



The Howard School

Newsletter

High Standards lead to High Achievement
Be Hardworking | Be Good | Be Kind

welcome

This week marked a special milestone for our Year 11 students as we held their final formal assembly before the start of their public examinations next week. It was a fantastic opportunity to reflect on their journey so far, celebrate everything they've achieved, and remind them just how proud we are of each and every one of them.

The assembly was full of positive energy and emotion. Staff shared memories and messages of support, encouraging students to stay focused, believe in themselves, and give their best in the weeks ahead.

We were also thrilled to hand out form and year group photos to all students – a lasting keepsake of their time together at school. It was lovely to see students sharing smiles and reminiscing with friends.

Special recognition went to AB and MRB, who were named Students of the Year for their outstanding effort and contribution. BB and TO received the Personality of the Year award for the joy and positivity they bring to our school community.

We are incredibly proud of this year group. We believe in you and know you can achieve great things. Good luck in your exams – you've got this!



MAGISTRATES' ASSOCIATION

This week, Year 9 had a unique opportunity to learn about the UK criminal justice system from two real magistrates who visited our school. The session was part of our citizenship education and gave pupils an insight into how justice works in the real world.

The magistrates began by explaining their role in the court system and the types of cases they deal with. Pupils learned that magistrates are volunteers who give up their time to serve their communities, hearing cases and making important decisions that can affect people's lives.

As part of the session, students took part in a mock trial based on a real-life case from ten years ago involving cyber-bullying. They worked in groups to discuss the evidence, consider both sides of the argument, and come to a verdict. Acting as magistrates, pupils had to decide whether the person on trial was guilty or not guilty, using only the facts presented to them.

This activity gave pupils a real sense of the responsibility magistrates carry and the careful thinking required to make fair and balanced decisions. It also helped students understand the consequences of online behaviour and the importance of digital responsibility.

Overall, it was an eye-opening and engaging session that brought classroom learning to life. We're extremely grateful to the magistrates for sharing their time and experiences with us, and for helping our students see the justice system in action.



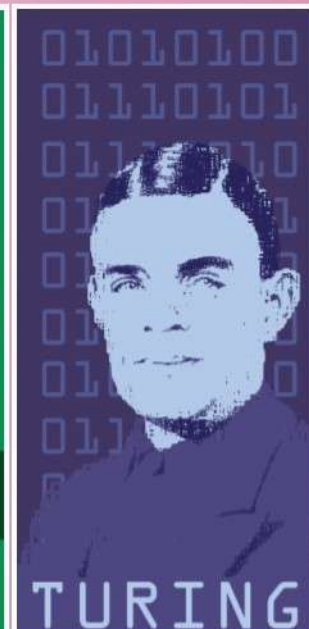
House Events

Term 5



Year 7 - 29th April
Year 8 - 6th May
Year 9 - 1st May
Year 10 - 29th April

To sign-up and represent your House on any event,
head to your Google Classroom or see Mr. Hillier



We're incredibly proud to celebrate the achievements of 12D, who have now completed their leadership programme with great success. Over the past few weeks, they've taken on new challenges, developed essential skills, and shown real growth in confidence and teamwork.

Throughout the programme, students explored what it truly means to be a leader. They've learned that leadership isn't just about taking charge – it's about listening, encouraging others, staying positive under pressure, and setting a good example. 12D have done all of this and more, showing real commitment and enthusiasm from start to finish.

They've built valuable skills such as communication, decision-making, and problem-solving, while also learning to step outside their comfort zones. It's been great to see them supporting each other, working together, and growing as individuals.

This experience is just the beginning. The confidence and leadership skills they've gained will be useful not only in school, but in future education, jobs, and everyday life.

Well done to every member of 12D for your hard work and positive attitude. We're excited to see how you continue to grow and lead in the future. You should all be proud of what you've achieved!





OUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Principal Mr J Johal

safeguarding@thehowardschool.co.uk

Scan Me



MR S GREEN

Vice Principal
Designated Safeguarding
Lead

01634 388765 Ext: 3015



MS T MCCOMAS

Pastoral Support Manager
Deputy Safeguarding Lead

01634 388765 Ext: 3006

MRS J DEAKIN

Assistant Principal
Deputy Safeguarding Lead

01634 388765 Ext: 3030



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Assistant Principal
Safeguarding Officer

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MR N LONGE

Senior Head of Year
Safeguarding Officer

01634 388765 Ext: 3036



MR B DABURN

Senior Head of Year
Safeguarding Officer

01634 388765 Ext: 3046



MRS S KEEGAN

Safeguarding Officer

01634 388765 Ext: 3009



Medway Council Children's Social Care can be contacted on 01634 334466
Medway's First response Service is 01634 334466: 24 hour emergency number is 0300 041919
Alternative telephone numbers where you have concerns about a child:
NSPCC: 08088 005000 - ChildLine: 0800 1111

This week, we had the pleasure of hosting our exciting House Event, *Beat the Teachers*, for Years 7, 9, and 10. Based on the popular ITV quiz show *Beat the Chasers*, our version saw students go head-to-head with a panel of brave teachers, all keen to prove they could keep up with the knowledge of our young minds.



Each event was packed with energy, competition and plenty of laughs. Students represented their Houses with pride as they answered questions taken directly from their own year group curriculum. From science and maths to history and English, no topic was off limits – and both staff and students were put to the test!



Year 7 got things off to a brilliant start earlier in the week. There were some impressive performances from all five Houses, and a special mention must go to Hawking, Turing, and Tull, whose teams managed to beat the teachers and claim victory.

Year 9 followed closely behind with another fiercely competitive round. The enthusiasm was infectious, and it was fantastic to see such strong teamwork and quick thinking from our students.

Year 10 followed with another round, who brought a more tactical approach to the game. Their well-thought-out answers and confident performances gave the teachers a real run for their money.

Later in the week, it was the turn of Year 10, who brought a more tactical approach to the game. Their well-thought-out answers and confident performances gave the teachers a real run for their money.

We're incredibly proud of all the students who took part and showed such excellent participation, teamwork, and resilience under pressure. A huge thank you also goes to our teacher panel, who were great sports throughout.

We now look forward to Year 8's turn next week – we're sure they'll be ready to take on the challenge. Will they manage to beat the teachers too? We'll soon find out!





Kent Emotional Wellbeing Teams
Medway Emotional Support Teams

Online Parent Workshops

These workshops are aimed at supporting young people and parents/carers of young people in secondary school.



Less Stress Guide to Exams 08/05/25 17:00pm—
18:00pm

SCAN ME

Understanding Your Amazing Teenage Brain
03/06/25 18:00pm—20:00pm



SCAN ME



Introduction to Understanding Autism
17/06/25 18:00pm—20:00pm

SCAN ME





A group of our students recently enjoyed a fantastic cultural trip to London, where they had the opportunity to watch *Dear England* at the National Theatre. The play, written by James Graham, tells the story of the Eng-

land men's football team under Gareth Southgate's leadership and explores powerful themes around national identity, mental health, and the pressures of elite sport.

This was no ordinary football story. The students were captivated by how the production combined sport with politics and emotion, showing how football can reflect wider issues in society. The performance sparked lots of conversation afterwards, with many commenting on how eye-opening and thought-provoking it was.

The trip also gave students the chance to experience the vibrant atmosphere of one of the UK's most iconic theatres. For some, it was their first visit to the National Theatre – and it certainly didn't disappoint.

A huge thank you goes to the staff who organised and led the trip. It was a brilliant day that brought classroom topics to life and gave students a deeper appreciation of live theatre and storytelling.

We're proud to offer experiences like this that inspire, challenge and engage our students beyond the classroom.



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Traffic-related incidents are a significant risk for young pedestrians and cyclists, so understanding road safety is crucial for children's wellbeing. While all road users share responsibility for keeping one another safe, this guide offers strategies for empowering young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly.

