



**Hazel Wood**  
High School

Respect Responsibility Aspiration

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Dear Parents & Carers,

### **Re: Half Term 3 Updates**

As we come to the end of this third half term, we are now halfway through this academic year, and I wanted to take the opportunity to update you on a few matters before the students return on the 26<sup>th</sup> February.

#### **High Standards and Impressive results.**

Here at Hazel Wood we are very proud of having high standards in everything we do and we have been on a significant journey to get where we are today. I am very proud of our growing reputation and celebrated a recent article in the Bury times as being one of the most over-subscribed schools in Bury. I am also very pleased to share with you that now last year's exam results have been verified by the Department for Education we can reveal that in terms of the progress students make we rank 2<sup>nd</sup> in Bury out of all 13 schools, what an achievement, thank you for all your support to get us to this point.

In order for us to be successful we need to continue to raise our standards, and there are some updates on these below.

#### **Uniform**

Standards of uniform are exceptionally high at Hazel Wood High School. Thank you to parents for supporting us with ensuring our students look professional and ready for a productive day in school, every day. **The only challenge we have faced this term is ensuring our students have the correct tie**, can I please make you aware that if we have to supply your child with a new tie in school then the cost of this is transferred to you on the students parent pay account. Could I please ask for your support in making sure firstly they come to school wearing the tie and then if this is not possible that you check your parent pay accounts as some families owe monies for new ties supplied.

#### **Homework**

At Hazel Wood, all subjects set regular homework for students to complete. Homework is an important part of learning, as it helps students to retain information taught in lessons in their long-term memory. You can keep track of your child's homework by checking their planner and viewing their calendar on

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Office365. Students receive achievement points as rewards for successful completion of homework. From Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February, we will be sending a message home for each piece of homework that a student has **not** completed. Please support your child by reminding them to complete all homework on time.

### **P-Point Corrections**

As you know we operate a same day 'correction' system for any student who is not following the Hazel Wood Way, and P-Points are given. They are given to students for poor behaviour in school and we believe the same day correction system is important so that every day is a new and fresh start for our students. Less than 10% of our students receive P-Points, which is an average of only 60 students a night. If your son or daughter does receive a P-Point, please support us in having conversations at home to ensure that this does not happen again. Some parents may have noticed that many P-Point Corrections have been capped at 45 minutes during the last few weeks due to the dark nights and cold weather. Parents and students need to be aware that after February half-term, P-Point Corrections will return to their full length for those students who receive them.

### **Whole School Data Collection**

We will be conducting a whole school data collection after half-term to ensure that we have the most current and relevant information regarding your child in order to safeguard them and act promptly should an emergency. You will receive further information on this, but I would please ask that you ensure that you are able to access SIMS Parent App and complete the data collection as soon as possible. Instructions on how to set yourself up on SIMS Parent App if you haven't done already can be found by following the QR code on the right.



SIMS PARENT APP INSTRUCTIONS

### **Punctuality & Attendance**

School attendance continues to be mandatory for all pupils and the usual rules on school attendance apply. This includes the duty of parents to ensure their child regularly attends school. The Government expects schools and local authorities to communicate clear expectations around attendance to families, identify pupils at risk of disengagement and develop plans to re-engage them. The school and Local Authority may also issue sanctions, such as fixed penalty notices, for poor attendance. We work hard to work with families to prevent this

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from happening. Our Education Welfare Officer, Attendance Officer and Pastoral team will continue to work closely to identify those pupils we may have concerns about and to offer our support and assistance in raising attendance in school. The information below shows how attendance can affect your child's future progression;

**Above 97%: Less than 6 days absence a year**

Excellent attendance! These young people will almost certainly get the best grades they can, leading to better prospects for the future. Pupils will also get into a habit of attending school which will help in the future.

**95%: 10 days absence a year**

These pupils are likely to achieve good grades and form a habit of attending school regularly. Pupils who take a 2 week holiday every year can only achieve 95% attendance.

**90% and below: 19 days + absence a year**

The Government classes Young People in this group as "Persistent Absentees", and it will be almost impossible to keep up with work. Parents of young people in this group could also face the possibility of legal action being taken by the Local Authority.

