



10.09.16

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you have had a restful summer and are as excited about this new academic year as we are. Please enjoy the first issue of this year's HNS newsletter as many departments introduce themselves and discuss new initiatives and exciting opportunities launching this year.

We hope you have a great weekend,

Jacklyn Smith

Deputy Head of English

Newsletter Editor

English News

As the school continues to grow so does our department and we are very fortunate to have three new teachers working with us this year: Ms Notowitz, Ms Nootan and Mr Ingledew.

Currently in Year 7 classrooms, students are revising and developing their writing skills through the study of the novel *Stone Cold* by Robert Swindells, whilst Year 8 are analysing descriptions of London, which will enable them to eventually write their own.



This year we aim to start teaching the key analytical skills that Year 9s will need for KS4 through the study of the novel 'Of Mice and Men' by John Steinbeck. Students will learn about the Great Depression as well as understand themes of racial segregation, sexism and ageism.

We are also extremely excited to start teaching our first year of the AQA GCSE English Language and Literature course to our Year 10s. Currently, they are analysing the *Love and Relationship* cluster of poems and will shortly be learning how to start writing essays and answering exam style questions.

For wider reading, students are encouraged to read *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens and *Animal Farm* by George Orwell before they study these in the last term of the academic year.

We also want our students to develop their independent learning skills and therefore will be encouraging them to practise exam style questions in timed conditions outside of school. This, together with their hard work and dedication, will leave them in good stead for their GCSEs.

Maths News

The maths department welcomes Miss Ali and Miss Newton to the team this year - both of whom will be teaching Y7 -Y10. Students have been working hard in lessons to complete their initial assessments - results will be shared in the coming weeks. In particular, our Y10 students are showing great interest and diligence. CGP revision guides and workbooks are available from the maths department at cost price (£2.50 each) and are highly recommended for all students. A letter about equipment will be going out next week. We continue to support independent learning with our mathswatch subscription - please encourage students to log on regularly and revise. We have maths clinic on the 4th floor every lunchtime - all students welcome!

New Enrichment



Our new rock climbing enrichment started this week at Mile End Climbing Wall. Eight students braved the physical and mental challenge of climbing up 25ft high vertical walls. They will visit weekly to develop their skills in this exciting sport.

Behaviour and Attendance

The students have made a fantastic start to the academic year. This week every student has received at least 2 NBP and in total an amazing 2,962 positive behaviour points have been awarded! Congratulations to the following students for receiving the most positive behaviour points in their year groups.

Y7 - Bo Giltinan-Allais (20)

Y8 - Ciaran Brakin (22)

Y9 - Saraya Osinnowo (19)

Y10 - Precious Adewole (10)



As you are aware Hackney New School works with Place2Be, a national charity supporting schools to improve the confidence and wellbeing of children and young people.

Place2Be provides emotional and therapeutic support to pupils, families and staff in more than 270 schools nationwide.

It gives students a space to express themselves through talking and creative work, and think about any worries they might have. Place2Be also provides support for parents and staff.

Place2Talk

One of the most popular aspects of this service is called 'Place2Talk'. It is open to all students, and they can make an appointment to spend 15 minutes with a trained counsellor, either by themselves or with a friend. On average, about a third of students in Place2Be's schools take advantage of this service every year. Students often talk about friendships or any worries they may have.

Parental consent

Unless we hear otherwise from you, the school and Place2Be will assume that all students have their parent/carers' permission to come to Place2Talk. We also assume you are happy for the school to tell Place2Be your child's name, date of birth, year group, gender and ethnicity. This information is stored securely and used solely to evaluate Place2Be's service.

If you would like to find out more, please contact Lucy Orchard (Place2Be School Project Manager) on 020 7617 7181, who will be very happy to answer any questions. Alternatively, if you do not want your child to participate in Place2Talk, you may put this in writing to the school by 19 September 2016.

HPV Vaccinations

All Year 8 girls have received consent forms for the HPV (Human Papillomavirus) vaccinations which are due to take place on 28 September 2016 and 28 April 2017.

These forms must be completed and returned to the school office by Friday 16 September stating whether you give permission for your child to have the vaccination.

Music

This year, we welcome Miss Reavey to the music department. Miss Reavey loves singing and will run a Glee Club and a KS4 Choir! It's exciting that we now have three full-time music teachers at HNS. They are:

Ms Barnes - Director of Music
Miss Reavey - Second in Music
Mr Haylor - Teacher of Music

Our two KS4 music courses have successfully started, both GCSE Music and RSL Music Practitioner Certificate in Music Technology. In order to achieve the highest grade, Year 10 students will need to have an instrument lesson.

