

# Hurstmere News

31st March 2023  
5<sup>th</sup> Edition

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[www.hurstmere.org.uk](http://www.hurstmere.org.uk)



Our Core Values Assembly  
Theme this week is :  
Resilience



## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

“It's not selfish to love yourself, take care of yourself, and to make your happiness a priority. It's necessary.”

Generosity of heart, generosity of spirit and generosity of time have permeated across every corner of the school this week. It has been heart-warming to see our pupils, staff and parents come together as a community, demonstrating their unquestionable compassion for those who are suffering the horrors of the Turkey-Syria earthquake disaster. The week-long fundraising event has raised a staggering £3233...wow! Thank you to everyone for making this fundraising appeal a great success- what a great way to end the term!

For the next five editions, each year group will have the spotlight in the newsletter, and we start with our Year 11s who offer some excellent advice to the younger year groups in the feature, "Hear it from the boys". It is wonderful to see the tremendous effort from staff and pupils in the final preparations before the summer exams. Hurstmere even hosted the first joint subject revision conference for schools in Bexley last week, with 180 GCSE Psychology pupils from our school, Bexley Grammar School and Trinity School, all coming together to hear first-class advice from a former Chief Examiner.



The Iceland Trip for Year 11 GCSE Geography pupils is a prime example of learning beyond the classroom; the spectacular natural environment provides the pupils with the opportunity to see Geography in action and experience breath-taking landscapes. I am thrilled to be in such good company for the next week in Iceland with our wonderful Year 11 pupils! Thank you to Mr Baston, Mr Maher, Mr Monksfield, Mr Dye and Mr Waghorn for organising this trip and giving up your time to enable our Year 11s to have this fantastic opportunity.



Our school is a hive of activity and a source of opportunities. I hope you can get a flavour of all the amazing things happening both within and beyond the classroom walls through this newsletter.

Wishing you and your loved ones a wonderful Easter.

**Lynn Bennett**

## Meet Our Staff



**Mr Monksfield** - I am extremely proud to work in the Geography Department alongside a team of dedicated and talented colleagues. It is a privilege to be the Form Tutor of 8 Caxton X and to teach Geography to KS3 and GCSE pupils. I am also delighted to have been appointed as the school's new Social Media Coordinator, and look forward to sharing new content on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Hurstmere School has always been a special place to me, as it is not only where I completed my teacher training, but also attended as a former pupil. As well as sharing my love of the natural world, I endeavour to ensure that those I teach are given the same opportunities that I was given. Beyond the realms of Room 14, I enjoy spending time in the gym and travelling to new places. I have also attempted, although not yet successfully, to take up golf. I hope that by (continually) believing, I will eventually start achieving some success on the course!



Hi, I am **Mr Joyce** and wow – I have reached my penultimate year at Hurstmere. I arrived in September 2000 after 10 years of teaching in Thamesmead. I have taught a wide range of subjects throughout this time, ranging from Art, Technology, Maths and Music (to name a few) but PE is my specialism and I thoroughly enjoy teaching this great subject!

I came into teaching PE because my county cricket career was cut short due to a major back operation, however, I could not have asked for a better profession! An aspect of PE teaching includes running school sports teams, and over the years, my football teams have been phenomenally successful, especially with 6 North Kent Cups, 6 Kent Cups and a ESFA National Cup. Additionally, my cricket teams have also won the North Kent Cup 5 times. Teaching PE is great, but being a Pastoral Leader is very rewarding; I wake up every morning wondering how I am going to support and guide the pupils in my year group that day.

I want my year group to know that I am always here for them. Throughout my time at Hurstmere, I have had the pleasure of being a pastoral leader to four different year groups, and yes- there have been some challenges along the way, but one I have enjoyed immensely. A previous headteacher at Hurstmere once described me as, “a square peg, in a square hole.” I will be incredibly sad to see my current year group leave in just three months' time, but I know they are ready for the next chapter.

Outside of school, I still play cricket every Saturday (even after 48 seasons and with two total knee replacements). In fact, in my retirement, I plan to represent senior cricket for Kent and hopefully, for England, touring the world as their wicketkeeper. I enjoy being at Hurstmere and I'm looking forward to my final stint until July 2024. My final words to my year group and all those I have taught is... “Enjoy life and be happy!”



**Mrs Watson** - Hello, I joined Hurstmere in April 2022, as an administrative assistant, supporting our wonderful SLT Team with admin tasks. I am also the co-ordinator for this newsletter as well as co-ordinating the yearly work experience for our Year 10s. Being based in the school office means no two days are ever the same- the office is very busy with phone calls, guests and numerous visits from our beloved boys! I am a first aider in school, which can be interesting (at times).

