

**Human Rights Day (10th December) Theme for the week: Human Rights**  
**Thought of the week: "The rights of every man are diminished when the rights of one man are threatened." John F. Kennedy**



**Aspire & Achieve Together**

## Poetry Live!

Year 11 were given the opportunity to watch Poetry Live! at the Apollo Theatre, London. This annual event invites GCSE students from across the country to watch and listen to the poets they have been studying. Poet Laureate and Oxford Professor of Poetry Simon Armitage and former Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy



joined famed poets Gillian Clarke, Daljit Nagra, Imtiaz Dharker, Grace Nichols and John Agard in reading a selection of their poems. The poets then discussed themes and ideas in their works and answered questions from the audience, which included questions about their careers and what inspires them. Hearing these poems being read aloud and discussed by the poets themselves allowed students to enhance their understanding, which will aid them in their GCSE studies. AQA English chief examiner Tony Childs gave an Examiner session which provided students with insight into the upcoming exams from an examiner's perspective. Many students took the opportunity to take notes, which was great to see.

## Year 13 Parents' Evening

Year 13 Parents' Evening will be held Thursday 12th December 2019, 4.30pm-6.30pm in the School Main Hall. Parking is not available on the school site and we request that you are mindful that Letchworth Avenue is a residential road. Your child will be responsible for booking your appointments for the evening, using the appointment template sent home.

**Notices** Christmas Jumper Day is Friday 13th December. Students may wear Christmas jumpers under the Holcombe blazer and over the shirt and tie. Students wearing the jumper should bring in a £1 donation for Save the Children.

### Quickfire Week

### The week in bullet points

#### This Week

- ◇ Christmas arrived at Holcombe with Christmas trees up in the atrium and the H Block.
  - ◇ Tom Palmer opened the Holcombe Library
- Letters that went home last week:
- ◇ Year 13 Parent Consultation Evening
  - ◇ Christmas Carol Concert
  - ◇ Duke of Edinburgh 2020 Welcome Letter

All letters can be found on the school website: <https://www.holcombegrammar.org.uk/2019/09/letters-home-2019-2020/>

#### Next Week (Week B)

- ◇ Tuesday 10th December: Christmas Concert and Carol Service, 6pm-7pm
- ◇ Thursday 12th December: Year 13 Parents' Evening
- ◇ Friday 13th December: Christmas Jumper Day

## Christmas Carol Concert

The Holcombe Christmas Concert and Carol Service is being held on Tuesday 10th December, 6pm-7pm. You and your family are warmly invited. It will be an evening of festive cheer and held at St Stephen's Church, Maidstone Road, ME4 6JE. There will be lively performances of festive classics by the Holcombe Jazz Band and Brass Band, as well as solo performances. Refreshments will be available, kindly provided by the Holcombe Association, where donations will be appreciated. There is limited parking at the Church and therefore we have provided some parking at Holcombe Grammar on our Year 7 and 8 Playground, which is located opposite the Church. The gates to the playground will be open, but please note this is a playground so there are no floor markings. There is also a bus stop opposite the Church for those taking public transport.

## Holcombe Library Grand Opening



Holcombe Grammar School's new library was officially opened by acclaimed author Tom Palmer on 2nd December. Staff, students and parents

were invited to watch as Tom Palmer cut the ribbon and opened a world of imagination and possibilities for our students. This was followed by a book-signing.

**Human Rights Day (10th December) Theme for the week: Human Rights**  
**Thought of the week: "The rights of every man are diminished when the rights of one man are threatened." John F. Kennedy**



