



Friday 8 March 2024

Headteacher's weekly update for parents

Dear Parents,

Happy International Women's Day, World Book Day and Careers' Week! There has been a lot happening in school this week. Please look out for next week's CGA News which will include photo, video and news updates on these activities.

Important dates for your diary

Monday 11 March	Start of Ramadan (tbc)
Wednesday 13 – Sunday 17 March	A-Level Geography Trip to Sicily
Wednesday 27 March	Year 11 and Sixth Form academic review evening (4.30-6.30pm) Last day of term for students, school finishes at 2.50pm as normal
Thursday 28 March	Professional Learning Day for Staff – school is closed to students
Friday 29 March – Tuesday 2 April	GCSE Spanish Trip to Madrid
Easter holiday	Thursday 28 March to Friday 11 April 2024
Monday 15 April	Professional Learning Day for Staff – school is closed to students
Tuesday 16 April	Students return to school at normal time – breakfast club opens at 8.15am
Wednesday 17 April	Focus Day - Health, Wellbeing and Careers Global Majority Parent Group meeting (5.30-6.30pm)
Thursday 18 April	CGA International Evening 2024 (5-7pm)

Student planners

The student planner is a valuable communication tool between parents, students and school and is also an important part of school systems e.g. recording rewards, detentions, and information for staff. Students must have their planner every day and place it on their desk at the start of every lesson. Form tutors check planners during Collective Time, ensuring that students are ready for the rest of the day.

Spring Focus Day – 17 April 2024

Spring focus day on 17 April will have a focus on Health, Wellbeing and Careers. The day will see students taking part in external workshops, listening to external speakers, and engaging with in-class activities. As part of their Focus Day, Year 9 will be attending a wellbeing visit to the Go Jump Trampoline Park in Enfield. Year 9 parents, please ensure you have given consent via the Evolve email and made payment contributions on ParentPay.

Summer Focus Day – 8 July 2024

We are also excited to announce that for our Summer Focus Day, Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 will be attending end of year visits to promote student wellbeing and celebrate their achievements throughout the academic year. Please check your emails for the letter and provide consent via the Evolve email link. All information about the visits is included in the email, including options for parent contributions towards the cost of these visits.



Debate Mate – 3-4pm every Thursday

Debate Mate deliver weekly sessions with trained university mentors who prepare the students for two debate competitions. The debate techniques are delivered through a series of fun and interactive exercises and games. Debating is shown to improve students' critical and creative thinking, confidence, teamwork, leadership and resilience. Students see substantial progress in their speaking and listening skills and their engagement with school. Students interested in debating can speak to Ms Odoi or parents can email cga@clapton.hackney.sch.uk

Duke of Edinburgh – Reminder for parents of Year 10 students

Please be reminded to make the final payment for the upcoming expedition trips no later than Friday 22 March when payments will close on ParentPay. Please also provide consent by clicking the Evolve. If students have not yet sourced rucksacks and walking boots, please do so now. If you need support with payment or would like to borrow equipment, please email cga@clapton.hackney.sch.uk A reminder that students must have evidenced ongoing engagement with their Skills, Physical and Volunteering sections to be able to come on the expedition.

Importance of excellent attendance from Ms Phillips, Head of English

Excellent attendance is vital to your child's achievement in English. Data (from the Department for Education) shows us that students who didn't achieve a grade 4 or above in English missed 10 more days on average than those who achieved a grade 5 in English. This means that every lesson is important! The English team want your child to be in every lesson so that they are confident in their knowledge of all the texts that we study. We want every student to have the time and guidance to develop the skills which will allow them to fulfil their potential.

Update from Hackney Safer Schools Police Team: Warning Regarding Dangerous Vape Devices

[Please click here](#) to read a letter for all Hackney parents from the Safer Schools Police Team about recent concerns regarding vape pens and refills in the local area which have been found to contain THC and/or synthetic cannabis.

Poverty Reduction and Cost of Living Newsletter – 16 February 2024

Please find attached the link for the latest [Poverty Reduction and Cost of Living Newsletter](#). The newsletter contains many articles related to help available for families in Hackney.

Reminder: Arrangements for Ramadan

We wrote to parents earlier this week about arrangements for Ramadan. [Click here for a copy of the letter.](#)

Kind regards,

Anna Feltham
Headteacher