Hurstmere is a lovely place to work; I have always enjoyed working with children and I'm passionate about supporting youngsters with their education and wellbeing. I am a wife and a mother myself, so I generally have a good understanding of teenagers. Prior to working at Hurstmere, I was a foster carer for Bexley, again another wonderful opportunity to support children whilst watching them grow. Outside of school I can normally be spotted having some retail therapy at Bluewater, at my local gym or participating in an occasional Thai Boxing class.



## Let's hear it from some of our Year 11 boys...

We asked some of our Year 11 pupils about their experiences over the last five years at Hurstmere School, and this is what they had to say...

### 1. What are your top 3 favourite subjects?

History  
Psychology  
Geography

Samuel R

PE  
Physics  
Design &  
Technology

Rohan B-B

Maths  
Music Tech  
Business

Jamie S

Physics  
Chemistry  
Biology

Edon K-M

PE  
Maths  
Geography

Aaron B

### 2. Which teacher(s) have had the greatest impact on you and why?

Mr Ballard – Lessons are fun and are very creative which helps because it sticks in your memory.

Mrs Davis – She always makes sure everyone understand the work.

Jamie S

All my Triple Science teachers have pushed me in my studies and gave me motivation to aim for grades 8 and 9s.

Edon K-M

Mr Page, Mr Brown and Mrs Davis have had the greatest impact on me because they are good at teaching and help you if you're confused. They're also nice people.

Samuel R

Mr Giddings has had the greatest impact on me because he is a great teacher, and his lessons are fun and interesting.

Also, Mr Lever & Mr Eiffort.

Aaron B

Mrs Nunes has helped me throughout year 10 and 11 to improve my English grade.

Rohan B-B

## Let's hear it from some of our Year 11 boys...

### 3. What is your favourite memory over the last 5 years?

Year 7 in PGL, spending a few days with my friends and enjoying the activities such as the giant swing.

Jamie S

Attending the Ski Trip in Year 11  
Edon K-M

My favourite memory is when we had our PE moderation in terrible weather. Everyone was muddy and some of us had lessons after lunch. Everyone was laughing and enjoying our last PE lesson of secondary school.

Aaron B

My favourite memory will be shaving Mr William's hair off and waxing Mr Reddy's legs for charity. It was laugh!

Dami O

My favourite memory is the Year 8 & 9 lockdown as it's something that happens very rarely and was very fun.

Rohan B-B

### 4. What are you hoping to study next year?

A Level Business Studies  
A Level Economics  
A Level Law

Jamie S

Physics  
Maths  
Economics

Edon K-M

A Level History  
A Level Psychology  
BTec Law

Samuel R

Geography  
Business  
Economics

Aaron B

I am hoping to study Maths, Product Design, Physics and Business.

Rohan B-B

## Let's hear it from some of our Year 11 boys...

We asked some of our Year 11 pupils what advice they would give to younger pupils, and here is what they had to say...

**What advice can you offer to younger boys at Hurstmere in order to have the best experience of school and gain the best possible grades?**

Concentrate in class and get to school on time! Make sure you're part of a good friendship group. Listen to your teachers as they have experience and knowledge that you can learn from.  
Fred W

I used to think that GCSEs weren't important, but now I know how serious they are! Really, really try hard- you're only here for 5 years, so make it count!  
Danny F

Behave in school and form good relationships with your teachers. Choose good people to be friends with and keep away from trouble.  
Charles M

Make good friends- ones who you actually enjoy being around with. Stay away from people who give off bad energy as you will get pulled down. Show teachers respect and be polite- then it will be shown back to you.  
Rowan M

**What has been your most effective way of studying for your exams?**

Make a mind map. A bit of Playstation and Tiktok is OK but balance it with revision too. Even little bits all add up, but stay focused because it's easy to get distracted.  
Danny F

Get past papers from your teachers or just download them. Some teachers also put them on Teams. Make a timetable around other things like clubs you're involved in. I started my revision plan at the beginning of Year 11, but wish I'd started earlier. Also, when choosing your options, choose subjects you enjoy as you are more likely to stay focused.  
Rowan M

Seneca and Teams are websites that I use- they're really easy to use with lots of test questions. Accept the reality that when you're at home, it can't be just about free time- make a set revision plan and stick to it.  
Charles M

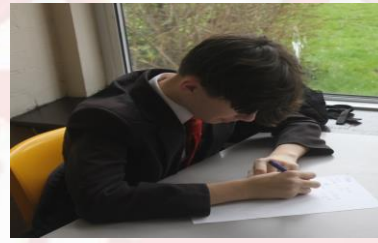
Make a plan that fits around your life. Keep it realistic, have breaks and fun, but stay committed.  
Fred W



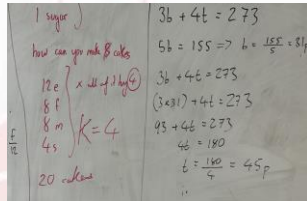
## Take a sneak peek into our Year 11 classrooms...