**Aspire & Achieve Together**

	Key Dates
10.12.19	Christmas Carol Concert St Stephen's Church 6pm-7pm
12.12.19	Year 13 Parents' Evening 4:30 - 6:30pm
18.12.19	Term 2 Ends
19.12.19	School closed in lieu of Open Morning
20.12.19-03.1.20	Christmas Break
06.01.20	Staff Development Day
W/C 06.01.20	Year 12 Prelims
07.01.20	Term 3 Commences
W/C 27.01.20 and 03.02.20	Year 11 Prelims
06.02.20	Year 9 Parents' Evening 4:30pm-6:30pm
10.02.20	Year 13 Prelims
13.02.20	Year 12 Parents' Evening 4:30pm-6:30pm
14.02.20	Term 3 Ends
17.02.20-21.02.20	February Break
24.02.20	Term 4 Commences; Year 13 Prelims all week
19.03.20	Year 8 Parents' and Options' Evening; 4:30pm-7:30pm
03.04.20	Term 4 Ends
10.04.20	Good Friday
13.04.20	Easter Monday
06.04.20-17.04.20	Spring Break
20.04.20	Term 5 Commences
23.04.20	Year 10 Parents' Evening 4:30pm-6:30pm
08.05.20	Early May Bank Holiday (instead of Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May)
22.05.20	Term 5 Ends
25.05.20-29.05.20	May Break
01.06.20	Term 6 Commences
W/C 15.06.20	Year 10 Prelims
W/C 22.06.20	Year 12 Prelims
25.06.20	Year 7 Parents' Evening 4:30pm-6:30pm
30.06.20	Year 12 Induction
01.07.20	Year 12 Induction
02.07.20	Year 12 Work Experience Week
14.07.20	Founders' Day
15.07.20	Sports Day
17.07.20	Term 6 Ends
20.07.20	Staff Development Day
21.07.20	Staff Development Day

## Clubs Term 2

	BEFORE SCHOOL	AFTER SCHOOL
<b>MONDAY</b>	<p>GYM</p> <p>BASKETBALL</p> <p>BADMINTON</p> <p>LUNCHTIME: SUPPORT GROUP H14</p> <p>LUNCHTIME: MET M13</p> <p>LUNCHTIME: GRAPHIC NOVEL CLUB B12</p> <p>LUNCHTIME: FRENCH CLUB WEEK A IN S16 / WEEK B IN S14</p> <p>LUNCHTIME: HOL-TONES VOCAL GROUP</p>	<p>TABLE TENNIS (ALL YEARS)</p> <p>SEA CADETS 18:00-20:00pm Victory Academy</p>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<p>GYM</p> <p>BASKETBALL</p> <p>BADMINTON</p> <p>LUNCHTIME: BOOK THIEVES B12</p> <p>LUNCHTIME: SPANISH AND FRENCH FILM CLUB S16</p> <p>LUNCHTIME: YEAR 7 BAND IN MUSIC</p>	<p>RUGBY (YEAR 7 AND 8)</p> <p>BASKETBALL (YEAR 9 AND 10)</p> <p>HOMEWORK CLUB H20</p>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<p>GYM</p> <p>BASKETBALL</p> <p>BADMINTON</p> <p>LUNCHTIME: MFL HOMEWORK CLUB S16</p> <p>LUNCHTIME: CHESS CLUB M10</p> <p>LUNCHTIME: RIDDLE CLUB IN M10</p>	<p>LIVE SOUND CLUB IN MUSIC</p> <p>1ST XI FOOTBALL FIXTURES</p> <p>HANDBALL (YEAR 7 AND 8)</p> <p>HOMEWORK CLUB H20</p>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<p>GYM</p> <p>BASKETBALL</p> <p>BADMINTON</p> <p>LUNCHTIME: YUGIOH CLUB H11</p> <p>LUNCHTIME: CREATIVE WRITING CLUB IN THE LIBRARY</p> <p>LUNCHTIME: YEAR 8 BAND IN MUSIC</p>	<p>BADMINTON (YEAR 7-10)</p> <p>HOMEWORK CLUB H20</p>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<p>LUNCHTIME: BRASS BAND IN MUSIC</p> <p>LUNCHTIME: DEBATE CLUB B12</p>	<p>GYM (ALL YEARS)</p> <p>FOOTBALL TRAINING</p> <p>GCSE PE PRACTICAL SUPPORT</p> <p>RHYTHM AND BLUES BAND IN MUSIC</p>



We also have the Medway Victory Sea Cadets Unit. Cadets are expected to regularly attend the unit on Mondays 6pm-8pm The Victory Academy in smart, tidy uniform. If you would like to find out more about the Sea Cadet Corps, search 'Medway Victory Sea Cadet Unit' on Facebook or contact [trevor.eaton@cadetmail.mod.uk](mailto:trevor.eaton@cadetmail.mod.uk), or contact Mrs Villalta within school.