

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a great start to a new academic year! Our new Year 7 students have settled in really well and are quickly working out where they need to be and how things work. It has been wonderful to see our new Student Ambassadors from Year 11 helping out with the lunch queue and being a great presence around school.

This week ended with the sad news of the passing of Her Majesty The Queen. Today we celebrated her life and work with a special assembly during tutor time.

Naming Uniform

We would be grateful if all uniform and belongings could be labelled with student's names. This helps us reunite lost items with their owners. Thank you.

Uniform Donations

We are always very grateful for donations of second-hand uniform. We particularly need 'Medium' and 'Large' school hoodies. Any donations can be handed in at reception. Thank you in advance.

Attendance

Regular attendance at school is critical to our students' success. Students should attend school every day unless illness or other extenuating circumstances prevent them from doing so. In line with the Government's guidance on school attendance, we regularly monitor student attendance and will contact parents and carers if absence persists. If your young person is unable to attend school then please contact us on 01433 620555 and choose the student absence option or email attendance@hopevalley.chorustrust.org

As working parents, we know how difficult it can be to carve out time together for holidays and also how the prices rise in the school holidays. As you may know, holidays in term time are categorised as unauthorised absence – this has been especially prominent in the new guidance from Department for Education and Derbyshire Local Authority. Please be aware that taking a holiday in term time disadvantages our children as they miss important lessons. Unfortunately, it can also lead to fixed penalty fines for parents. We continue to work with our school community to support regular attendance, so please talk to us, we are keen to remove any barriers to good attendance.

Catering

The lunchtime menus for this half term are now on the website - new for September is the introduction of a £2.50 meal deal. All the information can be found here [Catering - Hope Valley College \(hopevalley-chorustrust.org\)](http://Catering - Hope Valley College (hopevalley-chorustrust.org))

Log-ins for Class Charts and Accelerated Reader

Log-ins for new students will be posted out at the beginning of next week.

Derbyshire Travel Passes

If your young person uses a Derbyshire Travel Pass to travel to school by bus, then there MUST be a photo of them on the bus pass. If this is not possible, then they must show their BLine card alongside

the bus pass in order to be entitled to a free journey. If they are unable to do this, then they may be asked to pay for the journey.

If your young person's address changes, then you will need to reapply for a bus pass using the new address. Please contact Derbyshire County Council School Transport. Failure to do so may result in your young person being charged for their bus journey.

If anyone would like our support to appeal a decision about bus fare with Derbyshire School Transport, please contact our pastoral team and we will do our best to help.

Open Evening for current Y6 students

On Thursday 6th October, we will be opening our school doors to current Y5 and Y6 students and their parents and carers. This is an opportunity to have a look around school, meet some of our staff and students and find out more information about the Hope Valley College community. The evening will run from 6pm – 8.30pm. Places can be booked on our website: [Book to attend Hope Valley College Open Evening - Hope Valley College \(hopevalley-chorustrust.org\)](https://hopevalley-chorustrust.org)

School Musical for 2022 – 23 – School of Rock!

This year we are very excited to finally be able to produce a school musical, The School of Rock! Everyone is welcomed to audition for acting roles or sign up for backstage roles. We will be holding two separate sets of auditions for acting roles:

- Firstly, **chorus roles** which are small, background roles - perfect for students new to performing or just wanting to build up confidence. These auditions will be at **12:55 on Thursday the 22nd of September**. This would be a group audition and we are asking students to familiarise themselves with the song 'Stick it to the man' from the show. Students can access a backing track and lyrics for this from the music SharePoint folder.
- Secondly, **principal auditions** will be **3:45-4:45 on Tuesday the 20th of September**. These roles are more complex and so are perfect for people who love performing or who are seeking a challenge. We are asking students to prepare a 30 second solo extract of any song accapella.

For **performance rehearsals, we will be using Mondays 3:30-4:30 for drama rehearsals and Fridays 3:30-4:30 for music**. There will also be choir running weekly Thursday lunchtime. It will be depending on parts which rehearsals students are required for. Rehearsals will start once we have cast the production and the full rehearsal schedule will be shared in advance. As you can see, signing up for the musical will be a big commitment, but a massively rewarding one for all students involved. Any questions please contact Miss Starbuck (Teacher of drama) astarbuck@chorustrust.org or Mrs Machan (Head of music) jmachan@chorustrust.org

Extra-Curricular Activities

Below is a list of extra-curricular activities currently offered in school. Students should speak to the relevant teacher for more information.

| Activity | Day | Time | Location | Description | Teacher |
|-------------|--------|---------------|----------|-------------|----------------|
| Flute choir | Monday | 12.10 – 12.40 | Music | | Music teachers |

| | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---------------|------------|--|----------------|
| Grade 5 Music Theory Club | Monday | 3.30 – 4.30 | Music | | Music Teachers |
| Film studies | Monday | 1.00 – 1.30 | Drama | Studying, analysing and producing film | Miss Starbuck |
| Folk Band | Tuesday | 12.10 – 12.40 | Music | | Music teachers |
| PDMC Beginner's Wind Band | Tuesday | 3.30 – 4.30 | Music | | Music teachers |
| KS3 Drama club (Y8 & 9 but will open to Y7 after October half term) | Tuesday | 1.00 – 1.30 | Drama | Acting, directing and designing for scripted drama | Miss Starbuck |
| Homework club | Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri | 8.30 – 8.55 | ICT1 | Opportunity to catch up on homework | TAs |
| Netball | Wednesday | 3.30 – 4.30 | PE | | Ms Astbury |
| String Group | Wednesday | 12.50 – 1.30 | Music | | Music teachers |
| Big Band | Wednesday | 3.30 – 4.30 | Music | | Music teachers |
| F1 STEM club | Wednesday | 12.45 – 1.25 | Technology | Design & make a model F1 car | Mr Beeden |
| GCSE DT Catch up | Thursday | 12.45 – 1.25 | Technology | Opportunity for GCSE DT students to continue with coursework | Mr Beeden |
| School of Rock choir | Thursday | 12.50 – 1.30 | Music | For those involved in the musical | Music teachers |
| Wind band | Thursday | 3.30 – 4.30 | Music | | Music teachers |
| Y7 Book Club | Thursday wk A | 1.00 – 1.30 | Library | Open to all with an interest in books and reading | Mrs Mummery |
| Y8,9,10,11 Book Club | Thursday wk B | 1.00 – 1.30 | Library | Open to all with an interest in books and reading | Mrs Mummery |
| STEM Club | Thursday | 1.00 – 1.30 | Science | Science related fun | Mrs Bates |
| GCSE Textiles club | Thursday | 3.30 – 4.30 | Textiles | | Miss Nicklin |
| Y7 Drama club (open to Y7 and GCSE drama student volunteers) | Friday | 1.00 – 1.30 | Drama | Play drama games, work on drama skills and build up confidence | Miss Starbuck |

Thank you for reading our communication. Here are some helpful email addresses, should you need to contact us:-

- attendance@hopevalley.chorustrust.org to report a child's absence
- enquiries@hopevalley.chorustrust.org for general enquiries
- pastoral@hopevalley.chorustrust.org for any issue with a child's wellbeing
- principal@hopevalley.chorustrust.org to contact the Principal
- safeguarding@hopevalley.chorustrust.org to report safeguarding concerns. If a child or any young person is in imminent danger, then please report this to the police.

Kind regards

Mrs G Jones
Principal
Hope Valley College
T: 01433 620555