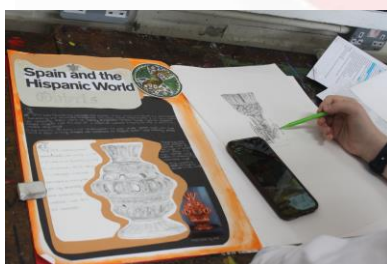
Year 11s analysing poetry for their **English Literature GCSE** on 'Power and Conflict'. Pupils work in small groups to help each other progress through verbal challenging, bouncing ideas around and improving their written work.



Year 11 pupils are currently working hard in their **Maths** lessons in preparation for the summer exams. Many are addressing misconceptions and are now at the stage of refining their knowledge to ensure that they are successful in the application of their skills. Past paper practice is vital at this stage, as this gives the pupils an insight into how the examiners may assess their mathematical ability - perfect practice makes perfect!



The Year 11 Raising Aspirations Programme is a targeted intervention programme, designed to finely tune-in to closing gaps in knowledge and to enable pupils to build confidence when tackling exam questions. Above are photos taken during a Mathematics after school intervention class, focusing on ratio and proportion.

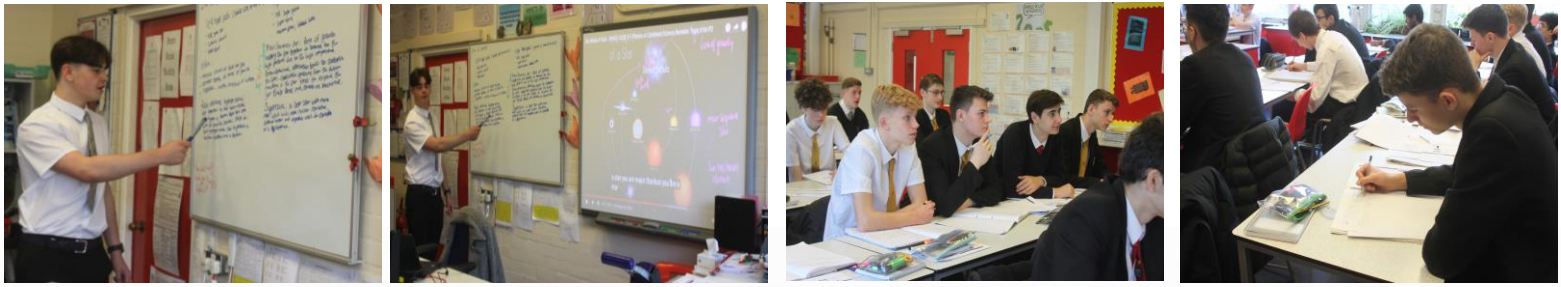


**Year 11 Art** pupils taking part in an extra-curricular Unit 2 intervention workshop.





These pictures show Lucas in Year 11 doing an excellent job leading his **Science** class! He proposed the idea to Mrs Anand the previous day and came well-prepared with a full lesson plan, including powerpoint slides.



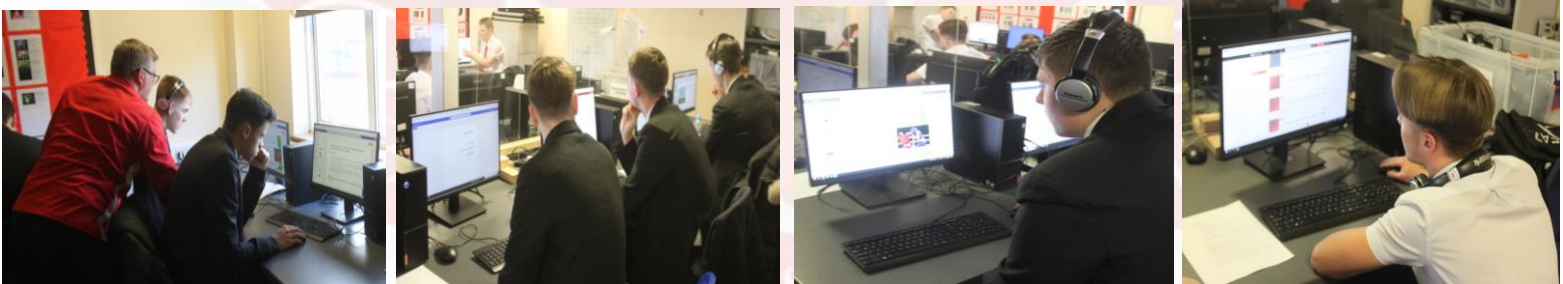
Lucas studies Separate Sciences and took the initiative to share his interest and knowledge on the Life Cycle Of Stars to his Physics group. He independently delivered the lesson, ensuring he was well-researched to address and answer any questions from the group. He did this in a very professional manner and the pupils enjoyed being taught by their peer. At the end of the lesson, Lucas said he did not realise how challenging it was to teach- especially when striking a balance in delivering the science content but also in ensuring the pupils' interest was fueled. Lucas demonstrated leadership and ambition – well done!