1 TAKE PRACTICE JOURNEYS

Making 'practice' journeys with children is a great way to help them stay safe, thereby modelling responsible behaviours and having road safety conversations as they prepare to travel independently. Add hazard perception activities like spotting electric vehicles – which may have a green number plate – and point out how quiet they are. Children learn by watching others; remind them that their peers might not always be the best role models.

2 BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN

Visibility is lower during darker winter days, and drivers need to take extra care to look out for pedestrians. Wearing bright and reflective clothing can help make children more visible to drivers near roads. In poor daylight conditions, encourage children to wear light, bright or fluorescent clothing. When it's dark, wear reflective clothing or materials such as a reflective armband or jacket.

3 EYES UP

Encourage children to look up and keep their eyes on the road. Teach them to constantly watch for traffic and practise double-checking the road before crossing – looking right, left and then right again.

4 LIMIT DISTRACTIONS

Where possible, devices like phones should be kept away from children while out and about near roads. If they're carrying devices, these should be put away until they've reached their destination. Children must also avoid playing with toys or being distracted by friends. If a friend wants to show them something funny on their phone, there'll be time for that once they've safely arrived.

5 SLOW DOWN

Discuss the importance of waiting instead of crossing immediately. It can be tricky to judge the speed of traffic and spot obstacles that could cause a trip or a fall. For safety, children must stop and think before they get to the kerb and should always walk – not run – when crossing the road. They should avoid crossing until they're certain they have plenty of time. Even if traffic seems a long way off, it could still be approaching very quickly.

6 STOP BEFORE THE KERB

Teach children to stop before reaching the kerb – not right at the edge of it. Halting before they get to the kerb allows them to see if anything's coming, whereas getting too close to traffic is dangerous. If there's no pavement, children should stand back from the road's edge but ensure they can still see approaching traffic.

7 CROSS SAFELY

Children should always find a safe spot to cross the road, prioritising zebra crossings or pelican crossings, footbridges and subways. Find a place where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Avoid crossing near junctions, bends in the road, or obstacles that block their view. Instead, moving to somewhere they can see and be seen. Remind them to use their eyes and ears together when checking the road, as sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcyclists driving between other vehicles.

8 PARKED VEHICLES

Crossing between parked vehicles is very dangerous. Teach children to use extra caution if crossing in this way, and, ideally, avoid it altogether. They should use the outside edge of a vehicle as if it were the kerb, waiting and checking for traffic before moving. They should ensure vehicles aren't about to move, by looking for drivers in the vehicles and listening for engines running – but remember that electric vehicles may move off silently. They should always make sure there is a gap between any parked vehicles on the other side, so they can reach the pavement.

9 REVERSING VEHICLES

Children must never cross behind a reversing vehicle – it's extremely dangerous. Remind them to look for white reversing lights and listen out for warning sounds. Can they hear the engine sound or a radio playing inside the vehicle?

10 WAIT FOR THE BUS TO LEAVE

When getting off a bus, children must wait for it to leave before crossing so they can have a clear view of the road in both directions. This also allows them to see and be seen by other road users. Crossing near large vehicles is particularly dangerous and should be avoided.

Meet Our Expert

THINK! is a year-round national campaign that aims to encourage safe road behaviours – whether we're driving, cycling, horse riding or walking – with the aim of reducing the number of people killed and injured on the UK's roads each year. Find out more at: <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

CONGRATULATIONS AR, YEAR 13



'Celebrate the Rain' Photographer of the month winner.



Photographer of the Month Competition

May: Blooming Flowers

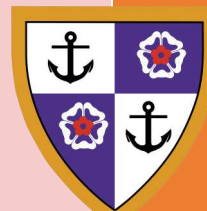
May is the peak of blooming flowers. Capture close-ups of vibrant flowers in full bloom, from roses to tulips, daisies, or wildflowers. Focus on the textures in nature—tree bark, flower petals, this could also include butterflies, bees, and other pollinators.

