

Dear Parents and Carers

Despite the short week, students have been as busy as ever and we have again been relishing the return of out-of-school educational visits. On Tuesday some of our Year 9 students were taken by Miss Poole and Mrs Lloyd to visit St John's College, Oxford. The visit is part of our brilliant Year 9 Scholars' Programme, and the students had a thoroughly enjoyable and eye-opening day.

Also this week, a number of our Year 10 students, as well as one Year 9 student, presented to staff, students and parents on their Higher Project Qualifications (HPQ). The HPQ project is the prequel to the Extended Project Qualification which students can choose to study at college in addition to A levels, and the programme has been introduced at Dorothy Stringer this year, led by Mr Barnett. HPQ students have been independently researching and writing an extended essay on a topic of their choice, learning and developing new research skills with the personal support of a staff supervisor, culminating in a presentation this week. The quality and depth of these projects were amazing, on topics ranging from eugenics and fingerprinting to kelp and environmental sustainability. A huge thank you to Mr Barnett and the staff supervisors, as well as Mrs Cumming, for organising this with the examination body and also to parents for supporting this new initiative.

On Saturday we see the return of the Children's Parade for the opening of Brighton Festival. We are delighted that this fun, colourful and creative community event is returning, and are grateful to our wonderful Art department staff who have been working with students on preparing for this. More information is below – look out for us there!

PE news and fixtures results

We are now on the summer term PE extra-curricular timetable, please view the document attached to see what the department have on offer. [2022 PE Summer Term Extra Curricular Timetable.pdf](#)

Year 11 Boys Football v Hove Park – This was a close game; however, Hove Park came out on top with the final score 2-1. This was the final football fixture for the Year 11 boys, and we thank them for representing the school, being resilient and coming in early for training. We wish them well and hope they may go on to represent the colleges they attend next year.

U14 Girls Football Final – The Under 14 Girls are playing in the final of the County Cup at Lancing (Culver Road). The date has been moved to Friday 13 May with a 7.45pm kick off.

Brighton Festival Children's Parade – Rebuilding and Hope

After a two-year break, Dorothy Stringer will be taking their place in the Children's Parade this weekend to kickstart the Brighton Festival, along with 5000 of Brighton and Hove's school children, their teachers and Same Sky.

This year's theme of Rebuilding and Hope celebrates the strength and resilience of our community, and we can't wait to see the city filled with colour, creativity, dance and music! The parade starts at **10.30am**

Jubilee Street and winds down to Madeira Drive on the seafront by way of Jubilee Street, New Road, North Street, East Street and Grand Junction Road, finishing at approximately 1pm, so pop along and see us there!

BIEA Spring Challenge – Rebuild Education, Rebuild Hope

The British International Education Association is holding a STEM 2022 Spring Challenge – Rebuild Education, Rebuild Hope. This international competition is open to students aged 6 -18 with the aim of drawing attention to children whose education has been interrupted by natural or manmade disasters or conflicts.

Imagine your school had to be rebuilt from scratch: how would you design it, so you and your fellow classmates can have the best education you deserve? You have the opportunity to submit your design ideas as entries and the best designs will be shared globally through the BIEA network! The winning entries will be part of a fundraising campaign in July to raise much-needed aid to rebuild schools in those disaster-hit areas.

Deadline for submission: 10 June 2022, midnight

Details of the competition: <https://bieacompetition.org.uk/challenges/spring-challenge-2022/>

Congratulations to new parent governor

Congratulations to Emma Grose, who has been newly appointed as parent governor. We look forward to welcoming Emma to the Dorothy Stringer team!

Mental Health Awareness Week – 9-15 May 2022

Next week is Mental Health Awareness Week and the theme this year is on Tackling Loneliness. Our Mental Health Champions will be meeting again to continue planning and preparing for their forthcoming assemblies to all students about Mental Health and the project that they have been working on with YMCA Dialogue. The focus of this is 'Acts of Kindness' and has involved surveys to both students and staff and the creation of resources to support the whole school community. We would also like to take this opportunity to remind students that we have a new student reporting page, designed with the input of some of our Year 8 JLT members, and we run student drop-in sessions Mondays – Fridays. More information is here: [Reporting incidents or problems on the SLG \(dorothy-stringer.co.uk\)](https://dorothy-stringer.co.uk/reporting-incidents-or-problems-on-the-slg).

Triple P workshops for parents of teenagers

The following upcoming Triple P workshop is available, free, to parents and carers based in Brighton & Hove. Links to book are on the Triple P webpages: [Triple P parenting workshops \(brighton-hove.gov.uk\)](https://triplep.org.uk/triple-p-parenting-workshops-brighton-hove)

Coping with teenagers' emotions - This two-hour workshop will look at some of the reasons teenagers can become emotional and gives some practical suggestions to help you. Book a place on the following date via this link: [6 July 2022, 2 to 2pm](https://triplep.org.uk/triple-p-parenting-workshops-brighton-hove)

Reminder: Year 10 Varndean College Taster Day – Wednesday 6 July 2022

We are very grateful to Varndean College for organising a separate Taster Day for all our Year 10 students on Wednesday 6 July. This will be a whole Year 10 event; our normal Year 10 timetable will be collapsed so that all Year 10 students can attend. Please see the email that was sent to all Year 10 parents and carers for full details, including the schedule for the day and the registration link. Registration for this event must be completed by Friday 6 May.

Year 11 Reminder: national exam contingency day – Wednesday 29 June

As has previously been stated in exam bulletins to Year 11 parents, carers and students, may we remind you that **all Year 11 students taking GCSE exams need to be available to come into school for exams up to and including Wednesday 29 June**, regardless of when their last timetabled exam is. This is a national exam board requirement in case any exam needs to be rescheduled, therefore please do not book any holidays before this date.

Last chance to enter! Parent Calendar Photo Competition 2022/23

Deadline Extended to Monday 9 May

Entries are open for students for our Parent Calendar Photography Competition until Monday. The winning photos will be selected in the summer term and printed in our 2022/23 parent calendar. Please see the SLG newsletter item for this year's categories and more information. All entries should be emailed to photocomp@dorothy-stringer.co.uk.

Reminder: Tickets on sale for Prom – Friday 1st July 2022

We are excited to be returning to the AMEX after a break for the last two years, for Year 11 students to celebrate completing their examinations and their time at Stringer. Further information has been sent home and a link to the letter can be found on the Trips page of the SLG.

Root Word of the Week – Min, meaning 'less, smaller' (Latin root word)

- **Minus** – with the subtraction of
- **Miniscule** – extremely small; tiny

- **Minim** – a note having the time value of two crotchets or half a semibreve, represented by a ring with a stem

Key Dates

Half term: Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June 2022

Last day of term: Thursday 21 July 2022 (early closure 12.30pm)

Next Academic Year:

Thursday 1 September – INSET day

Friday 2 September - new Year 7 students and Year 10 Peer Mentors only

Monday 5 September: All Year groups return

Key Dates for 2021/2022 and 2022/3 are on our website: https://public.dorothy-stringer.co.uk/ds/pages/key_dates.aspx

****Note: If any of the hyperlinks in this update do not work, please copy and paste the link address into your address bar.***

Matt Hillier