### Year 11 GCSE Business with Mr Lever



**GCSE Business Studies** pupils are shown in these pictures completing a revision mat for Unit 2: Influences on Business. By going through this revision mat and completing it based on memory, the pupils were able to see what their misconceptions were and addressed those using the Knowledge Organisers. There will be exam practice in subsequent lessons using multiple choice and contextualised questions, which require greater thought and structure. Pupils will use the mark schemes to self-assess and the visualiser will be used to model different answers. The pupils need to stay focused, take the advice and guidance on offer and apply themselves fully. You can do it, boys!

### Year 11 Sports Science with Mr Wadsworth



The pictures above show a Year 11 **Sports Science** lesson in action. There are two ways of selecting Physical Education at KS4 as an option: GCSE PE and Sports Science. In Sports Science, topics are broken down into four units which the pupils study over the two-year course. Currently, the pupils are studying Sports Psychology. This looks into personality traits (introverts and extroverts) and which sports are better suited for each. Other topics include motivation, aggression, arousal & anxiety and psychological strategies to enhance performance.



## Year 11 Hospitality & Catering Practical Exam



Our Year 11 pupils have recently been completing their practical exams for Hospitality and Catering. The pupils were all looking forward to doing this and were very professional and focused on the day of their exam. Their task was to design, prepare, cook and present a two-course meal.

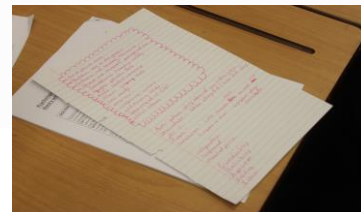
There were so many different, yet delicious, smells floating around the room and it was great to see an array of completed dishes that were of a very good standard. The boys enjoyed their culinary delights!

## Visitors News

Hurstmere hosted the first joint subject revision conference for schools in Bexley Borough last week. Around 180 psychology pupils in Year 10 and Year 11 from Hurstmere, Bexley Grammar School and Trinity school participated in the event.

The revision conference was led by a former Chief Examiner for Psychology, Ali Abbas, who has previously written the new GCSE and A' level Psychology specifications, as well as writing GCSE and A' level Psychology exams. During the day, the pupils were given some helpful exam tips and how to respond effectively to a variety of exam questions, enabling them to utilise these strategies in their upcoming formal exams.

One of the tasks the pupils were required to do was to mark a number of responses for a specific exam question to see if they matched the score that Ali gave. This created a huge amount of competition amongst the schools and we are pleased to say that the Hurstmere pupils were the most accurate in awarding the same marks as the Chief Examiner! Throughout the day the Hurstmere pupils remained fully engaged and credit goes to the individuals who were brave enough to read out their answers in front of all the other pupils.





## Year 11 Easter Revision Timetable

### Monday 4th April

| 9am-10:30am                               | 10:30am-12pm                                  | 9am - 12pm | 11am - 3pm |
|---|---|------------|------------|
| Maths (Foundation)                        | Maths (Foundation)                            | Media      | Art        |
| Maths (Higher)                            | Maths (Higher)                                |            |            |
| Combined Science                          | Combined Science                              |            |            |
| GCSE PE                                   | Sports Science                                |            |            |
|   |   |            |            |
|   |   |            |            |
| French (Higher)<br>Repeated on<br>Tuesday | French (Foundation)<br>Repeated on<br>Tuesday |            |            |

### Tuesday 5th April

| 9am-10:30am                                      | 10:30am-12pm   | 9am - 12pm | 11am - 3pm |
|--|--|------------|------------|
| Maths (Foundation)                               | Maths (Foundation)                                   | Media      | Art        |
| Maths (Higher)                                   | Maths (Higher)                                       |            |            |
| Combined Science                                 | Combined Science                                     |            |            |
| Business   | Business   |            |            |
| History  | History  |            |            |
| GCSE PE  | Sports Science                                       |            |            |
| French (Higher) The<br>same session as<br>Monday | French (Foundation)<br>The same session as<br>Monday |            |            |

### Wednesday 6th April

| 9am-10:30am        | 10:30am-12pm       | 9am - 12pm | 11am - 3pm |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------|------------|
| Maths (Foundation) | Maths (Foundation) | Media      | Art        |
| Maths (Higher)     | Maths (Higher)     |            |            |
| Combined Science   | Combined Science   |            |            |
| History            | History            |            |            |