**Year 11 Mock Exams**

When our year 11 students return, they are starting their final set of Mock Exams. It is incredibly important that the students prepare for these and give every exam their best effort, as this will help us to define whether or not students need further support and /or intervention. During the half term break, please encourage your child to revise. If they need materials from lessons, all of our students have access to Microsoft Teams, and they will be able to access revision materials from their subject teams. I have included the mock examination timetable for your information at the end of this letter.

**Community Issues**

Hazel Wood High School has worked incredibly hard over the last few years to build its reputation and it now prides itself on providing a good education to its students and fostering positive relationships with the community we serve. Whilst behaviour in school is routinely excellent, we have been made aware by community partners, including the Police, that there have been several violent/anti-social incidents involving a tiny minority of our students outside of school hours. This is not something we will tolerate as a school.

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Some of our students have been identified via CCTV footage, social media clips and community information as being part of this anti-social behaviour. I want all parents to be aware that we will always support the Police with enquiries and co-operate with any criminal investigation in order to keep our students and wider community safe. I would also like to make it clear that as a school we also have the legal powers to take action against any pupil who is taking part in violent or anti-social acts in our uniform.

I want to reassure our parents that we will not tolerate this behaviour as it goes against all that we stand for and we will take all actions available to us to sanction students involved in this behaviour as we will not see our reputation dragged down by this minority of students.

Can I please ask for all our parents to support us and reinforce with your children the need for good behaviour in our community and ask them not to congregate in large groups outside of school. We would also advise that parents make themselves aware of their child's whereabouts after school. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this, please contact school and we will arrange a meeting with members of our senior team.

Thank you for your continued support in improving our school and ensuring your child gets the best education.

Have a great half term break and I will see the students again on **Monday 26th Feb at 8.55am.**

Regards,

Mr. P Greenhalgh  
**Headteacher**

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# Hazel Wood High School

Date	Time	Exam & Revision Lesson	Room		Time	Exam & Revision Lesson	Room
Mon 26 Feb	9am	ENGLISH LANGUAGE Paper 2 1 hr 45	Sports Hall		11.40am	CREATIVE IMEDIA 1 hr 30	Sports Hall
Tue 27 Feb	9am	MATHS Paper 1 (non-Calc) 1 hr 30	Sports Hall		11.40am	BIOLOGY Paper 2 1 hr 15	Sports Hall
Wed 28 Feb	9am	HISTORY Paper 1 2hrs	Sports Hall		11.40am	GEOGRAPHY Paper 1 1 hr 30	Sports Hall
Thur 29 Feb					11.40am	RELIGIOUS STUDIES Paper 1 1hr 45	Sports Hall
Fri 1 Mar	9am	ENGLISH LITERATURE Paper 2 2 hrs 15	Sports Hall				
Mon 4 Mar	9am	MATHS Paper 2 (Calc) 1 hr 30	Sport Hall		11.40am	SPANISH Listening & Reading H: 1 hr 45 F: 1 hr 20	Studio /Dance Studio
Tue 5 Mar	9am	HISTORY Paper 2 2 hrs	Sport Hall		11.40am	CHEMISTRY Paper 2 1 hr 15	Sports Hall
Wed 6 Mar					11.40am	GEOGRAPHY Paper 2 1 hr 30	Sports Hall
Thur 7 Mar		ART EXAM TASK 4				ART EXAM	
Fri 8 Mar		ART EXAM TASK 4				ART EXAM	
Mon 11 Mar	11.40am	PHYSICS Paper 2 1 hr 15	Sports Hall		2.10pm	GEOGRAPHY Paper 3 1 hr	Sports Hall
Tue 12 Mar	9am	RELIGIOUS STUDIES Paper 2 1 hr 45	Sports Hall		11.40am	SPANISH Writing H:1 hr 15 F :1 hr	Sports Hall
Wed 13 Mar	9am	MATHS Paper 3 (Calc) 1 hr 30	Sports Hall		11.40am	MUSIC 1 hr 30	Room 6
Thur 14 Mar		SPANISH SPEAKING				SPANISH SPEAKING	
Fri 15 Mar		SPANISH SPEAKING				SPANISH SPEAKING	

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Learning Partnership