Student Weekly News

w/c 20 October 2025

Dates for your diary

Date	Event / Activity	Year Group
Wed 22 Oct	Sixth Form Open Evening - 4pm to 6pm OR 6.30pm to 8.30pm	Year 11
Wed 22 Oct	Year 12 and 13 finish at lunchtime	Year 12/13
Thu 23 Oct	Wear it Pink Day - donations via Arbor	Year 12 & 13
Fri 24 Oct	Staff Training Day - School Closed	All years
Mon 27 Oct to Fri 31 Oct	October half term break	All years
Fri 31 Oct to Tue 4 Nov	Iceland Trip	Year 12
Mon 3 Nov	Start of Autumn 2 term	All years
Tue 4 Nov	Year 13 Parents Evening (online)	Year 13

Assemblies

Day	Time	Year	Location	Additional Information
Monday	8.50am	7	Hall	Register in the Hall from 8.40am
Tuesday	8.50am 8.50am 9am	11 13 12	Hall Forum Forum	Register in the Hall from 8.40am Forum 8.40am Year 12 - Register in your form room from 8.50am
Wednesday	8.50am	10	Hall	Register in the Hall from 8.40am
Thursday	8.50am	9	Hall	Register in the Hall from 8.40am



Spotlight: Diwali

Why is Diwali celebrated?

Diwali is probably the most well-known and popular Hindu festival.

The word Diwali translates as 'row of light' and Diwali is known as the festival of lights because of this. The festival celebrates the victory of good over evil, light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance.

When is Diwali?

Diwali always falls in October or November, but the exact date varies each year as the Hindu calendar is based on the moon. This year, Diwali is on Monday 20 October.

How is Diwali celebrated?

For many people this five-day festival honours Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth. Lamps are lit and windows and doors are left open to help Lakshmi find her way into people's homes.

Colourful patterns called rangoli can be seen on the doorsteps of homes to welcome visitors and good fortune in the shape of Lakshmi.Other ways that Hindus celebrate the festival include:

- · Spring-cleaning the home
- · Wearing new clothes
- Exchanging gifts (often sweets and dried fruit) and preparing festival meals
- · Decorating buildings with fancy lights
- Huge firework displays





Methuen Drama, part of Bloomsbury Publishing, has launched a new competition for all secondary school students aged between 14 to 19 years old.

As part of their continuing celebrations of the newly published Methuen Drama <u>Blood Brothers Student Edition</u>, they are inviting students to write their own scene on the theme of social class. Students can enter the competition as individuals or get together as a group to write.

The winning entry will host Willy Russell in a live Q&A session at their school in June 2026, and receive a free two-hour Blood Brothers workshop from practitioners at Stage-Ed. Finally, the school will also receive a class set of the Blood Brothers Student Edition.

Entries should be submitted by 17 April 2026. <u>Click here</u> to download an entry pack.

To keep up to date with Life at HGS please follow our School accounts.











Parent Communications this week

Whole year group communications that have been sent this week:

· Year 7 and 8 Battlefields Trip



Wellbeing and Mental Health Support

The school has strong links with local agencies and organisations which offer mental health support services. Click on <u>this link</u> to access more information.

REACH Out app

Our school does not tolerate bullying or harassment of any member of our community and all incidents are taken seriously. If you experience or witness this, please click the REACH Out button on your iPad.

Termly Curriculum Overviews



Year 7, 8 and 9

Year 10 and 11

Year 12

<u>Year 13</u>

Information for Years 7 to 11

REACH

Use the half term break to make sure you are school ready.

Do you have all the equipment you need for each school day?



Year 10 Work Experience

Thank you to everyone who has already consented and paid for their <u>work experience</u>. If your parent/carer has not yet had the opportunity to complete, please can you ask them to do so via:

- Consent via Parent Arbor App/Consents by Friday 24
 October
- Pay the £22 admin fee via Parent Arbor App/Trips by Friday 24 October

Remember you also need to sign up to ConnectEd by Friday 20 March - you should have an email in your school account

HGS Social Media

To keep up to date with Life at HGS please follow our School accounts.











Information for Year 11



Have you booked to attend the Sixth Form Open Evening?

Following assembly on Tuesday, please remember to book your place at the Sixth Form Open Evening will take place on **Wednesday 22 October**.

This is a great opportunity to explore our Sixth Form, attend subject specific talks and find our more about our courses, facilities and culture.

Please click on this link to book your time slot for the Sixth Form Open Evening.

If you are unsure what subject sessions to chose, please do talk to your subject teachers and your parents/carers.

Year 11 Mock Timetable

The Year 11 Mock Timetable has been emailed to parents and students earlier this week.

Click on this link to access this letter.

