

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to students and staff for another great week in school. Everyone has settled into their new routines. We will reinforce these routines as we go through the school year to make sure we are all working towards making our school community a safe place to be.

As you will be aware, school will be closed on Monday 19th September – this day has been designated as a Bank Holiday for Her Majesty the Queen’s funeral. School will reopen as normal on Tuesday 20th September.

What’s going on at HVC?

- *We have had over 100 students showing interest in applying for the sports leader's programme, applications close on Monday 19th September. We are really excited to have so many students showing interest in this fantastic opportunity!*
- *Some of our Sports Leaders helped at our first primary event of the year, supporting Y3 and Y4 children at their first mini football festival. They did a brilliant job and were professional and helpful, making sure the event ran smoothly.*
- *Our Outdoor Activities programme got underway last Friday, with the first of our students enjoying team building and problem-solving activities.*
- *This week our assemblies have focused on democracy and the role of the school council. The school council represents the student voice and meets regularly with Mr Fitton to discuss matters raised by students.*

Information Evening for Y10 & Y11

Parents and carers of students in Y10 & Y11 should have received an email invitation to our Information Evening on Thursday 22nd September. Tea and coffee will be available from 5pm, for a 5.30pm start, we aim to finish by 6.30pm. Heads of Maths, English and Science will outline the GCSE courses being followed and offer guidance to parents and carers about how to support your young people with their studies, including revision tips. If you have not already done so, please complete the form below to let us know if you will be attending or not:-

<https://forms.office.com/r/bTsaXct0Uc>

Y9 Technology groups

Due to several new students joining our current Year 9 cohort over the summer, we have created an extra Technology group. This is because the Technology rooms can only accommodate a set number of students for safety reasons. This does not affect any other subjects. Groupings will be shared with students next week.

Y7 CATS testing

From next week, we will begin testing our Y7 cohort using Cognitive Abilities Tests (CATs). Whilst recent SATs scores point to attainment in English and Mathematics, CATs give us the opportunity to examine other measures of ability. They are designed to assess a pupil’s reasoning ability in three different areas: verbal (thinking with words); quantitative (thinking with numbers); and non-verbal (thinking with shapes and space). No preparation is necessary for these tests and no pre-learning or knowledge is required to complete the tests. All tests are completed on a computer in class groups. Here is more detail about the 4 areas in the CATs:

- Verbal reasoning (this will be read to students to ensure fairness of access) - which looks at abilities to see word patterns and trends.
- Quantitative (numerical) reasoning - which looks at abilities in number patterns and sequencing.
- Non-verbal reasoning and Spatial reasoning skill - these tests use shape patterns and trends which are good indicators of a student's underlying raw ability independent of language

HVC Musical Production: The School of Rock

We are absolutely delighted to finally be able to produce a school musical and we need you! All students are welcome, regardless of stage experience and age. If your young person would like to be a cast member, then **auditions** are as follows:

- **Chorus (Main Cast – some group singing, possible acting, choreography) - Thursday 22nd September 2022 12:55pm in Music** - Be prepared to sing 'Stick it to the Man' from 1 minute 45 seconds to the end.
- **Principal (Lead Character) - Tuesday 20th September 2022 3:45-4:45pm in Music** - Prepare 30 seconds of **any** song to be sung acappella (without music).
- **Non-Performing** - There are various non-performing roles available e.g.
 1. Backstage
 2. *Pit Band/Orchestra
 3. Sound and Lighting
 4. Set Design

Rehearsals

All cast members are expected to attend rehearsals every **Thursday lunchtime 12:55pm-1:25pm**. Cast members need to be available **Monday** and **Friday 3:30pm-4:30pm** but won't be required every week.

Proposed Performance Dates: Monday March 27th-Thursday March 30th, 2023

Please email Miss Starbuck astarbuck@chorustrust.org or Mrs Machan jmachan@chorustrust.org if you have any further questions.

Y10 & Y11 English Literature students

English Literature students will be studying *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens. Unfortunately, we will not be running a trip to this production but you may wish to consider taking your young person to see it on the 16th, 17th and 19th November at 19:30: [A Christmas Carol | Buxton Opera House](#).

School photographs

Proofs of school photographs have been handed to children and young people today. The deadline for orders is 26/09/2022 and we recommend that orders are placed online.

Laptops

The laptops supplied to some students during the COVID 19 lockdown were provided directly by the Department for Education. Unfortunately, from September 2022 the DfE are no longer supporting any of these laptops (you may get a message on the screen). To remove the DfE configuration, we

will need the laptop to be returned to school and re-installed with a new operating system. The laptop will then be returned to you after this change is made.

PE (rugby) tops

We have been advised by our uniform supplier that the manufacturers of our PE rugby tops are unable to fulfil the order. We are currently looking into alternative options and will update you as soon as possible. Any monies paid will be refunded by the supplier.

Uniform Donations, labelling & lost property

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. Can we also ask uniform is labelled with student names, so that we can try to reunite lost property with owners. We currently have a quite a lot of lost property – please ask your young person to check if they are missing any items and come to reception to look through lost property. Thank you in advance.

Open Evening for current Y5 and 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 start at **5.30pm and close at 7.30pm**. Places can be booked on our website: [Book to attend Hope Valley College Open Evening - Hope Valley College \(hopevalley-chorustrust.org\)](http://hopevalley-chorustrust.org)

Car Boot Sale this Sunday

This Sunday's car boot sale will be held at the Sports Club, rather than at HVC.

'Hope Valley Cycling for All Rally' - Saturday 1st October 10.00hrs

As part of a wider campaign to make it safer for people of all ages to cycle within the Hope Valley, the Hope Valley Climate Action group are holding a cycle rally on 1st October, with a route from Castleton to Bradwell that will go through Hope and past Hope Valley College. Everyone is welcome to join. More information can be found here: [Events Archive - Hope Valley Climate Action](#)

Library Services in Derbyshire



Join and use your library

There's a lot more to your local library...

For ideas on activities and reading please visit [Derbyshire Libraries on Facebook](#) and [Derbyshire Libraries on Twitter](#).

If you have any enquiries, please email: ask.library@derbyshire.gov.uk or call: 01629 533444.

Did you know that as well as being able to **borrow books for free** you can:

- use **computers** for free and access the **internet**
- log on to subscription websites in your local library for free
- browse our full catalogue of items from the comfort of your own home

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

