Thank you to those parents who attended Year 10 parents evening last week; we hope you had useful and constructive conversations with staff. Year 10 end of year examinations take place in a few weeks time (week commencing Monday 20th June) so we hope the evening was well timed to discuss their current progress and identify priorities for the next few weeks. If any parents of Year 10 students need any further clarification following the parents evening please contact the main school office and we will assist you with any queries you may have.

Finally, the Queen's Jubilee celebrations will be held during our May Half-Term break but we wanted to give students an opportunity to celebrate the Jubilee so we are pleased to announce that we will be hosting Jubilee parties on the school field throughout the day on Thursday 26th and Friday 27th May. Details will be released soon but we are very much looking forward to celebrating this with our community before the country does so the following week. We will share pictures of the event on the last blog of this term.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr L. Preston
Principle
Holcombe Grammar School

A quick **reminder** that if you are taking your child out of school for appointments, confirmation of the appointment will need to be provided. Thank you.

Year 12 Law Trip - Witness for the Prosecution

Year 12 A Level Law learners embarked on a school theatre trip to watch a fantastic production called "Witness for the Prosecution". Learners were given the opportunity to step inside the magnificent surroundings of London County Hall and experience the intensity and drama of this gripping story of justice in a unique courtroom setting.

The drama surrounds a gentleman named Leonard Vale who is accused of murdering a widow to inherit her wealth. The current area of study for year 12 Law is focusing on Criminal Law and Tort Law, with murder soon to be covered.

The play allowed learners to solidify their learning of the work of lay people and legal personnel in a courtroom and to understand and contextualise their knowledge of criminal trials.

It was a fantastic way for teaching and learning to take place outside of the classroom.



Pride of Medway Award

We would like to say a huge congratulations to Alexander Jordan, Year 12, who was nominated for a Pride of Medway award.

An ex student was also nominated for an award too, George Atzev.

The ceremony took place on 29th April.

Oliver Jr Production

Our students are entering their last few weeks of rehearsals before the production on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th May.



Key Information

- Thursday 23rd June - Last Day for Year 11
- Friday 24th June - Last Day for Year 13

Raising Youth

A support services for individuals aged 0-19 and up to 25 for those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) or Mental Health (MH) conditions. Our services cover a wide range of topics ranging from Mental Health, Employment, Education & Daily Life. Based in St. Nicholas Church, Rochester. Online referral form. www.raisingyouth.co.uk
Email: enquiries@raisingyouth.co.uk

Link for healthy sleeping -

<https://www.medwaycommunityhealthcare.nhs.uk/application/files/9416/0199/7885/The-Teen-Sleep-Hub-eBook.pdf>

Uniform

Further to the recent letter sent home, we will be striving to reinforce basic uniform standards over the coming week. To support us in this, please reinforce to your children that hoodies are not part of school uniform. Students will be asked to remove hoodies when they arrive onsite by duty staff. Should they be seen wearing hoodies throughout the day, these will be confiscated for them to collect at the end of the day from student services. They will also be sanctioned on their reward/sanction card for failing to meet standards on uniform. It may be useful for you to check your child's reward/sanction card as well as their planner, as this is a good indication of whether they are meeting and exceeding our expectations in school. If students repeatedly have hoodies confiscated, the items will be held until a parent can come in to collect them.

Some companies have begun marketing thick hoodies as hooded jackets, which has led to some confusion for families. Please see below for some indicative guidance to help in determining what we consider a hoodie, but ultimately, a determination will come down to the school's judgement, so it is best for students to err on the side of caution.

Key Dates 2022

May

Monday 9th May	Oliver Jr Production
Tuesday 10th May	Oliver Jr Production
Friday 27th May	Last Day of Term

The Medway Victory Sea Cadet Unit

Over the Easter break, members of the unit from Holcombe and The Victory Academy, had the opportunity to engage in a number of exciting, unique experiences. Including offshore sailing, a series of courses within the West Kent District and Unit Camp at Buckmore Park.



These are all mid-layer hoodies, utilising fabrics such as sweatshirt materials, fleece and tech-fleece. The appropriate school mid layer is a v-neck black jumper.



These are all appropriate outer school coats, they are plain and dark. A blazer should always be worn under this, please ensure it fits with over a school blazer.