

**British Science Week**

**Thought for the Week:** "The science of today is the technology of tomorrow." **Wellbeing Focus this Term:** 'Take Notice.'



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**Quickfire Week***The week in bullet points*

- ◇ There was a meeting for Silver Duke of Edinburgh students on Wednesday 6th March, in preparation for an expedition on the 6th April.
- ◇ Year 10 Parent Consultation Evening was held.
- ◇ Students visited Medway Library for a school trip on Thursday, as part of World Book Day.
- ◇ Our students took part in the Medway Games Basketball Tournament.

**Next Week (Week B)**

- ◇ Year 13 Prelims continue.
- ◇ Friday 15th March: UCAS Exhibition Trip for Year 12

## Year 12 UCAS Exhibition Trip

On Friday 15th March, a Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) Conference will be held at the Kent Event Centre, Detling. There will be over 180 exhibitors, including representatives from the Russell Group Universities, Oxbridge and Universities from Europe. We strongly recommend that students take advantage of engaging with the universities and the courses on offer to enable them to discover which pathway to pursue after their A Levels.

Students will be expected to be in School at the normal time of 8:40am, and will attend registration and Periods 1 and 2 as normal. We will then leave school at 11am to arrive at the Event Centre by 11:30am. Students will return to School in time for afternoon lesson and registration. Students should bring a packed lunch or money for refreshments.

The cost of this trip is £10, to be paid via ParentPay. Once students have paid and handed in their forms, they will need to see Miss Crawley for their personal ticket. This trip is based on first come first served.

Any questions or queries, please contact Miss Crawley: [l.crawley@tsatrust.org.uk](mailto:l.crawley@tsatrust.org.uk)

### Trip Payment Schedules

**Japan:** Third instalment of £295 due 30th March.

**Norfolk and Normandy:** Final instalments are due.

**Croatia:** Deposit of £150 is due.

### Student Voice Feedback

Students in Year 7 were asked by their Head of Year to identify their best lessons and reasons for this, as part of a Student Voice discussion last week. Miss Martin asked students from different forms and teaching classes in order to get a fair representation of the lessons currently taking place.

Students expressed that Miss Gill's Religious Studies lessons were their favourite. When asked why, students explained they were very interested in the topics covered, wanted to learn and felt that Miss Gill was teaching in a way that kept them engaged and involved in the learning. Thank you for being an outstanding teacher, Miss Gill!

### Drill and Piping Competition

On Sunday the 4th March, after some intense practice sessions, the Medway Victory Sea Cadets entered their first Drill and Piping Competition, at Brompton Barracks in Chatham. The Cadets had a good day, and should be proud of their performance. They learned a lot and are determined to return next year as a force to be reckoned with!



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## Medway School Games U13 Basketball Tournament

Another successful day for Holcombe Grammar School came at the Medway Schools U13's Basketball Tournament on Thursday the 7th March. The competition started with a fantastic 21-0



win over The Victory Academy. Points from Ben Dyson and Isaac Sesay saw Holcombe ease through their first group game and set a strong standard of basketball for the rest of the tournament. Wins against Brompton Academy and Howard followed, with extremely energetic performances from Tye Prater, Peace Okunrinyo and Kieran Morgan, with Holcombe proving too much for the opposition. Those wins, and a draw thanks to powerful play from Jack Galton and the shooting of Jack Lane, helped Holcombe finish top of their group and advance into the Semi-Final where they would face Thomas Aveling. This game was fast-paced, with superb strength and discipline from Reagan Almazar and the influential dribbling of Elisha Babayemi. Holcombe were again too strong for their opponents and booked a place in the final against the impressive Rainham Mark side, who had dominated their group on their run to the final.

In a tight game against an extremely strong Rainham Mark side, Holcombe eventually lost 5-2 and claimed a very respectable second place and a silver medal. The whole squad performed superbly throughout the day and were an absolute credit to their School. Our thanks as always to the PE department, and to Form Tutors and Heads of Year for their continued support.

- Mr Nanson



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### Golden Ticket Winners

Congratulations to this week's Year 7 Golden Ticket Winners! The Winners were presented with their certificates and were served breakfast by Miss Martin on Wednesday. The winners this week were Cameron, Adam, Ayo A, Folajimi, Nithin, Ayo F, Harry, Feranmi, and Oskar. Thank you to the boys for being such positive role models to our students. Keep up the hard work!



### Sixth Form Mentoring

A number of inspirational and hard-working Year 12 students have volunteered to meet with younger members of the Holcombe community. The Year 7 and 8 students will be able to learn from their new role models about how to aspire and achieve in a grammar school setting. Each week, mentees will be able to ask questions, find out how to make the most of their classes and learn skills to prepare for exams. The mentors have also offered to be available as a supportive friend around the school between meetings and we are always pleased to have such students who are keen to give up their time to support each other.

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## Dates

<b>Thursday 21st March</b>	Year 11 Exam Support Evening 5pm-7pm
<b>Thursday 28th March</b>	Year 8 Parent Consultation and Options Evening 4:30pm-7:30pm
<b>Friday 29th March</b>	Holcombe Association Disco for Year 7 and Year 8
<b>8th-22nd April</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>
<b>Tuesday 23rd April</b>	<b>Term 5 starts</b>
<b>Monday 6th May</b>	<b>May Day Bank Holiday</b>
<b>W/C Monday 6th May</b>	Year 7, 8, 9 Prelims (core subjects only)
<b>7th-10th May</b>	Norfolk Trip
<b>10th May</b>	Year 10 Finance Exam
<b>Monday 27th -Friday 31st May</b>	<b>May Break</b>
<b>Monday 3rd June</b>	<b>Term 6 starts</b>
<b>Thursday 13th June</b>	Year 5 Taster Session
<b>Monday 17th June</b>	Year 10 Internal Examinations
<b>Thursday 20th June</b>	Year 5 Taster Session
<b>W/C Monday 24th June</b>	Year 12 Prelims
<b>24th-27th June</b>	Normandy Trip
<b>Thursday 27th June</b>	Year 6 Induction Day and Evening for parents
<b>W/C Monday 1st July</b>	Year 12 Work Experience Week
<b>2nd-3rd July</b>	Sixth Form Induction
<b>Thursday 4th July</b>	Senior Prizegiving



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**Tuesday  
16th July** Founders' Day

**Friday 19th  
July** End of Term

## Online Safety

We have updated our online safety information on our website. Please see the link here for useful information and links: <https://www.holcombegrammar.org.uk/support-guidance/support-for-parents/>

## Years 12 and 13 Apprenticeship Fair

On Friday 22nd March an Apprenticeship Fair Event is being held at Strood Academy. There will be companies across a variety of sectors, which will allow students to explore all areas. We strongly recommend students attend. This has been organised by the local MP, Kelly Tolhurst, to identify apprenticeship opportunities. Students will come into School at the normal time of 8:40am, and will attend registration and Periods 1 and 2 as normal. We will then leave school at 10:30am to arrive at the destination by 11am. We will aim to leave Strood Academy by 1pm, to return to School in time for afternoon lesson and registration. The cost of this trip is £10. All payments must be made via ParentPay. Permissions slips must be completed and returned to Miss Crawley by Friday 15th March. If there are any questions or queries, please contact Miss Crawley on [l.crawley@tsatrust.org.uk](mailto:l.crawley@tsatrust.org.uk)