

Appointment of Deputy Headteacher



After two days of rigorous interviews, we would like to share with you that Kristin Smith has been appointed to the position of Deputy Headteacher.

Kristin performed at the highest level across every task, displaying exceptional knowledge and highly effective communication. The candidates faced five panel interviews including governors, senate, a data task, a role play and a final 90 minutes interview with Mrs Moat, our Chair of Governors, Andrew Lindley, the Trust Secondary Director, Erica Hiorns and I.

I hope you will join with me now in congratulating Kristin and wishing her every success in her role.

Neil Renton, Headteacher



Dates for Your Diary

Date	Activity	Year Groups
w/c 25 March and w/c 1 April	Year 11 Easter Revision – sessions you are scheduled to attend can be located on your Arbor calendar	Year 11
Sat 23 March to Sat 30 March	Year 10 and 11 Ski Trip	Year 10 and 11
Monday 15/Tuesday 16 April	GCSE Photography exam – Year 11 students	Year 11
Sat/Sun 20/21 April	DofE Bronze cohort 1 Practice Expedition	Year 10
Monday 22/Tuesday 23 April	GCSE Art exam – Year 11 students	Year 11
Monday to Wednesday 22-25 April	A Level Photography exam – Year 13 students	Year 13
Tuesday 23 April	Year 7 Parent Consultation Evening	Year 7
Thursday to Monday 25-29 April	A Level Graphics exam – Year 13 students	Year 13
w/c 22 and 29 April	GCSE speaking exam – Year 11 students	Year 11
Tues to Thu – 30 April to 2 May	A Level Art exam – Year 13 students	Year 13
Sat/Sun 27/28 April	DofE Bronze cohort 1 Final Expedition	Year 10
Monday 6 May	May bank holiday – school closed	All years

Parent Communications

End of Year trips letter	Emailed 21 March 2024	Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 students
Y9 Jekyll and Hyde novel	Emailed 21 March 2024	Year 9 students

Ofsted's Big Listen

Ofsted has formally launched its [Big Listen consultation](#). The consultation runs until the end of May.

You can respond to the consultation [here](#).

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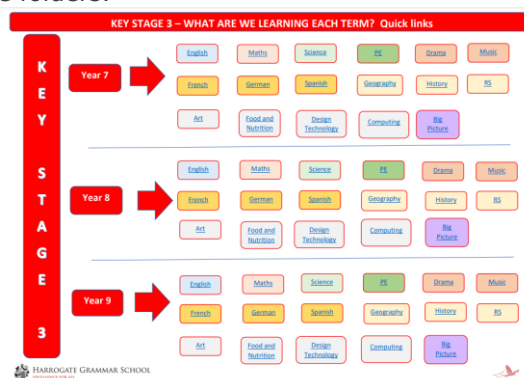


Termly Curriculum Overviews

Please use the links below to access an overview of what your child is learning in each subject area, each half term. Students have access to this information in their subject Showbie folders.

Please click on the links below:

KS3	Years 7, 8 and 9
KS4	Years 10 and 11
KS5	Year 12 Year 13



Information for Year 11 Students

Food Bank Donations – Year 11

Thank you for all the donations you brought into school for the Food Bank. All your donations will be taken to Resurrected Bites before Easter.

Science Masterclass Recordings

Over the course of this academic year, Year 11 students have been invited to attend a series of Science masterclasses. All of these sessions have been recorded and are available to watch again. The resources used during the masterclasses are also available.

Students can access the Masterclass resources and recordings through this one drive link [23-24 Science Masterclasses Resources Folder](#) or via the Science masterclass group on Showbie. The code to access the Science Masterclass group on Showbie is U2T4A.

If you have any problems accessing the resources please contact Mr Sykes using the email address sykesr@hgs.rklt.co.uk

There will be more Science Masterclass sessions running in the Summer term.

****NEW**** Saturday Revision Sessions – 4 sessions to take place in Summer Term

Following the successful Saturday revision sessions in school this term, we are pleased to provide four more dates post the Easter break. These sessions will take place in G2, in the Sixth Form on Saturdays 13, 20, 27 April and 4 May. The sessions will take place from 10am to 1pm.

If you would like your child to attend one or more of these sessions you can book a place via Arbor and click on [Clubs](#). Places will be booked on a first come first served basis.

These independent study sessions are an opportunity for students to bring their own study material into school to a quiet area where they can focus for 3 hours with no distractions.

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****NEW** MFL film extra-curricular - German language film – Monday 15 April**

All Sixth Form linguists and Year 11 German students are invited to stay after school on Monday 15 April to watch the German film 'die fetten Jahre sind vorbei' (the Edukators) with English subtitles. The film will be shown in A17 and should be finish by 5:30pm. If you would like you child to attend please sign up via Arbor Parent App and click on Clubs. Please note sign up closes on Wednesday 10 April.