### Thursday 7th April

| 9am-10:30am        | 10:30am-12pm       | 9am - 12pm |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Maths (Foundation) | Maths (Foundation) | Media      |
| Maths (Higher)     | Maths (Higher)     |            |
| Combined Science   | Combined Science   |            |
| Business           | Business           |            |
| GCSE PE            | Sports Science     |            |

### Tuesday 11th April

| 9am-10:30am                                   | 10:30am-12pm                                  | 9am - 12pm | 9am - 3pm              |
|---|---|------------|------------------------|
| Maths (Foundation)<br>Repeated on<br>Thursday | Maths (Foundation)<br>Repeated on<br>Thursday | Media      | Design &<br>Technology |
| Geography                                     | Geography                                     |            |                        |
| Music Technology                              | Music Technology                              |            |                        |
| GCSE PE                                       | Sports Science                                |            |                        |
|   | Computing                                     |            |                        |

### Wednesday 12th April

| 9am-10:30am                              | 10:30am-12pm                             | 9am - 3pm              |
|--|--|------------------------|
| Maths (Foundation)<br>Repeated on Friday | Maths (Foundation)<br>Repeated on Friday | Design &<br>Technology |
| Geography                                | Geography                                |                        |
| Music Technology                         | Music Technology                         |                        |
|  | Computing                                |                        |

### Thursday 13th April

| 9am-10:30am  | 10:30am-12pm   | 9am - 3pm              |
|--|--|------------------------|
| Maths (Foundation)<br>The same session as<br>Tuesday | Maths (Foundation)<br>The same session as<br>Tuesday | Design &<br>Technology |
| English (Set 3/4)                                    | English (Set 3/4)                                    |                        |
| Geography  | Geography  |                        |
| Business   | Business   |                        |
|  | Computing  |                        |

### Friday 14th April

| 9am-10:30am  | 10:30am-12pm   | 9am - 3pm              |
|--|--|------------------------|
| Maths (Foundation)<br>The same session as<br>Wednesday | Maths (Foundation)<br>The same session as<br>Wednesday | Design &<br>Technology |
| English (Set 1/2)                                      | English (Set 1/2)                                      |                        |
| Geography  | Geography  |                        |

## Year 11 GCSE Revision Support Event

We welcomed the Y11 parents on site on **Monday March 27<sup>th</sup>** for an hour's workshop, focusing on how they can support their sons with revision. Sessions included:

- How to create the ideal environment for revision
- The science of how we learn and how that can inform our support
- What structured revision looks like
- How to support pupils who are struggling emotionally

Parents were incredibly enthused by the sessions and took the opportunity to ask a multitude of pertinent questions. They also felt that it allowed them to challenge their sons more. For parents who were unable to attend, all resources will be shared by Easter.

## It was great to see the Year 9 parents on site for the Academic Mentoring Day



It was fantastic to welcome our Year 9 pupils with their parents for the third time in a fortnight, for the final part of the options process. All pupils had the opportunity to meet with members of the SLT and selected members of staff to discuss their current attainment across all subjects, potential option choices and career paths. This Academic Mentoring Day was designed to assist pupils in their decision making for Key Stage 4 study.



Here are some of the parental feedback regarding the options process :

- *"Every teacher I spoke to was lovely and I really did get the impression that they cared about the boys and their futures. Was great to have face to face meetings again. Thank you."*
- *"Mr Page went above and beyond to help \*\* make a decision. We are grateful he took the extra time to help him and us with his choices- thank you."*
- *"Everything the school did was excellent."*
- *"Very happy with the process, couldn't fault any part."*
- *"I found the whole process to be very informative and well-organised. It was great to come into the school to meet my son's teachers and also to hear them present so passionately about their subjects."*
- *"Lots of useful information from all sessions and being able to speak to all the teachers face-to-face was helpful. Mr Lever also offered us some really useful insights at the Academic Interview Day, which helped my son make his final decision."*
- *"We thought all staff were helpful and honest. Questions were always answered. Everyone was approachable. Thank you."*
- *"My son has been thinking for a while what subject options to enroll for. Although he was able to choose which subjects he wanted, the last day of the process with Mrs Davis was very informative, and we as parents thank her so much for the valuable input."*

We would like to thank all parents for their feedback.  
The Option choices will be confirmed during the summer term.



## Year 7 Hands-on Project

14 Year 7 pupils recently took part in a life-saving skills lesson, as part of the health education component of the Hands-on Project. The session included basic first aid, including how to put someone in the recovery position and how to administer CPR using the 'Resusci Anne' manikins. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the practical skills and asked some excellent questions to further their understanding. Thank you to Mr. Sims for his help in creating a new generation of life savers!



## Year 7 Honours Programme



This week, the Year 7 Honours Programme group took part in *The Big Ask* Maths Challenge.

*The Big Ask* Maths Challenge is an opportunity for young people to learn about what youngsters reported about their wellbeing and future priorities, using real data from *The Big Ask* and drawing on elements of key stage 3 and 4 Maths curricula.

