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## HITCHIN BOYS' SCHOOL

An Academy Trust

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19<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of week one of a new term the Easter break seems a distant memory and the school forges ahead in earnest. Staff and students alike have returned refreshed and ready for what will be a hugely busy but equally rewarding term. The weather has, as ever, been the topic of conversation but despite the interludes of rain, and at times hail, it has been great to see all the boys back out on the fields and enjoying the freedoms that the space (and the numerous footballs) provide. It has also not stopped, staff and students enthusiastically celebrating the rich and varied heritage of our school community during Culture Day today.

The examinations are upon us and I have been impressed, in conversations with both year 11 and 13 students, with an obvious change in focus; as one student put it, 'Sir, it is game time'. There is little time left and we must all continue to support them and ensure they leave no stone unturned in the pursuit of reaching their full potential. Examinations are just a 'mountain to climb' but it is important when confronting them that we support the students to climb over them, rather than try to navigate around them. So the challenge to them all is to be better today than they were yesterday and then every day.

I would like to draw your attention to a few points and key dates for the summer term:

### **Senior Leadership Team drop in surgery**

We have enjoyed meeting with parents at our SLT surgery throughout the Autumn and Spring terms this academic year. This will continue running throughout the summer term and is an opportunity for parents to meet with a member of our Senior Leadership Team to discuss any school matters they wish to raise. If you would like to attend, then we would encourage you to contact Mrs Leaver to book an appointment time by emailing [hleaver@hitchinboys.co.uk](mailto:hleaver@hitchinboys.co.uk).

The SLT surgery will be taking place on the following dates between 9.15 – 11.15am.

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July

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Head Teacher: Mr T E Bennett

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**Ofsted  
Outstanding  
2021/2022**

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### **New Summer Uniform**

Following consultation with our Student Voice group, students are now permitted to wear a navy blue polo shirt with HBS crest throughout the summer term should they wish to. The polo shirt can be worn as an alternative to the regular shirt, tie and blazer, with trousers and shoes as usual.

The polo shirt is available from Beat School Uniform and is primarily designed to be an alternative uniform for the warmer weather as it is not to be worn with a jumper or blazer. Of course, students can continue to wear the regular uniform throughout the summer term if they prefer.

### **PE kit**

Tylers will no longer offer the option of putting initials on PE kit. We have initiated this change following feedback from parents regarding the cost of PE kit. Please remember to put your child's name in all PE kit and school uniform as this does ensure we can return found items to their owner!

### **Message from the SENDCo**

If you are considering an ADHD or autism referral for your son, or if your son is already on the referral route and you are waiting for an appointment, it would be helpful to contact the SENDCo to talk through any concerns that you have, and for strategies to be put in place if necessary. This will help us complete the referral forms more accurately, especially if your son is not already on the SEND register. Please contact Mr Wilson by email [SENDCo@hitchinboys.co.uk](mailto:SENDCo@hitchinboys.co.uk)

### **Parents' Society Summer Social - Thursday 27th June - save the date**

Our Parents' Society is in need of more volunteers to help run events and raise much needed funds for the school. If you are interested in finding out more about being part of the HBS community in this way, please come along to our Parents' Society summer social in the evening of Thursday 27th June. Further details to follow, but please save the date!

### **Summer term key dates**

24th April - Year 7 Consultation evening  
6th May - Bank Holiday, school closed  
9th May - Year 10 Consultation evening  
10th May - Year 13 Study leave starts  
27th May - 31st May - Half term holiday, school closed  
11th June - Year 12 Post-18 Options parents presentation  
13th June - Music summer recital  
13th - 26th June - Year 12 mock exams / study leave  
24th - 26th June - 6th form induction / taster sessions  
27th June - Parents' Society summer social

28th June - Founders' Day  
3rd July - House sports day  
4th July - Music summer concert  
5th July - Year 7 trip to Willen Lake  
9th July - Year 6 into Year 7 induction meetings - School closes at 12.30pm for all students  
11th July - Secondary transfer day  
15 - 19th July - Year 12 Work experience  
19th July - End of term, school closes at 12.30pm

Finally, I would urge you to catch up with all the latest HBS news via our Facebook and Twitter pages. Our newsletter is also sent to parents twice every half-term and gives a fantastic overview of all that has been happening at HBS. The latest newsletter can be found here: <https://www.hbs.herts.sch.uk/information/newsletter>

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T.E. Bennett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Mr T.E. Bennett**  
Headteacher