

17th March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Spring is here and we have lots of useful updates and brilliant opportunities to share with you.

I hope that you can spare a few minutes to read the updates and reminders so that your child can benefit as much as possible from being part of the 5D Hazeley community.

Year Group Specific Messages

Year 10 – Parents Evening- Thursday 24th March – Online

Feedback from parents/carers about Parents Evenings has been very positive, as you know we never stop listening, so don't hesitate to share your views by emailing enquiries@thehazeleyacademy.com

Year 13 PPE Results – Thursday 31st March

Results will then be available to view on Go4Schools for both students and parents, along with their PR3 targets. Students will spend time reflecting on their results and working with their teachers to target their areas for development, in the final push for their exams.

Year 10 and Year 11 Lunchtime

Due to Year 11 exams, Year 10 and Year 11 students will swap lunches for 1 week commencing on 21st March. This means Year 10 will move to 1.40pm and Year 11 will move to 12.40pm.

Key messages

Covid-19 Day of Reflection - Wednesday 23rd March

We will be marking a National Day of Reflection to remember all those who have been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic; those who have lost their lives and honour those brave members of our community who supported us through the crisis. We will be observing a one-minute silence across the school, our choir will be performing, and we will have poetry readings. Not only will we be remembering the difficult times, but we will also take the opportunity to celebrate the determination and resilience that our young people demonstrated through the pandemic.



Free School Meals & Pupil Premium – The importance of registering if you qualify

The Government operates a free school meal system to support children from lower income families. Pupil Premium is a funding scheme which allows schools to access additional funding linked to the number of children claiming free school meals (FSM). Please see the qualifying criteria below.

It is therefore vital that parents who qualify for FSM apply, even if they do not wish to take up the offer of a free school meal.

You will qualify for FSM if you are in receipt of any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Employment & Support Allowance – Income related
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance (NOT Contribution Based JSA)

- Child Tax Credit only (with a combined family income of less than £16,190 per annum as assessed by HM Revenues & Customs) **Please note, anyone receiving Working Tax Credit, regardless of income, will NOT qualify for FSMs.**
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit
- National Asylum Seekers Support (NASS)
- Guaranteed Element of Pension Tax Credit

How to Apply for Free School Meals

You can register and find out if your child is eligible by visiting the following websites:

Information accessible online at: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals/milton-keynes>

Apply online at: <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/link2ict>

Please register with the portal, even if you have applied and been unsuccessful in the past. Milton Keynes Council will then have your contact details and can inform you straight away if your eligibility changes.

All applications for free school meals will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Go4Schools – Update

From Monday 21st March, Go4Schools will look very different. There is a brand-new student/parent page which is easier to navigate. Please find a summary of the changes [here](#).

Parents can expect to receive email notifications via Go4Schools (similar to if your child has received a positive house point or B code) for students who arrive late to registration in the mornings, or 4th period. This is to improve communication with this aspect of the academy.

If you have any queries, please email data@thehazeleyacademy.com

Extra-curricular

At Hazeley we believe that extra-curricular activities provide an important channel for reinforcing lessons learned in the classroom, offer the opportunity to apply academic skills in a real-world context and are part of a well-rounded education. It is important for young people to develop resilience and build confidence to interact socially with others and at the same time develop new skills and abilities. Please find our extra-curricular activities in the link [here](#). Please contact the member of staff running the club or lmckenzie@thehazeleyacademy.com if you have any questions. Please note that due to Year 10 parents evening on 24 March, extra-curricular clubs will not run on this date.

Reception and Attendance

If your child has an appointment during the day, please pop a note in their planner and remind them to inform their class teacher that they will be leaving mid lesson, as well as always reporting this to the attendance officer. Parents/carers arriving during the day to collect their child who are not aware they are to leave has increased, which results in lesson disturbances as staff are asked to collect them from their class. This can prove difficult during break/lunch time and class assessments. Thank you for your understanding.

We discourage PE kit, catering ingredients and trainers being dropped off during the day as it discourages good personal organisation and can lead to items being lost and lessons being disrupted. We make exceptions for medication and keys, as these are critical.

Hazeley Voices

Our music department are really excited to be introducing Hazeley Voices – an amazing opportunity for students of all year groups to be a part of a brand-new vocal group run by our very own vocal coach Joscelyn Alexander.

[Find out more information here](#)

Duke of Edinburgh

Bronze award students are starting to prepare for their expedition which is in May, but they will be completing practice walks during March and April.

Silver award will be completing their expedition in June and July and are underway with their volunteering, skills, and physical units.

Please can you ensure that students are starting to think about the essential kit that they will need for the expeditions e.g. walking shoes or boots. In previous years, some students buy them just before the walks and their walking boots haven't been broken in, so they get blisters. It would be advisable, if you are thinking of updating footwear, to do this sooner rather than later so that students can wear in the shoe/boot. We advise these types of footwear for the expedition walks: old trainers that they don't mind getting muddy (there should be some waterproof ability in the shoes), walking boots or shoes (not wellingtons). We do have a very limited supply of walking boots available that we bought in the summer, if you wish to be considered for the list of issue for these, please contact MO'Sullivan@thehazeleyacademy.com but please be aware we only have a limited number of each size and it will be on a priority basis.

Hazeley wellbeing and the Love to Ride Scheme

Milton Keynes Council have partnered up with Love to Ride to encourage young people to get out on their bikes. Families are encouraged to sign up on the Love to Ride Milton Keynes website to set challenges, compete against friends and work your way up leader boards. Cycling is a great way to exercise, destress and reduce your carbon footprint. Using bikes instead of cars is just one way that we can help protect the environment. Anyone can register for Love to Ride and can earn badges and prizes such as vouchers, gear and new bikes. You can register here: <https://www.lovetoride.net>. Please tag us on [Twitter](#) @hazeleyacademy and #lovetoride

Ukraine Conflict

One of Hazeley's many strengths is the wonderful mix of cultures we have. We are also sensitive that when things happen on the world stage, worries and tensions can creep into our school community. If you do have any concerns then please do not hesitate to contact a member of staff about them or email worried@thehazeleyacademy.com. A war on the other side of Europe does not need to lead to conflict in our Hazeley community. Open and empathetic conversations are a good way of preventing this, and to be very clear we have seen nothing so far other than a community coming together, we just want to keep it this way.

With many thanks to everyone who supported our appeal for items to be delivered to Ukrainian refugees in Poland by DSV logistics company and also to those parents who involved the companies they work for adding to the donation appeal. One parent who works for Dorel UK, donated 945 travel cots (at a value of £131k) to the appeal. The generosity of our community will be much appreciated by those in need.

Covid-19 is not quite over

Local schools have noticed a rise in covid-19 cases within the students and staff. This can result in year groups being required to transition to home learning. Please continue to keep safe, and up to date with the home learning procedures (including log ins) should we need to do this.

Miss Whiteman