DEADLINE: 21st May

Every month, we set a photography challenge to a theme. To participate, please send your photographs in JPEG format to

bassantl@thehowardschool.co.uk

The successful photograph will be featured on our social media page and in our school newsletter.



1
-18
DEFINITION OF A CHILD

2
NO DISCRIMINATION

3
BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD

4
MAKING RIGHTS REAL

5
FAMILY GUIDANCE AS CHILDREN DEVELOP

6
LIFE, SURVIVAL AND DEVELOPMENT

7
NAME AND NATIONALITY

8
IDENTITY

9
KEEPING FAMILIES TOGETHER

10
CONTACT WITH PARENTS ACROSS COUNTRIES

11
PROTECTION FROM KIDNAPPING

12
RESPECT FOR CHILDREN'S VIEWS

13
SHARING THOUGHTS FREELY

14
FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND RELIGION

15
SETTING UP OR JOINING GROUPS

16
PROTECTION OF PRIVACY

17
ACCESS TO INFORMATION

18
RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTS

19
PROTECTION FROM VIOLENCE

20
CHILDREN WITHOUT FAMILIES

21
CHILDREN WHO ARE ADOPTED

22
REFUGEE CHILDREN

23
CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

24
HEALTH, WATER, FOOD, ENVIRONMENT

25
REVIEW OF A CHILD'S PLACEMENT

26
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC HELP

27
FOOD, CLOTHING, A SAFE HOME

28
ACCESS TO EDUCATION

29
AIMS OF EDUCATION

30
MINORITY CULTURE, LANGUAGE AND RELIGION

31
REST, PLAY, CULTURE, ARTS

32
PROTECTION FROM HARMFUL WORK

33
PROTECTION FROM HARMFUL DRUGS

34
PROTECTION FROM SEXUAL ABUSE

35
PREVENTION OF SALE AND TRAFFICKING

36
PROTECTION FROM EXPLOITATION

37
CHILDREN IN DETENTION

38
PROTECTION IN WAR

39
RECOVERY AND REINTEGRATION

40
CHILDREN WHO BREAK THE LAW

41
BEST LAW FOR CHILDREN APPLIES

42
EVERYONE MUST KNOW CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

43-54
HOW THE CONVENTION WORKS

CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD



The Howard
School

Hire our facilities

Scan to book



- Table Tennis Centre
- Sports Hall
- Grass Pitches
- Gymnasium
- Dance/Drama Studios
- Changing Rooms
- School Hall/Classrooms

Opening Hours:

Mon to Fri: 16:30 - 22:00

Sat: 08:00 - 23:00

Sun: 08:00 - 20:00

To Book

www.howard.schoolhire.co.uk

GOLDEN TICKET

During each lesson, our students have the opportunity to receive a Golden Ticket. This Golden Ticket can be received for going 'above-and-beyond' during the lesson. These Golden Tickets are collected in our Main Reception and a portion of the ticket is also taken home so parents/carers can recognise this immense achievement as well.

The tickets are collected in boxes in each of the students Houses and tallied at the end of the academic year. The House that collects the most gets points added to the House Championship total for their House as they compete for the Laurel Cup.

But it doesn't stop there!

At the end of the academic year, all of the Golden Tickets will also be collected by Year Group where a Prize Draw will take place. Each year group were asked what they would like the opportunity to win, and the prizes by year group are listed below. The more Golden Tickets each student receives, the greater their opportunity is to win! Good luck!

Year 7



£200 bike

2 x £100
Amazon
Vouchers



Year 8

*voted for 2 winners

Year 9



£200 JD
Voucher

£200

Amazon
Voucher



Year 10

Year 11



PlayStation 5

This initiative would not be possible without the support from our good friends at 'Camfil'.





Meet Your Head of House



Mr. Edwards

Ms. Samuels

Ms. Anglin

Mr. Dunn

Ms. Mulrooney



ATTENBOROUGH

HAWKING

PANKHURST

TULL

TURING



STUDENT VOICE

Deadline - 16th May





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