The pupils had the opportunity to create a chart with a description for a chance to be featured on the Children's Commissioner's website and social media. All entries will be submitted – let's keep our fingers crossed that we will have a winning entry from our fantastic Year 7 pupils.



## School Trips – Year 11s are in Iceland this week!



52 Year 11 pupils are currently experiencing first-hand 'Geography in Action' by visiting Iceland this week, a once-in-a-lifetime chance to experience the wonders the country has to offer.

The boys are looking forward to a swim in the geothermal waters of Mývatn Nature baths; an opportunity to study the Goðafoss, Dettifoss and Hengifoss Waterfalls; a visit to the bubbling mud pools of Manaskard and Whale Watching at Husavik. There is also a possibility of observing the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights). Watch this space for a special feature in our next newsletter edition!

## House Captains

F. Pressney - C  
O. Freeman - VC



J. Humberstone - C  
C. Thomas - VC



T. Tibbenham - C  
J. Huang - VC



J. Allen - C  
O. Devile - VC



For updates on our house point system, please see our website

## Winners of the Champions League Competition



**H. Weston – Year 9**  
**L. Recardo – Year 8**  
**J. Hart – Year 7**



36 boys across Year 7, 8 and 9 embarked on a round robin competition, competing against other pupils from their year group. This did not involve playing football, but goals were "scored" by being awarded points for conduct, attitude to learning, good organisation and effort in the classroom. The pupil who received the most goals, achieved 3 points; 1 point for a draw and zero points for a loss. The aim was for the boys to achieve as many points as they can whilst they compete against the other 11 pupils from within their year.

Overall, many enjoyed the competition element and the fact that each pupil represented an actual Champions League 2022/2023 team, which added to the excitement. I am pleased to say that the pupils pictured on the left won their round robin competition and they all received a certificate and a £40 Amazon gift card for their efforts. Congratulations, boys!



# Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal

## Day 1



Thank you to Miss Bernarte and the Year 11 Charity Agents (Ollie, Shaye, Finlay and Francisco) for doing a fantastic job with judging the Bake-off competition on Monday afternoon. We had some wonderful and delicious entries- thank you to all who took part. The winner of the bake-off competition with a score of 92 points out of 100 for presentation, texture, flavour and creativity goes to Ryan A (8 Ca/y). He made a scrumptious banoffee pie... it was absolutely delicious! Very well done to you, Ryan!

The runners up are:

Ben W (8Ch/x) for 'creativity' for his red velvet chocolate cake, and Finley B (8Si/x) for 'taste' for his chocolate chip cookies.



## Day 2

Day 2 of our fundraising for the Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal was a huge success on Tuesday. Thanks to our generous parents, pupils and staff, the cakes and sweet sale raised approximately £400- what a great effort from everyone!



## Day 3

Day 3 of our Turkey-Syria Fundraising Appeal saw another day of generosity, good fun and the 'coming together' of our school community. The boys were actively involved this afternoon in a Football tournament, a quiz and watching the latest Black Panther movie. A great time was had by all.





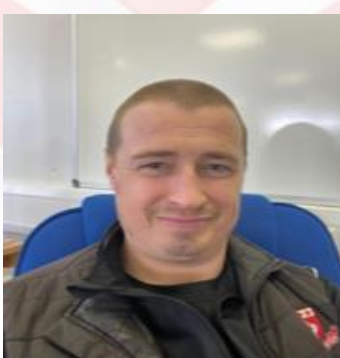
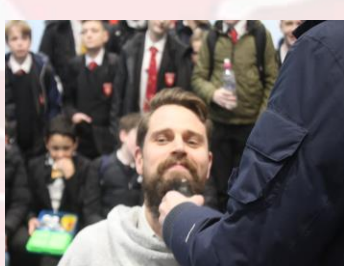
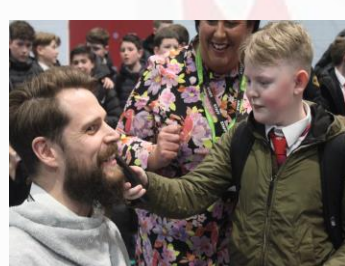
# Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal

## Day 4



The buzz in the Sports Hall yesterday was phenomenal! There was a fantastic community spirit and tremendous fun in watching our brave volunteers face the shears and wax. A massive round of applause to Mr Williams, Mr Davis, Mr McDonald and Mr Reddy for braving the shave and for bringing so much laughter to our fundraising event.

We are very pleased to report that we raised £446 this afternoon plus £910 from Mr Davis' 'Just Giving' page (which is still going strong!) for this event alone.





# Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal

## Day 5



What an excellent way to end our fundraising week and the term! Pupils and staff had a great time at the wet sponges throwing event. A massive thank you to Mme Notton, Miss Bernarte, Mrs Maslen, Mr Robinson, Mr McDonald, Mr Parkinson and Mr Davis for being such good sports and volunteering to be targets! There were some excellent shots from the pupils.



