

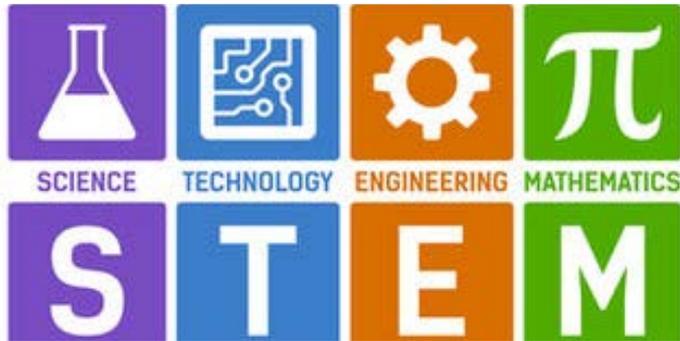


Orchard Park High School

'Inspiring Lives, Building Futures'

'Ready, Respectful, Safe'

Wednesday 6th November 2019 Issue No. 31



Raising Aspirations

As part of our raising aspirations programme we have a number of events planned for next term which enhance and support the experiences of each student. These activities have been developed to promote STEM subjects and the knowledge and skills needed for employment in these subject areas, as there is a huge gap in the workforce. Furthermore, it opens up a raft of opportunities to work with outside providers and key note speakers to encourage our students to aspire to university and secure jobs that warrant the high salaries.

This year our students will be visiting the top universities in the country including Oxford and Cambridge, to experience what university life is like. We have a number of guest speakers coming in to run workshops and competitions. It promises to be a busy and interesting term ahead.

Date	Year	Event Description
Wed 6 Nov	9	The Big Assembly – STEM focus
Thurs 7 Nov	7	Tomorrow's Engineers Week (Science Dept.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bridge building workshop
Thurs 7 Nov	7	ARCADIS – Airport planner/Engineer workshop
Fri 8 Nov	8	Tomorrow's Engineers Week (Science Dept.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rocket building workshop
Fri 15 Nov	11	Skills London, Excel Centre
Fri 15 Nov	10	Sussex Uni – Design a Racing Car Day
Mon 18 Nov	10	Transformation Trust Barclays Life Skills "Core Transferable Skills" workshops
Mon 18 Nov	8	St Mary's University workshop, In-school launch workshop
Fri 22 Nov	10	Sussex Uni – Creative Writing Day
Thurs 28 Nov	11	Speakers4Schools Assembly Gary Davey – MD of Content, Sky Entertainment
Thurs 28 Nov	11	Oxford University, Mansfield College Visit
Fri 29 Nov	10	St Mary's Uni, E-mentoring programme starts
Tues 10 Dec	7	The Smallpiece Trust – STEM Wind Turbine Challenge Day
Thurs 12 Dec	11	Imperial College London visit



Your Future Ambition

Our year 7 students attended the YFYA STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Careers Expo held at the Emirates Stadium on the 10th October 2019.

The day was fun-filled, with students engaged in exciting educational activities that exposed them to STEM careers and professionals, who brought their careers to life through interactive displays.

Students had an opportunity to speak to professionals about how STEM subjects impacted on their career paths and also about what their day-to-day working life entailed. Students were also given first hand insight on how to navigate careers and discover what experiences and skills are needed to make them stand out from the crowd.



Some of the highlights for the students were being able to take virtual reality tours through a spaceship and the human body; trying on robotic devices; exploring the science behind gaming; reading the weather in front of a green screen and seeing themselves live on television.

Our students were a credit to our school, both in terms of their behaviour and participation in the expo. Students won many prizes throughout the day and 5 students won Echo Dots for their contributions.

Mr C Mathys, Assistant Headteacher

Year 11 News

Our year 11 students have been amazing this week as they started their first round of Pre Public Examinations (PPEs). They got off to a positive start with students feeling very secure with the English paper and we want this confidence to continue over the next 10 days.

We all know that "Success is 90% preparation and only 10% perspiration" so it is critical that students continue to work hard during their free time with revision and past questions. We wish everyone well as we move into week 2 of exams.