Year 9 have started with Grime, a music style that has its origins in East London. Here are students in 9ABi writing their own songs:



A **reminder** that parents/carers of students in Years 8, 9 and 10 must return the instrument lessons letter. There are lots of musical activities on offer this term, so ensure your child gets involved:

Monday - Music Technology and Studio Club

Tuesday - Band Aid

Wednesday - Glee Club

Thursday - Guitar Band

Friday - Samba Band

There is also a trip to see 'The Barber of Seville' at the Royal Opera House on September 26. Please ask your child to collect a letter from the music department.

Art

Students have made a fabulous start in Art and Design and were thrilled to meet the new member of the department Miss Smith. Pupils spent time personalising their sketchbook covers, selecting images that represent their personality and style. Pupils also were delighted to experience the new Photography enrichment where they will explore lighting, composition and perspective. The department is growing and is amassing a bank of images for students to reference for projects. Our first artist in residence workshop is also booked in for the 22 November with figurative fine artist Sarah Jane Moon. GCSE students are set to make leaps in their creative process this year.



History

The History Department at Hackney New School continues to grow. We welcome Mr. Forward to the department from a school in Cornwall, who will be teaching Years 7 - 10. Furthermore, our Deputy Headteacher Mr. Hutchison will be teaching Year 7 and 8.

It is a very exciting year for the department as we begin teaching the new GCSE History specification. We have decided to deliver the AQA History syllabus and we are extremely pleased to have very large numbers who want to complete the course successfully. In Year 10, students will study 'Elizabeth I 1568 - 1603' in addition to 'The World in Conflict; Europe 1919 - 1939.' In Year 11, students will then study 'Britain c790 - 2000' and 'Founding a Nation - America: 1740 - 1900.'

Year 9 will begin the academic year by studying the First World War. In the second term they will look at the rise of Nazi Germany and the origins of WWII. It is during our study of this topic that we hope to take Year 9 to the Holocaust Exhibition at the Imperial War Museum. Year 7 will begin their secondary studies in History looking at the Romans and Roman Britain. Year 8 will start the year by studying the topic of 'The Black Peoples of the Americas' and American Civil War (1861 - 1865), through to the Civil Rights era of the 1950s and 1960s. We very much look forward to teaching the students in all year groups and History now has more contact teaching hours on the timetable than it had in previous years.

Mr. B. McGowan (Assistant Headteacher/Head of History)

Higher Education and Careers Guidance

Core

Students have had a great start to the year in Core and Religious Studies. Students now have one lesson of Core a week, focusing heavily on their philosophical skills, complemented by one lesson of R.S. where they learn about world religions. Year 7,8 and 9 have focused this week on exploring what they and their classmates' beliefs are. Students spent time asking each other about their beliefs, whilst some students believe in religious deities other students explored their beliefs in concepts such as equality, peace and hope.

In Core, Year 8 embarked upon their philosophical journey into the concept of 'identity' by discussing whether a criminal with memory loss was guilty, or not guilty, how important are memories in making up our identity? Whereas year 9 began their morality and justice discussions by looking at: What is perfection? What would the perfect person be like? Year 7,8 and 9 have been practising 'tracking the speaker' in Core lessons and below is a great picture of Roxy in 9LI where she has the attention of everyone in the class!



Year 10 began the start of their GCSE by learning the basics of Islam, it's fantastic to see students so engaged and that actually they know so much already!

Languages

Year 10 have made an exceptional start to their GCSE programme. Participation and focus in classes have been exemplary and we're looking forward to hearing lots of spoken French and Spanish across the department. Keep it up Year 10!



Geography

Geography will be looking to select Scholars in the coming weeks. To become a Geography Scholar, students must enter a competition to produce a poster with ideas of 'How Britain is Changing'. Look out for the posters around school and speak with Mr Blakey and Mr Parr if you are interested in being selected.



YEAR 7 PARENTS

I look forward to welcoming you all into school at 6pm on Thursday 15 September. We are holding an information and social evening where we can answer any questions you may have after your children have experienced one week of school!



The Senior Leadership Team, year 7 form tutors, the year 7 pastoral manager, Ms Purcell and the Director of Music will be present.

Lesley Falconer
Executive Headteacher

