



School Matters

English Department

We have had a busy half term. We started with Year 7's celebrating Roald Dahl Day. Mrs Doyle laid on a wonderful lunchtime of activities and quizzes in our Library. Many of our new Year 7's were able to show off their Dahl knowledge.

Our Year 11's juxtaposed this fun by sitting their English Literature P2 mock on their second week back. The results were a fair reflection of those who had revised over the Summer months.

On Wednesday 10th October Andy Briggs once again enthralled years 7 and 8 with his tales of far off lands and swept us all up into his imagination in a fantastic afternoon of him telling us of the background to his latest blockbuster book.

On Thursday 4th October we were joined by two poets from the team presenting at Poetry-Next-The-Sea. Cheryl Moskowitz and Briony Bax, who led poetry workshops with a group of year 9 pupils. A huge congratulations goes to E Alexander, A Ashby, M Campbell, C Futter, O Futter, K Gourrage, F Hoddy, L Jaggard, R Pritchard, G Wick, T Norman, E Sadler, and J Shuman for their contributions in the workshop. Many Thanks too, to Mrs Hagag for hosting the poets and the students.

Other areas that are being trialled this year is our new approach to homework for KS3. Instead of sending them home with written work, Years 7-9 are being given extracts to read that range from the 19th-21st century. They have Bronze, Silver and Gold level of questions to tackle for each extract. We would like to encourage all Parents/Carers to also read these extracts and discuss their content with their young people. We are doing this as we are trying to encourage reading to be part of family life. By making reading a short extract their fortnightly challenge we hope we have enabled most students' parents/carers to be more engaged with the homework.

Upcoming Events for English

Monday 12th November students are going to an Aim Higher workshop led by Cambridge University Doctors of English. They will be doing in depth analysis of the poetry anthology for their exam. We are really looking forward to the insight into the poetry we learn. All those attending will be putting together a presentation to deliver to the rest of their year group in December.

On the Calendar

Monday 19th November

Start of Wave 1 for Year 11 mocks

Monday 19th November

Cluster Swimming Gala yrs 3-6

Tuesday 20th November

STEMM Robotics Practice Battles at Sheringham High School

Wednesday 21st November

Sports Hall Athletics yrs 3-4 & 5-6

Monday 26th November

Year 11 SEN Students visit to College of West Anglia.

Gymnastics Festival yrs 1-2

Tuesday 27th November

Year 7 Parents Evening

Thursday 28th November

Year 11 SEN Students visit to UTC Norwich

Wednesday 28th November

U14 Rugby All Schools Competition @ West Norfolk



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On the Calendar cont..

Saturday 1st December

Saturday Revision catchup with Mr Ogle

Monday 3rd December

Cluster 6-A-Side Football Yrs 4-6

Tuesday 4th December

Citizenship Day 2

Wednesday 5th December

U12 Rugby All Schools Competition @ Swaffham

Thursday 6th December

Year 11 Certificate Evening

Friday 7th December

Christmas Service @ St Nicholas Church 1:15pm

Adapted Games yrs 6-8

Wednesday 12th December & Thursday 13th

APHS Presents A Christmas Carol

Thursday 13th December

School Christmas Lunch

Friday 14th December

Mufti—Christmas Jumper Day

Year 10 Trip to Castle Museum Norwich

Rapid Plus

If your student has Becketts on their time table this means they are getting extra literacy support to improve their reading skills.

They have a target to read a Rapid Plus online book EVERY DAY for 60 days. Their login details will be their school email address and password of Rap1dplus . If you do not have internet access at home they can do this in school at lunch or break or tutor time. Please support their reading progress by regularly asking them "Have you read a Rapid Plus book today?".

Design & Technology

We would like to welcome Mr Heron to Alderman Peel. He will be joining us as our new Arts and Technology Technician.

Year 11 NEA Coursework (50% of their GCSE) support sessions happen every Tuesday lunch time 12:15-12-45pm and Wednesday after school, 3:00-4:00pm. All are encouraged to attend particularly those who need to catch up in work missed. Any student who has not completed their research sections (A &B) will be expected to attend a catch-up session on Saturday 1st December 8:45—11:45am with Mr Ogle.

Year 11 revision topics are available on Class Charts to prepare for D&T GCSE mock exam on Tuesday 20th (11c) and Friday 23rd (11d) November.

Year 10 revision guides are now available to purchase online at £3.99. All Pupil Premium students have received their books free from Pupil Premium funding. Any students who have missed lessons must catch up by accessing the lesson resources on Google Drive via their school email.

KS3 STEM LEGO ROBOTICS club is on every Thursday after school 3:15—4:15pm.

Work Experience Placements Required for Year 10

Work Experience starts Monday 1st July 2019 until Friday 5th July 2019.

Are you or someone you know able to offer one of our Year10 students a work experience placement for a week?

If the answer is Yes, please contact Mr Tawana, Assistant Principal, by telephoning the school office or email btawana8nrg@nsix.org.uk



School Matters

Contacting you.....

Please keep us up to date with current mobile numbers, home phone numbers, email addresses and home addresses for the purposes of sharing information and reaching you promptly in case of an emergency. Forms are available from Mrs Hart or Mrs Gibson in the reception office.

Contacting US.....

To keep you up to date with current contact details there is a list of useful numbers for members of staff available on the website.

