



HALL MEAD
SCHOOL



Headteacher's Newsletter

12th January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been great this week to speak to the different year groups about the history of New Year's resolutions, or pledges as they were first known years' ago, and what this tradition could mean for us today. In assembly, I spoke to students about how this year I will aim to make a difference, learn new things and grow as a person. I encouraged students to build upon their own successes from the previous term whilst also considering what they could tweak in order to transform during their time at school. This message felt even more pertinent for our Years 10 and 11 students as they are at such an important part of their educational journey and time is of the essence.

On Tuesday afternoon, it was a pleasure (although very cold!) to watch our Year 10 football team play Debenham High School from Suffolk in the next round of the cup. They are now officially down to the last 16 in this competition. I was really impressed with their sportsmanship and quality of their football. The final score was an impressive 3-1! Well done to all those boys who played and represented the school so well. A big thank you must also go to Mr Morrith for his time and energy in coaching and supporting this talented team.

Thank you also must go to Mr Leslie, Mrs Brighty-Glover and Mr Morrith for hosting our Year 11 Curriculum Evening yesterday. The evening was packed full of tips and strategies on how to support your child through their GCSEs.

And finally a big plug from me in regards to this year's drama production as our students will be performing 'Annie' on the following dates/times:

- ◆ Tuesday 13th February at 4.00pm
- ◆ Wednesday 14th February at 7.00pm
- ◆ Thursday 15th February at 7.00pm

If you would like to purchase a ticket, please visit: [Hall Mead School event tickets from TicketSource](#). Our school productions are always amazing so it would be a wonderful event for you to attend!

I hope you have all had a great start to the new year.

Thanks again.

Miss Ducker
Headteacher



Important Dates

Just a reminder of the following upcoming events next week:

- Year 11 PTC—Thursday 18th January
- Years 9—10 Virtual Reality Workshops—History

History—Update—Mr Smith

Overseas History Trips Update

Trip	Latest Information
Bamburgh 28 25 & 26 October 2024	Last payment was due on 08 January 2024 and payments should now be fully completed. If your account shows any outstanding balance, please make relevant payment to clear the balance. We will be in touch after February half term to request documentation and completion of e-consent forms.
Berlin 25 April 2025	Please continue to follow the payment plan provided to you in our letter dated July 2023. We will be in touch later this academic year once our tour operator has provided further details and to request documentation and completion of e-consent forms.

We take this opportunity to remind you of the following information:

Passports: Students will be required to have a valid passport with at least 6 months validity for the trip dates. Further information can be found by visiting www.ukvisas.gov.uk/entry

EHIC/GHIC: Students are required to have a valid EHIC/GHIC card. Further information can be found by visiting www.nhs.uk/visiting/health-insurance-card

Cancellation: You are bound by the cancellation conditions set out in your JHM's place confirmation letter, dated July 2023.

Bringing History to life outside the classroom.



Upper School 2025 Ski Trip—Mr Morritt

We have had a huge number of requests for a place on the Upper School Ski Trip (current Year 10) going to Italy in 2025.

Mr Morritt will be sending out an EduLink on Monday confirming if your child has successfully secured a place on this trip or not. The delay has been created as we have worked hard with the ski company to secure the highest number of places we have ever been able to offer however, despite 80 students being now available, there will be some students who will not be offered a place but who can go on the waiting list.

If you have applied for a place for your Year 10 child, keep an eye out for the email on Monday.



Parking—Warning

Just to make you aware that I have been informed by Havering Council that they will be sending out traffic wardens to police the area around our school as there has been an increase in resident complaints to the borough about parents/carers parking around Marlborough Gardens.

Parking on the road corners, at either end of the school site, makes it difficult and dangerous for students to cross so I would ask for your support in not doing this. Also, parking up on the grass verges on both sides of the road especially directly opposite the Main Entrance, makes driving down the road more problematic.

It would be a very sad day for our school and local community if someone got hurt as a result of driving or parking negligence.





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ELAT Finance Team –Mr Leslie, Assistant Headteacher

On Friday 5th January 2024, Carol Wall and James Hughes from our ELAT Finance Team visited Mr Leslie's Year 11 Business lesson to speak to students about how finance plays a key role in business. Students were able to ask any questions to them to explore this area.

Thank you to Carol and James for giving up their time to do this.





Mrs Hallett, Assistant Headteacher Linking to the community...

At Brownies on Monday night, the group created some positive rocks which they will then hide around Cranham and Upminster.

The rocks have different handwritten messages or pictures painted on them to spread positivity amongst the local community.

Keep an eye out as you walk around as you may find one!





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Parent Support Group

Mind in Havering, Barking & Dagenham is pleased to share new dates for their **Parent Support Group 6-week programme for parents/carers** who are **Havering residents** and struggling to support their young person (11-25 years) with their mental health (diagnosed or undiagnosed) and wellbeing.

The 6-week programme will **start 6-8pm, Monday 5th February 2024 via zoom.**

If you would like to attend, please complete the following form:

<https://external-forms.viewsapp.net/forms/v/917410a8-9a0f-4779-a996-c7090934d8b1>.

MIND will then reach out to you and send you any appropriate signposting plus some registration information including the zoom link.

At our Parent Support Group, they will provide signposting, reassurance, tips/techniques on topics such as communication, self-care, increased resilience and coping mechanisms.

Attendees may share their thoughts/feelings, without any pressure or judgement, and will meet other parents that are going through similar challenges.

Parents that attended the programme have shared the following feedback:

- ⇒ ***Even though you know a lot of people are going through something similar to yourself, it makes a difference when you hear them talk about it. Also listening to other people's tried and tested ideas.***
- ⇒ ***It was nice that the group are bonding really well and have a laugh, the whole thing is nice and relaxed.***
- ⇒ ***I'm not alone - there is more support out there than I realised.***
- ⇒ ***Very inclusive and beneficial sessions.***



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Mrs Hallett, Assistant Headteacher
Linking to the community...

WWW.EASTLONDONWASTE.GOV.UK/CLOTHES-SWAP

#BUY NOTHING NEW M:YNTH

community CLOTHES Swap

DATE / TIME
MONDAY 15TH JANUARY | 5PM - 7PM

VENUE
HORNCURCH LIBRARY (1ST FLOOR)
44 NORTH ST, RM11 1TB

USEFUL INFO
BRING ALONG GENTLY USED CLOTHING ON THE 15TH JAN FOR A ROLLING DROP AND SWAP
FREE ENTRY INCLUDES REFRESHMENTS, CLOTHING UPCYCLING & UP TO 5 'NEW TO YOU' ITEMS

WHAT TO BRING
YES PLEASE: CLOTHING | ACCESSORIES | BAGS
NO THANKS: SHOES | UNDERWEAR | SOCKS | TIGHTS

@recycleFYC @recycleFYC