As a community, we came together to raise a staggering

# £3233

for the Turkey-Syria Earthquake appeal. Thank you so much, Hurstmere!

COMMUNITY  
IS ABOUT DOING SOMETHING  
TOGETHER  
THAT MAKES BELONGING  
MATTER.

— Brian Selznick



## Music for Youth Bexley Regional Festival

In a stunning display of musical talent, three local schools competed in the Music For Youth Bexley Regional Festival hosted at Hurstmere School. The competing schools included Hurstmere, Cleeve Park and Blackfen School for Girls, each presenting a collection of their best musical acts to impress the Music For Youth guest judge and audience.

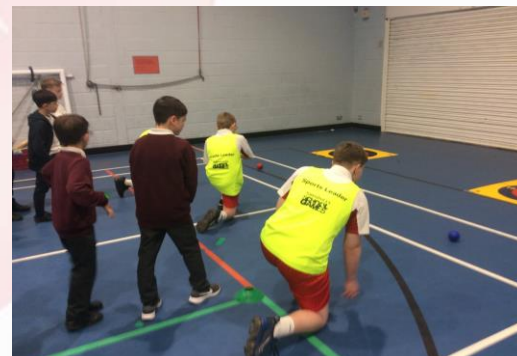
Renowned Music Director Kate Jones judged the competition from the Music For Youth organisation. Jones provided valuable feedback to each act after their performances, providing tips and constructive criticism to help the pupils improve their skills. All three schools were praised for their exceptional musical performances and received well-deserved recognition.

The showcase was not only an opportunity for the schools to display their musical talents, but also for the pupils to gain experience and feedback from a professional judge. The event was a testament to the importance of music education in schools and the transformative power of music.



## Bexley School Games

On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March our team of Year 7 and 8 Sports Leaders ran a 60-Active Minutes Festival for Year 3 children as part of the Bexley School Games programme, which we host here at Hurstmere. The boys organised 5 different activities to develop the children's physical literacy skills and increase activity levels, and featured sports such as Curling & Boccia. For most of the boys this was the first event they have organised, and judging by the Year 3's reactions, our sports leaders did an amazing job, ensuring the children went away having learnt something new, been very active and having had an hour of fun.



## Work Experience Request

Are you able to support our Year 10 pupils in providing career insight by offering a work experience placement at your workplace? If your business or place of work is able to provide work experience opportunities, we would love to hear from you!

We are currently looking for employers to offer a two-week placement w/c 10th July 2023. If you can help, please contact Mrs Watson in the school office.



Our Deadline for Work Experience Placement Forms has been extended to 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023



## Information for Parents

Our first 'Friends of Hurstmere' event was a doughnut sale- the boys loved it and were very generous! We raised lots of funds and we look forward to running more events in the future. If you would like to join our 'Friends of Hurstmere', we would love to have you on board!

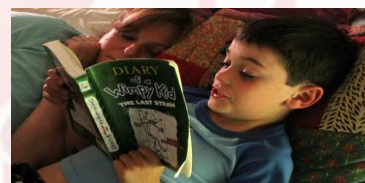


## Recommended Reading Guide

British Summer Time began on the 26<sup>th</sup> March, and what better way to enjoy the longer hours of daylight than curling up with a good book. Some may say to those who claim that they do not like reading; they have not read enough! There is a book out there for everyone. It's important to carry on reading until you find something that you love: fiction, non-fiction, sci-fi, autobiographies, graphic novels. The list is endless. To kickstart your Summer reading journey, some of the best books in existence are included for recommended reading. There is nothing better than a book in hand, but for those of you who prefer a mobile phone or tablet, there are also some recommended websites where you can get access to free ebooks. Please don't forget to access the school website for further information on 'Reading' and other recommended reads.

[Recommended reading guide for adults and children](#)

[Click here for more than 70,000 free ebooks!](#)



### What Are the Benefits of Reading for Children?

The importance of reading for children cannot be underestimated. Reading for pleasure can benefit a child's education, social and cognitive development, their wellbeing, and their mental health.

### Arts Award Blog is live

Please follow this link to read the Arts Award blog published recently: <https://blog.artsaward.org.uk/arts-award-and-end2end-tv-giving-young-people-a-voice>

They will be adding to their social media this week, please feel free to share and celebrate this with us.

[www.end2endtv.co.uk](http://www.end2endtv.co.uk)



## Sporting Results



**Champions**



**Hurstmere 3 – 0 Simon Langton**

A massive congratulations to the Year 10 A Football team on their Kent Cup Victory on 28/03/2023, this is the second time they have won this cup - you should all be proud of yourselves, boys!