Uniform

Our uniform is always of a high standard and is something that visitors and the general public always remark upon, which is fabulous but recently there have been a number of students wearing head scarves and bandanas to school. These are not allowed and this includes on the way to and from school. We can remind students that such items will be confiscated if brought into school or scene wearing them. Parents are also reminded that coats should be plain black or navy. Grey and other colours are not permitted.

Hegarty Maths

We were absolutely delighted to see that before the half term holiday, OPHS were School 2 in the country on the Hegarty Maths leaderboard. We know this package is hugely successful in securing student progress and outcomes. Thank you to everyone for continuing to drive forward this whole school initiative. So, keep up the good work and hopefully this term we will reach the top spot!

Tassomai

Tassomai organises students' independent revision and supports them in learning all the facts they need for the exams. It analyses performance and tailors its revision programme to the individual so they can fill any gaps in their knowledge and practise for the paper. All students from years 7-11 have been set up with Tassomai accounts.

- Year 7 and year 8 students should work towards answering 100 questions per week.
- Tassomai is a set homework task every alternate week for year 9 students. Year 9 students should however aim towards answering 210 questions per week.
- Year 10 and year 11 students should answer 300 questions per week.
- Students in year 11 classes who have not answered 300 questions during the last 7 days will be expected to attend a catch-up session on Monday after-school.

Mrs C Warnock, Headteacher

New Scientist Live

The Science department took 15 students to attend the 'New Scientist Live' event at London Excel the world's greatest science festival.



The students had the opportunity to visit different stages and listened to different talks from experts based on their interest e.g. earth, engineering, technology, human, performance. With over 150 exhibits and features on the show floor, the students had their young mind-blown by discovering scientific secrets that have changed the world we know. From the latest technologies, innovations and discoveries, they had the chance to ask their burning questions, took part in creative workshops and experienced science like never before. Overall, the students had a fantastic and memorable time!

Mr Alabi, STEM Coordinator

Year 7 News

Congratulations to the following students who have the highest number of achievement points since starting school in September 2019.

Daishon	7NEW	42	Charlie	7SAN	31
Hollie	7SAN	36	Joella	7SAN	31
Olivia	7PAN	36	George	7NEW	31
Charlie	7PAN	34	Anastasia	7HOL	30
Patrick	7CHU	33	Jahmal	7SAN	29
Amrutha	7PAN	33	Isabella	7SAN	28
Jaymie Leigh	7PAN	32	Mariam	7CHU	28
Cymeon	7SAN	32	Plamena	7CHU	27

Congratulations to George 7NEW who received a Good Citizen award from the Mayor of Croydon. He was recognised for being an excellent role model for the younger students in his primary school. Well done George!



Please remember to name ALL items of uniform. Too many items are in lost and found and cannot be reunited with their owners. Thank you.

Mr A Powell, Year 7 Year Leader

Attendance Notice

Medical Notice

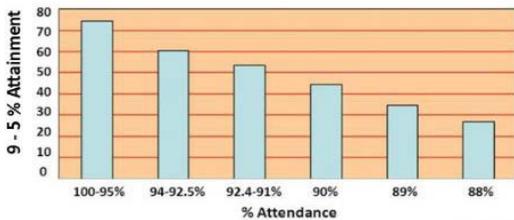
Does your child have any short or long term medical issues that require medication to be held in school? Has your child recently had a medical update that we should be aware of? If yes, we kindly remind parents/carers to notify the school by emailing: studentabsence@orchardparkhigh.net

Attendance Notice

100 Club Attendance Challenge – Congratulations to all students who achieved 100% attendance and punctuality last term. Students will be rewarded with a trip to the Cinema this month. *Remember the real prize is that attendance is directly linked to attainment.*

Attendance and Attainment - There is a direct link between attendance and attainment, put simply if you don't attend, you don't achieve. Across the country, this is particularly the case with students under 95% attendance. This results in a huge amount of lost learning time and as the chart below shows this makes it very difficult for students to achieve good outcomes. The graph below shows how drastically attendance affects attainment. The most important thing you can do to support your child's education is to ensure they come to school every day. Thank you to all students and families for supporting our drive towards excellent attendance and punctuality!

