

Thought for the Week: "We have two ears and one mouth, so we should listen more than we speak."

Wellbeing Focus this Term: 'Keep Learning.'



Aspire & Achieve Together

Quickfire Week

The week in bullet points

- ◇ Thirty Holcombe students participated in an Athletics Tournament at Tonbridge Athletics Club on the 13th May.
- ◇ Year 13 Art Exams took place throughout the week.
- ◇ **This week (Week B)**
- ◇ A Level examinations began Monday 20th May.
- ◇ The last day of term is Friday 24th May. Term 6 will commence Monday 3rd June. This will be Week A. Please check Show My Homework for exam info / revision / homework during holiday.
- ◇ Handball Tournaments being held.

Trip Payment Schedules

Japan: The fifth instalment of £295 due 26th May.

Normandy: Final instalment due.

Croatia: Second instalment of £475 is due 1st June.

Students should arrive 15 minutes prior to the timetabled start as this allows time for students to be seated and ensures a prompt start to the examination in question.

Students who have examinations that begin at 9am, are expected to be in the exam hall by 8:45am at the latest. Students who are unable to attend an examination due to illness must telephone the Examinations Office as soon as possible, leaving a voicemail message if necessary. A doctor's note must be obtained and passed to Mrs Fox, the Examinations Officer, within five days.

Year 11 and 13 Exams

Year 11 and Year 13 students have been provided with their final exam timetables. Parents / Carers were also provided with a copy. Year 13s were given details of any arrangements put in place and revision sessions available during the exam season. There was a reply slip to be signed and returned to Mr Anderson confirming receipt of these documents. If you have any questions regarding exams, please contact Mrs Fox, Examinations Officer, via her email: e.fox@tsatrust.org.uk.



EXAMS

Golden Ticket Winners

Congratulations to the first Golden and Platinum ticket winners in Year 7 this term! We are pleased to reward students who have been nominated by their peers and staff and those who have been given the most house points since Easter. Many students in this group have been recognised for the first time and should be very proud of this achievement.

A Level Examinations

The first A Level examination commenced on Monday 20th May. All students have been assigned their initial personal exam timetable with dates and times. Please ensure your son / daughter is equipped with the necessary equipment for their examinations. They will need black pens and a calculator (where permitted). We do not always have sufficient 'spares' for everyone. Students should be aware that mobile phones, smart watches and calculator lids are not permitted in the examination venue. Water bottles are to be plain (all labels need removing prior to entering the examination room).



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Athletics Tournament

Thirty Holcombe students participated in an Athletics Tournament at Tonbridge Athletics Club on Monday 13th May. The day saw admirable performances from our students, who competed with focus, determination, interdependence and fantastic sportsmanship.

Year 8 standout athletes included Bami Dahunsi (Year 8), who completed his 300 metres in a very impressive 42 seconds, and Brent Varrall (Year 8), who competed in the 100 metres, completing the track in only 13 seconds. Brent also shone in the shot put event, where he successfully threw a shot put across a staggering nine metres. Meanwhile, Albert Branch (Year 8) achieved 25 metres with a javelin.

The older year groups also put their best feet forward and achieved good results. Basiru Bojang (Year 9) and Oliver Everett (Year 10) both completed their 100m in 12.2 seconds, while Joshua Kuye (Year 10) achieved the 200m in 25 seconds. Finally, Derah Morah (Year 10) sped through the hurdles track in just 12.5 seconds.

Both relay teams performed well. The Year 7 and 8 Relay Teams completed their track in just 54 seconds and the Year 9 and 10 finished in 50.5.

Great performances by our athletes, who did their school proud and thank you to the PE department for all of their ongoing hard work and support.

Norfolk Trip

Our Year 8s spent last week at Manor Adventure in Norfolk. Students took part in a horde of activities which included climbing, abseiling, fencing, high ropes, raft-building and more. Students took risks, conquered fears, challenged themselves and worked as a team to complete these enriching tasks. We hope they had a brilliant time and have come back from Norfolk feeling more confident in themselves and their abilities. We would like to thank all teachers involved for their help and support.

Handball Competition

The Term 5 Inter-house Competition will be handball. Please see the below dates of each competition:

Year 7	Tuesday 21st May	Periods 3&4
Year 8	Wednesday 22nd May	Periods 1&2
Year 9	Friday 24th May	Periods 1&2
Year 10	Friday 24th May	Periods 3&4

Each Form should have a squad of eight players. Students must wear their indoor PE kit and trainers.

New System for Student Absence

We have recently introduced a new system to deal with student absence in order to ensure that parents / carers are contacted, as early as possible, when their child has not arrived at school. In future, you will receive an email via ParentPay if your child has not been registered during morning form time and we have not been made aware of the reason for absence. This will be followed by a telephone call from the Attendance Department.

We also have a dedicated email address for notification of absence in addition to the telephone absence line. The email address is absence@holcombegrammar.org.uk and the telephone absence line is option 1 on the Main School number.

If you have not already signed up to ParentPay please contact the School Office and they will provide a letter with your individual login details. It is a valuable communication route between school and home and also allows you to top up your child's lunch account and monitor their purchase history.

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Dates

Monday 27th **May Break**

-Friday 31st

May

Monday 3rd **Term 6 starts**

June

Monday 10th Geography Field Trip for Year 10 Geography students

and Tuesday

11th June

Thursday Year 5 Taster Session (PM, after school)

13th June

Monday 17th Year 10 Internal Examinations

June

W/C Monday Year 12 Prelims

24th June

24th-27th Normandy Trip

June

Thursday Year 6 Induction Day and Evening for parents

27th June

W/C Monday Year 12 Work Experience Week

1st July

2nd-3rd July Sixth Form Induction

Thursday 4th Senior Prizegiving

July

Monday 8th Year 7 trip to Dover Castle

July.

Tuesday Founders' Day

16th July

Friday 19th **End of Term**

July



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