



Headteacher Message – 22.09.23

Dear Parents/Carers,

This has been another excellent week where our amazing students have been working hard and staying focused on their studies. Thank you to all parents/carers with your support in ensuring your child is wearing full school uniform (including their tie and blazer) and are fully equipped for their learning. This helps minimise any potential disruption to learning.

We were excited to start our clubs this week, which has created a real buzz around the school. Just a reminder that you can find details at: [Extracurricular – Hall Mead School](#). Thank you to Mrs Hallett, Assistant Headteacher, for her organisation of such a wide and varied extra-curricular programme.

Early School Closure – Thursday 28th September

Just a reminder that school closes early at 12.25pm on Thursday 28th September and that, due to this early closure, there will not be a lunchtime food service.

Year 7 Freshers' Fayre

As a school, we recognise that extra-curricular is such an important part of school life and the skills gained by students that regularly participate are clearly evident including social development, increased confidence, heightened initiative and overall well-being. To promote our extra-curricular timetable with our new Year 7 students, Year 7s will attend the '[Hall Mead Freshers' Fayre](#)' for part of the period 5 lesson on Wednesday 27th September.

This event gives students the opportunity to find out what extra-curricular clubs and sporting activities are on offer and what they entail. We would appreciate your support in encouraging your child to sign up to at least one club, their participation will definitely enrich the Hall Mead experience.

Mrs Fanning's Golden Wristbands



Mrs Fanning, Senior Assistant Headteacher, was excited to launch her 'Golden Wristbands' this week! Golden Wristbands are awarded to students for beating their best and burning brightly. The recipients of this week's wristbands are: Brooke P-H (Year 11) for her excellent start to Year 11, Harry M (Year 11) for being awarded the highest number of Achievement Points in the whole of Year 11 this week and Freddie R (Year 10) for his sporting successes. This special wristband gives the student early access to the food catering service. Well done Brooke, Harry and Freddie – we are all very proud of you!

Come and Work with Us!

We have some opportunities to work at Hall Mead which are advertised at: [Careers – Empower Learning Academy Trust \(elatschools.co.uk\)](https://www.elatschools.co.uk). Come and join our fantastic team!

Year 8 – EQUA Canterbury Trip



A huge thank you to Team RS/History, and especially Mr Smith for his excellent organisation, for taking 8EQUA to visit Canterbury this week. Whilst on their visit, students even spotted a white Talbot hunting dog on Christ Church Gate, a now extinct breed of hunting dog, which was used in the hunting grounds where Hall Mead is located. 8LITY are having their visit to Canterbury on 11th October.

Meet the New Headteacher Event



Thank you to everyone who attended our special 'Meet the Headteacher' event held in our school library on Thursday 21st September. We were delighted to host our new Chair of Governors Matt Dronfield, local councillors, ex-pupils, parents/carers and local neighbours. Together, we spoke about the future of the school, whilst enjoying delicious lemon and chocolate cake produced by our new Head of Food, Mrs Robertson, and her Year 10 class.

Thank you to George (Year 11) for giving up his time to play the piano throughout and to our prefect team who helped with the logistics of the event.



Open Evening 2023

We're looking forward to seeing you in school for our Open Evening on Thursday 28th September, 6pm-8.30pm. To manage demand, our Headteacher Talks and School Tours are ticketed events. Please visit our website for

further details: <https://www.hallmeadschool.co.uk/open-evening/>



DEAR

The Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) sessions have started this week. Students will be required to read their own book during the 15 minute DEAR session. Students will need to ensure that a book (we suggest their library book) becomes an essential part of their daily equipment, as they will require it every day.

Please encourage your child with their reading and engage with their reading choices, just 15 minutes a day will make a difference to the improvement of their vocabulary, spelling, grammar and a range of reading skills, not to mention the impact it can have on social and emotional development.