Chances of success at GCSE



Absence - Students who are absent from school for more than a day will have their progress significantly affected. If your son/daughter is unable to attend school as a result of illness, parents/carers are asked to contact the school on each day of absence before 8.30am via the school's main telephone number 020 8776 0220 or email studentabsence@orchardparkhigh.net

Design a Scarecrow

A number of temporary classrooms were removed during the summer holiday leaving a large area that required fresh grass seed. Students from each Year 7 Personal Development Group entered a competition to design and build a scarecrow that would be placed on the grass, allowing the seed to grow quickly and to keep animals away from the seed.



Students were taken off timetable and after a number of hours using mostly recycled or reused material, the eventual winners were Felicity, Fatima, Chanel, J'adore and Teagan. Well done!

Mr A Powell, Year 7 Year Leader

Anti-bullying Week



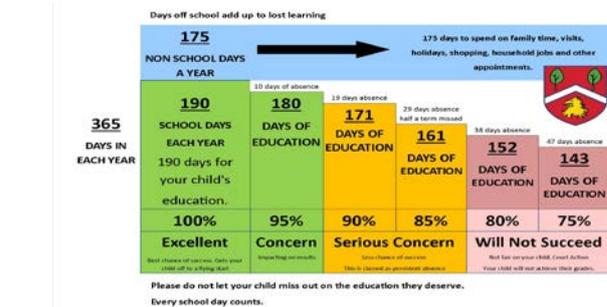
Anti-bullying week takes place between 11th -15th November. This year Anti-Bullying week has the theme '**Change starts with Us**'

Underlining how every day acts like listening to young people, having a conversation, thinking about the impact of our words or stopping before hitting that 'like' button on a hurtful social media post, can all help reduce bullying. At OPHS we will be taking part in assemblies for each year group to raise awareness of bullying.

Please check your child's social media posts regularly to ensure they are not being bullied or part of a bullying scenario. Ensure they are using Whatapp groups in an acceptable way, and check their gaming sessions to ensure they are playing 'nicely' with other children and teenagers.

We all need to take a part in keeping our children safe and happy at home and at school.

Mrs C Rogers, Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Absence of leave – Absence of leave requests during term time will not be authorised, students are required to be in school every day.

Medical Appointments- We ask that parents/carers make any medical appointments for their child after school hours so that students do not miss any time off from school.

Miss G Turner, Attendance Officer

Winter Events



Winter Show

WEDNESDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2019

6.00-7.30pm

Featuring Music, Dance and Drama Performances

Tickets available on Parent Pay
£5 per person
Buy early to avoid disappointment

Christmas Shopping Evening

Featuring local businesses and craft sellers. £1 entry per person to include a free refreshment. Items for sale include Clothing, Jewellery, Personalised Gifts, Decorations, Cakes and much more.

Thursday 28th
November
6.30-8.30
Orchard Park High
School CR07NJ

Facebook

For more news and updates, like Orchard Park High School on Facebook: @orchardparkhighschool



Twitter

For more news and updates, follow Orchard Park High School on Twitter: @OrchardParkHigh



Key Dates

Parent/Carer key dates for the diary

Autumn Term: 2019-2020

Wednesday 20th November

- Yr 10 Parents' Evening

Thursday 28th November

- Christmas Shopping Evening 6.30-8.30pm

Wednesday 4th December

- Yr 11 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 18th December

- Winter Show - 6 - 7.30pm

Friday 20th December

- End of Autumn Term

Monday 6th January

- Start of Spring Term

Wednesday 29th January

- Yr 9 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 12th February

- Yr 8 Academic Review Day

Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February

- Spring Half Term Holiday

Monday 6th April to Friday 17th April

- Easter Holiday

Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May

- Summer Half Term Holiday

Friday 17th July 2020

- End of Academic Year

Parents' Evening Booking System

Parents/Carers are reminded to book their Parents' Evening appointments via the link below:

<https://orchardparkhighschool.parentseveningsystem.co.uk>

For support with booking appointments, please contact the Main School Office.



We hope you enjoyed reading this copy of our newsletter. Updates between now and the next issue of the school newsletter will be posted on our school website:

www.orchardparkhigh.co.uk/newsletters



Orchard Park High School
Orchard Way
Croydon
Surrey CR0 7NJ

Telephone: 020 8776 0220

Email: admin@orchardparkhigh.net

