



Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School

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March 2019

Dear Parents / Carers

Another busy term is coming to a close and preparations are well under way for the forthcoming external exams for the older years. All girls continue to enjoy participating in the myriad of activities taking place, from Science Week experiments and International FairTrade Fortnight to inter-house hockey. We aim to publish reports, with photos, about activities within a few days on the What's On pages of our website and on Facebook. We urge you to look at this weekly so that you remain aware of all we offer and encourage your daughters to keep getting involved. We will also be sending all these stories in an email News Round Up each half term

End of Spring Term

This term finishes on Friday 5th April and all lessons will proceed as normal all day, finishing at 3pm. Assemblies will take place during the morning to celebrate successes.

Start of Summer Term

Tuesday 23rd April is the first full day of term for all pupils and lessons will start as normal after a slightly extended form time. We expect all girls in school by 8.35am.

Communication with the school

We are currently devising a Communications Policy that will clarify channels of communication for all parents/carers. Meanwhile, we'd like to remind you that all curriculum related issues need to go to the subject teacher in the first instance and may be escalated to the Head of Faculty. All pastoral issues should go to the Form Tutor and may then need to go to the Head of Year. Staff answering phone calls from parents/carers have been instructed to obtain as many details as possible so that the call or message can be passed on to the appropriate person. Only when these matters remain unresolved will members of the Senior Leadership Team become involved. If there is any subsequent need to complain more formally then the correct procedure is outlined (with relevant forms) in the Complaints Procedure on our website; failure to use this may delay a resolution to the issue.

We would also like to remind you that the switchboard is not staffed before 8am or after 4pm. In the interests of staff well-being, parents/carers should not expect responses to emails on the same day – many staff have full teaching loads with minimal rest breaks during which they often see pupils; consequently, there is not always the opportunity to check emails daily. It is unreasonable for parents to demand immediate responses (this has happened on a number of occasions this year) and to expect that a request is actioned overnight. We have nearly 900 pupils on site and the management of the

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daily routines takes priority. When parents/carers have requests, it takes time to meet with all the relevant staff to agree a way forward so we do appeal for your patience; rushed decision-making is seldom fruitful.

School Production - We Will Rock You

We are really looking forward to our school production this year which promises to be quite spectacular! Some tickets are still available to buy - the show starts at 7.30pm on Wednesday 27th, Thursday 28th and Friday 29th March - please come along and support all the girls who've been working so hard on this.

School Minibus

Thank you all for all your kind donations, especially the Parents' Association, and support for our fundraising activities. We have now been able to place an order for a school minibus and hope to accept delivery in May.

Parking

We continue to receive regular complaints from local residents about inconsiderate parking around the school, especially when blocking their drives. Please be thoughtful of the needs of others and park respectfully at pick up time to ensure traffic remains free-flowing and our local community is not upset.

Uniform

It would be greatly appreciated if parents/carers (particularly those of girls in Year 11) would consider donating old or outgrown uniform that is in reasonable condition to the Parents' Association for the Nearly New Uniform Sale in July. All donations are welcome and we would particularly like to create a supply of skirts. Please bring any items in a plastic bag to the school office, preferably laundered.

All comments and queries should be sent **via email please**.

We wish you all a good Easter break.

Yours sincerely

Ms T Nickson & Mr A Wood
Co-Headteachers



SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2018-2019

AUTUMN TERM 2018

Monday 3rd September to Friday 21st December 2018
Half-Term: Monday 29th October to Friday 2nd November
INSET Day 1 – Monday 3rd September (no pupil attendance)
INSET Day 2 – Friday 5th October (no pupil attendance)
OCCASIONAL Day – Friday 30th November (no pupil attendance)

SPRING TERM 2019

Monday 7th January to Friday 5th April 2019
Half-Term: Monday 18th February to Friday 22nd February

SUMMER TERM 2019

Tuesday 23rd April to Tuesday 23rd July 2019
Half-Term: Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May
INSET Day 3 – Monday 22nd July (no pupil attendance)
INSET Day 4 – Tuesday 23rd July (no pupil attendance)
INSET Day 5 – Wednesday 24th July (no pupil attendance)

SCHOOL TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2019-2020

AUTUMN TERM 2019

Monday 2nd September to Friday 20th December 2019
Half-Term: Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November
INSET Day 1 – Monday 2nd September (no pupil attendance)
INSET Day 2 – Friday 4th October (no pupil attendance)
OCCASIONAL Day – Friday 29th November (no pupil attendance)

SPRING TERM 2020

Monday 6th January to Friday 3rd April 2020
Half-Term: Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February
INSET Day 3 – Friday 14th February (no pupil attendance)

SUMMER TERM 2020

Monday 20th April to Tuesday 21st July 2020
Half-Term: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May
INSET Day 4 – Monday 20th July (no pupil attendance)
INSET Day 5 – Tuesday 21st July (no pupil attendance)