Summer Exam Timetable (GCSE/A Level)

Please click on the link below to access a copy of the Summer Exam timetables for GCSE and A Level.

➤ [Summer Exam Timetables 2024](#)

Please note there are two contingency afternoons and a contingency day. All students taking GCSE and A Level examination must **plan to be available on these dates** in case of any disruption to examinations.

Staffed Study Area after school (Year 11)

A reminder that G2 is open until 5pm Monday to Friday if students would like to utilise this space for study after school.

Year 11 Easter Revision Sessions – information for students enrolled

Students can check their Arbor calendar to see the Easter revision sessions you have enrolled them on.

Instructions for students attending:

- Students should access Sixth Form via the Sixth Form entrance
- They should make their way to the classroom – this information is on their Arbor calendar
- Students should arrive 5/10 minutes before the revision commences. Revision sessions will commence promptly at the start time
- They should bring refreshments into school e.g. filled water bottle and snack
- If they are attending an Independent Silent Study session, they must remember to bring their own study material
- They should bring their iPad with you (and ensure this is charged), some note paper and pens if you'd prefer to make written notes
- Dress code: no need to wear school uniform, smart/casual wear

If you would like to sign up for the Easter Revision sessions, you can do so via Arbor Parent Portal and click on Trips. From here, select the relevant revision sessions, consent and pay. Please note, sign up closes at 5pm the day before the revision session takes place.

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Information for Years 7 to 13

Non-uniform Day – Thank you for your donations

Thank you for all your donations for non-uniform day. If you have not yet had chance to donate you can still do so via Arbor/Trips and click on 'Non-Uniform Day Spring 2024'. Please note the donation window closes on Sunday 24 March. If you would like to donate more than the suggested £2 donation, please scroll down the Sign-Up screen where you can amend the amount.

All monies raised to donated to Liz Hatton’s gofunde fund.

Non-uniform day on Friday was dedicated to Liz, a student in Year 12 and a member of the student leadership team. Unfortunately, Liz was recently diagnosed with an extremely rare and aggressive form of cancer. Despite this, Liz continues to study at home and in hospital whilst she undergoes complex and invasive treatment.

Her family have set up a gofundme page to help raise funds to consult with an American specialist in Liz’s cancer diagnosis. The specialist is spearheading research and setting up clinical trials.



Red Kite Learning Trust Youth Board



Our Red Kite Learning Trust Youth Board met again earlier this month, at Meadowfield Primary School in Leeds. Representatives from all the schools across our Trust gathered to continue discussing issues that are important to them, including sustainability and mental health. [Click here](#) to read all about their meeting and the amazing initiatives our schools and young people are working on.

Recommended Reading

Please click on the link below to access the recommended reads for March 2024.

[Recommended Reads for March 2024](#)



Languages - Word a Day

Help your children learn 'Word a Day!' **Weeks 25 and 26**

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
				
				
				

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Enrichment and Extra-Curricular Activities

- **Whole School Timetable** – [click here](#) and [programme here](#)
- **Music extra-curricular timetable** – [click here](#)
- **PE Spring Term timetable** – [click here](#)

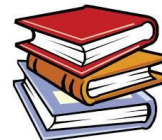
****New PE Summer Term timetable**** – [click here](#)

We are delighted to launch the PE Summer Term extra-curricular timetable, if you would like your child to attend any of these clubs please sign up via Arbor Parent App and click on [Clubs](#).

A copy of our latest newsletter can be found [here](#).

Learning Resource Centre

The LRC will be open from 8am to 8:40am and after school until 5pm each day if your child would like to use the library before or after school.



Sports Fixtures

Sports Events w/c 8 April 2024

Day	Sport	Opposition	Age	Home/Away	Meet	Start	Return HGS
Wed 10 April	Girls Tennis	Aberdare Cup Bradford Grammar	TBC	Away	TBC	1pm	4.30pm

Follow the PE twitter page for up to date information regarding sports fixtures: [HGS Physical Education](#)

Vacancies

HGS Vacancies

[Music Tutors](#), closing date Monday 1 April

[Teaching and Learning Assistant](#), closing date Tuesday 9 April

[Teacher of Economics](#), closing date Wednesday 10 April

[Design Technician](#), closing date Wednesday 10 April

[Teacher of Geography](#), closing date Thursday 11 April

[Programme Leader, Science/Biology \(with TLR\)](#), closing date Friday 12 April

[Teacher of Design Technology](#), closing date Friday 12 April

[Teacher of English](#), closing date Thursday 18 April

[Learning Mentor](#), closing date Friday 19 April

[Attendance Administrator](#), closing date Friday 19 April

RKLT Vacancies

Current vacancies within Red Kite Learning Trust can be [found here](#).