Punctuality

Students are reminded that registration starts at 8:40am. If you arrive after this, you are late. Sanctions are in place for students who are repeatedly late.

Medical Appointments

If your child needs to leave school early or arrive later due to a medical appointment, please ensure that evidence of the appointment is shown to our reception office. (e.g. a letter or appointment card from the doctor/hospital clinic/

Music Department

We have a thriving music department, which I am incredibly proud of, with seven visiting music teachers delivering over 130 music lessons every week. There is a waiting list for lessons on all instruments.

We work incredibly hard to ensure that timetables are prepared in advance for students to be able to plan so that they are able to see what time their lessons are for the entire half term ahead. It has always been the responsibility of the student to ensure that they know when their lesson is taking place and to attend on time with the correct instrument and music.

There are now pages in the student planner for students to record their lesson times – titled **APHS Instrumental Lessons** therefore students are no longer issued with individual timetables.

Students need to record their lesson times into their planner from displayed timetables. Timetables are visible on the notice board outside the music classroom, in every tutor room and with music teachers. **Any changes to the planned timetables will have to be made in advance with the music teacher.** It has become clear that many students have to be reminded every week to attend their lessons. This results in a phone call to each classroom to request the student. This is time consuming for the music staff and administration team. Repeated phone calls to classrooms also causes disruption to lessons for teaching staff and students. Therefore, I am notifying you that students **will no longer be called for** to attend lessons as routine. **It is the responsibility of the student to attend at the correct time.**

If a student is in school but does not attend a music lesson, the lesson will be charged for. If a student is absent from school, the lesson will not be charged for. If a student repeatedly fails to attend music lessons, then lessons will be discontinued and the place will be offered to another student on the waiting list. These processes are to ensure that all students get the most out of their music lessons and take responsibility for their own attendance. I appreciate your support with this and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Rehearsals are in full swing for our Christmas Production “A Christmas Carol”. The performances will be on Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th December, tickets are on sale now.

The Christmas Service at St Nicholas Church will be on Friday 7th December at 1:15pm for Year 7.

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eSafety for Parents—Keeping your child safe online

Children nowadays spend a lot of time online. Their use of the internet may be fun, can help with their homework, and help them socialise in remote locations. There are a lot of positives to internet use but there can also be dangers. As a parent do you really know what your child does online?

To help you find out and to help you keep your child safe online we recommend the following websites.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

<http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

Top Tips for helping your child stay safe online.

1. Talk to your child about online safety and talk about what they do online regularly. Technology changes frequently and new apps and websites appear very frequently. Talking regularly about e-safety and getting your child to discuss their usage with you will allow you and your child to stay safe.
2. Set rules and agree boundaries over internet usage. These will change as your child grows older but you might want to consider time allowed online during the week and weekends, age ratings of movies and games they play, sharing personal information, images and videos, and where they use the internet in the home.
3. Use parental controls. Parental controls are provided free of charge from most of the main Internet Service Providers including Virgin, BT, Talk Talk and Sky. They allow you to filter or restrict content. Some even allow you to restrict the times of the day devices can access the internet, ideal to ensure your child does not go on the internet at all hours.

Check your child understands about privacy settings and knows how to report abuse online. Facebook and many other social media sites have buttons to report abuse. To report other sites or cyberbullying, grooming or other concerns use www.thinkuknow.co.uk

1. Know who your child is talking to online. Make sure they do not share personal information, their names, where they live or even the school they go to. On social media it is a good idea for a child to 'Friend' their parent, so that you can see what is being posted and who your child is talking to.

Remember, as an adult, **you can control** what devices children can use and when they can use them.

And remember if you have any concerns about esafety you can report your concerns by clicking on the CEOP button on our website.

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-Centre/>



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Lost Property

Lost property is kept by reception for a maximum of one term. At the end of each term items left unclaimed are either taken to charity shops or sent for recycling. Please ensure that ALL items of uniform and PE kit are named, including PE socks, as we always try to reunite lost items with their owners. Students are to be responsible for their own possessions and lockers are available to purchase online for students to keep their belongings safe during the school day.

Saturday Morning Catch-Up Session

On Saturday 1st December Mr Ogle will be running a Saturday Morning Catch-up Session for students in year 10 and 11 who are behind with their work. Students who are told to attend MUST attend or have the work completed to the appropriate standard by 31st November. All other year 10 and 11 students are welcome to attend if they wish to. No uniform required. The times are 8:45am—11:45am (No leaving early!) Room CS2. Please bring all the work you need to do with you as the rest of the school building will be locked.

Uniform

Our rules regarding the length of skirts has not changed in eight years. Skirts should be knee length. A growing number of girls are failing to meet our expectations regarding this and will lose social time, breaks and lunch times, if their skirts are too short. Unbelievably we have some girls who are rolling their skirt up at the waist so it is shorter. Please be warned that we will be speaking to and taking action with ALL girls with skirts that are too short in the next few weeks. If parents/carers are struggling financially to purchase skirts please contact Mrs Sperry who will, in confidence, provide one for you.

Parent Discussion and Support Group

We meet once a term with a senior member of staff and a governor to discuss what we love about the school; to give ideas for improvement; to hear about new developments at APHS and in UK education in general; and to find out how they will affect our children's future. Details of our next meeting will be available on the website. Please contact Sally Rumbles on 01328 258316 or pandsrumbles@tiscali.co.uk for further information.