Y11 Mock Examinations Nov 2025 Week 1																			
Monday 10/11		Tuesday 11/11			Wednesday 12/11			Thursday 13/11			Friday 14/11								
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Regular Revision Sessions taking place in school

Revision Session Details now live

A list of regular Year 11 revision sessions can be found on the website (access via Parents/Carers, Year 11 Support). These will be updated on a regular basis.

Date	Time	Subject	Classroom	
Monday	Period 1	English Support Session	Invite only	
	Lunch	Food and Hospitality	Drop in - D03	
	Lunch	DT	Drop in - D05	
	Lunch @ 1.10pm	Science - Physics		
Tuesday	Lunch	Food and Hospitality	Drop in - D03	
	Lunch	DT	Drop in - D05	
	Lunch	Maths Sparx Help	Drop in - A14	
Wednesday	Lunch	DT	Drop in - D05	
	Lunch	Food and Hospitality	Drop in - D03	
	Period 6	English Support Session	Invite only	
	Period 6	Maths	Drop in - A39	
Thursday	Lunch	Food and Hospitality	Drop in - D03	
	Lunch	DT	Drop in - D05	
	Lunch	Drama	Drop in - A03	
Friday	Lunch @ 1.10pm	Science - Biology		

The following Science revision sessions will also take place ahead of your mocks:

- Monday 20 October 3.30pm to 4.30pm in A15/A16. Topic: Biology Drug Development and Photosynthesis vs respiration
- *NEW* Thursday 6 November lunctuime. Chemistry. A16 (Triple) A30 (Combined)
- *NEW* Thursday 13 November lunchtime. Chemistry. A16 (Triple) A30 (Combined)

New Revision Sessions added this week

Wednesday lunchtime from 1.05pm, Year 11 GCSE Sociology revision drop in - A05

Information for Sixth Form Students



Revision Sessions

Day	Time	Subject	Year group	Room
Monday	1-1.40pm	Physics	12 & 13	S29
Monday (Week A) Starting 11.11.25	3.30 - 4.30pm	Geography	13	S26
Tuesday	1-1.40pm	Chemistry	12 & 13	S29
Wednesday	1-1.40pm	Biology	13	S22
Wednesday	1-1.40pm	History NEA	13	S27 & S28
Thursday	1-1.40pm	French	12 & 13	A21
Thursday (Week B) Starting 11.11.25	3.30 - 4.30pm	Geography	13	S26
Thursday	3.30 - 4.30pm	Maths (all)	12 & 13	A14

Sixth Form Open Evening – Wednesday 22 October

Please note due to our Sixth Form Open Evening there will be no lunch service in G2 on this day. Year 12 and 13 students will be allowed to leave at 12.55pm so there will no taught Period 5.

Student Learning Support Form

A reminder for all students who received the link for the Student Learning Support Microsoft Form to please complete it as soon as possible.

UCAS Reminders

- 7 November is the deadline for all applications
- Check that your predicted grades match the entry requirements for all of your choices
- Only 'pay and submit' when you have finalised everything
- Be patient while we process applications

Progression and Careers

Use these quick links to access up to date information:

<u>Super-curricular</u>

Work Experience

<u>Career and</u> <u>Apprenticeship</u> <u>Opportunities</u>

<u>Career</u> <u>Pathways</u>

Wear it Pink Day Thursday 23 October

On Thursday 23 October Sixth Form students will add a little pink to their business dress to support Breast Cancer Awareness. Please support this event if you can by wearing a little pink and donating via Arbor. Thank you for your support.



Life @HGS



A weekend of Rugby

Our boys rugby teams were all playing this weekend. The 1st and 2nd teams were playing at Yarnbury Rugby Club on Friday night and Years 7 to 10 playing Woodhouse Grove at Harrogate Rugby Club. We saw some excellent rugby matches and great competitive play. Well done to all our teams.

Thank you to everyone who came along to support and Redmayne Bentley for sponsoring the match balls and providing tea/coffee for parents on Saturday.



Netball Success

Congratulations to the U13s Netball team who have successfully gone through to the third round of the School Sport Magazine

Cup. Well done girls



The Spanish Exchange students are having an amazing time in Toledo with their exchange partners. On Wednesday, they visited the windmills of Consuegra where they learnt the story of Don Quijote de La Mancha by Cervantes. The day included a tour of the medieval castle. On Thursday, the students spent the day in the host Spanish school, students attended lessons, completed a quiz and enjoyed snacks in the cafeteria. They were also treated to a performance of Lorca by the Drama students.



The British Army Band

Last Friday we welcomed the British Army band to HGS. It was great to hear the live music around school, as well as hearing all about their interesting career pathways. The afternoon finished with a lesson in marching. We can't wait to have them back again soon.

If you would like to learn to play a musical instrument, <u>click here</u> to read more about our Encore! lessons.