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PTA Events

Your PTA needs YOU!



The three used uniform sales each school year are very popular, helping to keep uniform costs down as well as recycling and reusing good quality clothing. It also raises a whopping amount for the PTA ensuring students can have additional resources that would not otherwise be available. Recent support from the PTA has provided books, musical instruments and sports equipment along with water fountains and fundraising for a new school minibus.

The PTA is looking for someone to lead the used uniform sales starting in April. A full handover will be provided to whoever steps up for this very rewarding role. In terms of time commitment, it takes about 5 hours each term to prepare the uniform and three hours to run a sale with the support of a team of highly committed volunteers, who help run the sale on the day.

If you are interested in getting involved, please email HGSPTA@hgs.rklt.co.uk before the Easter break.

Reuse, recycle and raise funds!

We are starting to collect used uniform for the big spring sale on Saturday 20 April. The sale will be held from 10am until midday inside the Hub (next to the staff car park) but please keep an eye on the PTA Facebook page (HGS PTA | Facebook) or the second hand uniform Facebook page (HGS second-hand uniform sell/buy/want | Facebook) for updates nearer the time.

This is a big fundraiser for the PTA so please donate any unwanted uniform and bring into the main reception at school. Please remember the used uniform sale is contactless payments only as this means funds go straight into the PTA bank account. Thank you!



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Well-Being, Mental Health and e-Safety

If you or your child require support, please access contact details for organisations that offer support to children and young people by clicking this link: <https://www.harrogategrammar.co.uk/our-school/wellbeing-and-mental-health/>

Easter Wellbeing Suggestions

Try some of the activities below over the Easter break.

Get Creative

Try to spend some time doing something creative. It could be designing Easter cards, baking Easter crispy cakes, creating Easter decorations or decorating some Easter eggs.



Appreciate Nature

Spend some time outside.

Find an Easter Egg Hunt or create an Easter Egg Hunt in a local park.

Plant some spring flowers in your garden.



Take a Spring Walk

Take a spring walk. Try and notice three things you have not noticed before on the walk.

Take a break from screens and appreciate the great outdoors.



Focus on You

Have a day to just focus on yourself.

This could be enjoying all the Easter activities you love or just having a day to stop and rest.



Read something new

Read a new book or some Easter poetry.

Try to create your own poem.



Happiness Eggs

Draw three Easter eggs. In each egg write something that makes you feel happy.



Test your Knowledge

Find some Easter quizzes or create your own.

Hold a family quiz night.



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Rugby Success – U15 and U14

Congratulations to the U15 and U14 boy's rugby teams. The U15 team were cup final winners and U14 were the Plate final winners in the Ilkley Grammar 7s tournament.



U12 Football Success

Well done to U12s football team who went through to the county cup final.

Harrogate Rotary Young Chef 2024 winner

Huge congratulations to our Harrogate Rotary Young Chef 2024 winner Farrah in Year 10. An amazing result.



Charity Obstacle Course Fun Run

What an amazing event to raise money for the school charity. We had over 40 teams who entered. Thank you to everyone who supported, donated and made the fancy dress costumes.



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Spotlight: Eid-Al-Fitr

Eid al-Fitr means: 'festival of the breaking of the fast', it is a Muslim celebration which officially marks the end of Ramadan, a period of month-long fasting from sunrise to sunset for Muslims around the world, and it is one of the biggest celebrations in the Islamic year.

The day starts with prayers, and a big meal is usually the main event, but there's lots of other ways people celebrate too. For example, visit the mosque, wear new clothes, give gifts and support the less fortunate. During Eid, one of the most common things you'll hear people say to one another is "Eid Mubarak!" This literally means "blessed Eid" and is a way of expressing celebration.

This year in the UK, Eid al-Fitr will begin Tuesday 9 April (depending on the moon). Eid is a time for celebration with family and loved ones. It is a period of rest and good tidings!

Happy
Eid al-Fitr



Spotlight: The Christian Festival of Easter

Easter is the most important festival in the Christian calendar.

It celebrates Jesus rising from the dead, three days after he was executed.

The date of Easter Sunday varies each year. It is celebrated on the first Sunday after the full moon. Easter Sunday is on 31 March this year. The week leading up to Easter is called Holy Week.



An egg is a symbol of new life. For Christians, Easter eggs are used as a symbol for the resurrection of Jesus. Christians believe that, through his resurrection, Jesus overcame death and sin. This offers people the promise of eternal life if they follow his teachings. Nowadays, most Easter eggs are made from chocolate and covered in coloured foil. Traditionally though, chicken eggs would be hard boiled and then decorated by hand. Traditional Easter egg hunts remain popular with both Christian and non-Christian children.

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