**Year 10A** team are through the ESFA National final after a 1-0 victory against Bonus Pastor.

**Year 11A** team beat Beths 4-1 in the North Kent semi-final.

**Year 9A** team beat St Paul's in the North Kent Cup semi-final 2-1.

**Year 8s** beat St Paul's 3-2 in the North Kent semi-final. A last-minute screamer from Freddy sealed the win !

## Easter Holiday Activities in the Community

Sign up to Race for Life  
Blackheath Common, London  
25 June

3k 5k 10k

30% off entry

space for life

10:30 - 13:00 | 14:00 - 16:30  
**Tuesday 11th April**

**PARTY MONSTERS**

**EASTER PARTY**

The Montrose Club  
158 Hurst Road, Sidcup, DA15 9AJ

The Montrose Park Club

**Easter**

FAMILY FANCY DRESS PARTY  
Saturday 8th April 2023  
from 7:30pm on late  
Disco and Karaoke with Micky Allen

Fancy dress optional but there will be prizes for the best adult and child costumes!

Tickets - Members & U18's £3  
Non Members £2  
Tickets are available from the bar, on sale now!

THE MONTROSE PARK CLUB,  
158 HURST ROAD  
SIDCUP  
DA15 9AJ

**Children's  
Easter  
Craft  
afternoon**

WEDNESDAY 5TH APRIL 2023  
2PM - 6PM

**SEND Inclusive  
Multi-Sports Club**  
Thursdays from 5-6pm

First session FREE

The Sports Club, Thamesmead, SE28 8NJ

Access Sport Ignite THAMESHEAD Peabody

**CONCEPT4FOOTBALL** ACCREDITED

**MASTERCLASS**

12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

12-15 YEARS OLD

£30

FROM 10:00 TO 15:00

**TRAIN LIKE A PRO**

DANSON SPORTS CLUB - PERRY STREET - DA1 4RB

POSITION-SPECIFIC SESSIONS DESIGNED FOR OLDER PLAYERS LOOKING TO DEVELOP THEIR FITNESS, TECHNICAL ABILITY AND TACTICAL UNDERSTANDING. SESSIONS ARE DELIVERED BY HIGHLY QUALIFIED, ACADEMY-EXPERIENCED COACHES

Book online at [www.concept4football.co.uk](http://www.concept4football.co.uk)

**Struggling with the cost-of-living crisis?**

**Free food packs available to eligible families\***

\*Low-income families in receipt of certain benefits.

Funded by: **ROYAL GREENWICH**

**Spring Fayre**  
Danson House

**Saturday 1st April**  
11-4pm

EASTER BUNNY VISITS | BOUNTY CASTLE | FACE PAINTING | TOMBOLA  
ENTERTAINMENT | EASTER TRAIL | GREAT GUESSES | PLANT & FLOWER SALE  
MAY TREES | MARCHING BAND | MEET CAPTAIN JACK

**Easter bunny at 1pm**

**CAREER, ENTERPRISE & EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOP DAYS**

CLEEVE PARK SCHOOL  
BEXLEY

BOOKINGS NOW OPEN  
AGE 11-16  
[www.bookwhen.com/visionary](http://www.bookwhen.com/visionary)

11th, 12th, 13th & 14th April  
9am - 3.30pm

Work alongside: Emma How White, Head of Operations @ Marketing Career UK Ltd; Helen Brand, Primary School Teacher, London; PLEAS, Guest Speakers T.B.A...

RICK START YOUR CAREER FREE to pupils on FSM. Early bird price now available. Book via website or contact us on our socials.

02030 1300575 @visionary @ghbfrit info@ghbfrit.co.uk www.ghbfrit.co.uk



## Diary Dates

- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023: Year 10 SLT Parents Evening (Invitation only)
- Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2023: Year 8 Subjects Parents Evening 4 - 7pm
- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023: Year 10 Work Experience Forms - **NEW DEADLINE**
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023: New Year 7 Parents 'Welcome' Evening 5.30 – 7pm
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023: Year 7 Parents Evening 4 – 7pm
- Year 7 – Honours Graduation Evening Date to be confirmed – July 2023

## Term Dates

Last day of Spring Term is Friday 31st March 2023  
Summer Term starts Monday 17th April 2023

Bank Holidays – 1st, 8th & 29th May 2023

Half Term – Last day is Friday 26th May 2023  
Back to school - Monday 5th June 2023

Last day of Summer is Friday 21st July 2023 (Early Closure)

Autumn Term starts Tuesday 5th September 2023

Bank Holidays – 4th Sept, 20th Oct & 30th October 2023

Half Term – Our last day is Thursday 19th October 2023  
Back to school on Tuesday 31st October 2023

Last day of Autumn Term is Thursday 21st December 2023

Bank Holiday – Friday 1st December 2023

Term Date for 2024 are available on our school website

