



Mr Wilson's Weekly Message



Wednesday's Drop-Down Day was my highlight of the academic year so far. During PSHCE in the morning, students discussed difficult issues with confidence and supported one another in learning more about the world around them. Year 7 and 8 spent some time exploring different career opportunities in politics and the press. Years 9 and 10 explored the difficult topics of mental health and prisons. Year 11 spent the morning looking at the importance of sleep. They learnt that a state of deep sleep is therapeutic. It allows us time to cast off the emo-

tional charge of our experiences, making them easier to process. Following on from this, I have found myself reflecting about my own wind down routine at the end of the day and how best this prepares me for a restful night. Sometimes I hope on my exercise bike to burn off the stresses of the day. However, I am also guilty of checking my emails on my phone right up until the moment I shut my eyes. Do you continue using your brightly lit phone just moments before closing your eyes? Or, instead, do you settle down with a good book? Which of these options would bring about a more settled and therapeutic state?

As always, our pupils were polite and respectful and really embraced the opportunity to explore some difficult topics. I think these sessions are vital to helping our students feel they can enquire about issues that are important to them, both within and outside the curriculum. I am grateful to staff and students for their work during our drop-down day and I encourage all parents and carers to ask about what students learnt. I wish you a safe and well-rested weekend.

The Grate Debate

This week 6 Yr. 11 GCSE History students took part in an internal heat for an event called The Great Debate. The Great Debate is a national, annual public-speaking competition run by the Historical Association. It gives students aged 15-18 the opportunity to develop their research skills, build their historical arguments and boost their confidence in public speaking. It is also a great extracurricular activity that will help with their education post-GCSEs. Our representative for The Hurlingham Academy is Hasan, who made an outstanding argument for the competition's question: 'What does History mean to me?'. He will go onto the local heat to compete against other students from across the country. We wish him the best of luck!



House Update

What a week for our House system – Rowing, Drop Down Day, Countdown, we had the lot!

We started the week with a rampant victory by Aequitas in house rowing! They rowed an unbelievable 3745m which blew all other houses of the water!

On Wednesday, we had our first of two annual Drop Down Days. Pupils were either competing at sports, Dragon's Den, Creative Writing, Debate, Taskmaster, or Performance. Pupils are mixed with others across school from the same House, and must work together to produce the best they can for their House. It was incredible, the leadership, confidence, teamwork, and collaboration between younger and older pupils, pupils who had never said a word to each other, suddenly working brilliantly as a team. Caritas finished the afternoon with 500 points – would they stay at the top after a dominant first term, but an average result at Drop Down Day? Aequitas then finished the day with 750 points which made Ms Guron very happy! Could they top the table by the end of the week? Unitas finished 2nd with 850 points which was a great result for them – recently putting in the hard graft and earning lots of points each week. However, it was Veritas that finished the day 1st, earning 1000 points across the activities and giving them a great chance of climbing the leader board.

We then had Countdown on Thursday which was very busy in our library. Three Houses jointly won – Aequitas, Caritas, and Unitas, with Veritas only just losing out on one of the letters' rounds.

What a week to be a Hurlingham pupil!

See below for scores!



Term 1

1 st	Aequitas	2650
2 nd	Unitas	2625
3 rd	Caritas	2500
4 th	Veritas	2225

Year 9 Parents' Evening

We are pleased to announce that we will be holding Parents' Evening for Year 9 in person, in the school hall on Thursday 1st December, from 4.30-7.00pm. During the evening, you will have the opportunity to meet with each of your child's teachers, to discuss their progress.

Appointments with teachers are offered on a first-come-first-served basis. However, we would be grateful if you could use our online form to let us know whether or not you are able to attend. You can access the form here: <https://forms.office.com/r/VnU4SCbfEK>

Students are expected to attend parents' evening with their parents. As this is a formal school occasion, they are expected to wear their uniform.



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Subject in the spotlight



This week's subject in the spotlight is.... Art with Ms Sullivan.

It's been another busy and very creative week in the art department!

We have had visits from two artists of the Bomb Factory Art Gallery in Chelsea.

Hamit Ucok and Farnaz. They have been working on portrait workshops with Year 9 and 10 during the past couple of weeks!

Year 7: This week Yr7 students have been learning the fundamentals of art and design: exploring the formal elements. Students have interpreted the work of modern artist David Hockney whilst being introduced to mark making, composition and colour theory. Students have learnt basic colour theory and watercolour painting skills. Next week students will be developing their knowledge on the formal elements to begin to create their own landscape paintings.

Year 8: This week Yr8 students have been developing their personal ideas whilst looking at the skull as a form of symbolism interpreted by many famous artist - past and present. Students have selected their own artist to research from a selection provided and are now creating their own design inspired by their art styles. The artists include designer Alexander McQueen, Leonard Da Vinci, Jean Michel Basquiat, Damien Hirst, Frida Kahlo and Pablo Picasso.

Year 9: This week Yr9 students have been developing their anatomical drawing skills, learning to accurately draw a proportionate face, whilst developing a secure understanding of tonal shading and mark making. Students have explored a range of photorealist, modern and traditional artists. Students will be putting their skills to the test later on this term to create a mixed media self-portrait - for their final project piece.

Year 10: This term Yr10 have been completing a series of skills workshops whilst working on their Natural Forms projects. Students have been making improvements to prior workshop pieces in lessons this week - responding to feedback provided in lessons in order to make improvements to their coursework project. The workshops include drawing with ink, biro, observational pencil studies, painting, and working with mixed media. Students will next develop personal ideas from own observational ideas and photos that they have collected/taken. They will realise their successes from the past term and demonstrate their best skills in their mock art exam in December.

Year 11: This term Yr11 are working towards creating a final idea to present for their GCSE Art personal themed coursework projects. Students were given a starting theme of, 'War and Conflict' and were asked to explore something personal to them within this theme. For example: 'The War on beauty standards', 'The War on cultural inequality'
This week students have been working independently, using a wide range of materials to experiment with.



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Mr Wilson's Commendations

As well as putting in a great performance during Drop-Down Day, our pupils also continued to work hard both in lessons and at home. Congratulations this week go to the following pupils, who made it to the top of our maths, science and English leader boards:

Top of the leader board for Sparx in Maths this week are:

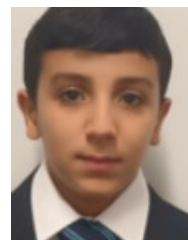
Year 7: Ashtian

Year 8: Yousuf

Year 9: Irfan

Year 10: Ayub

Year 11: Undram



Top of the leader board for Educake this week with most correct questions answered are:

Year 7: Evie

Year 8: Eris

Year 9: Matyas

Year 10: Abdirahman

Year 11: Alessandro



Top of the leader board for Sparx in English this week are:

Year 7: Peculiar

Year 8: Lorenzo

Year 9: Bo Wen



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KS4 Mocks

Mock exams for students in Year 10 and 11 begin next week. These exams are important and will help you to see how your child is performing in each subject. Year 10 and 11 students must make sure they are in school every day and that they get plenty of rest each night. You can find the revision manifests and exam timetables available [here](#). Good luck to all our students!

Parent survey

Thank you to everyone who has already completed our parent survey. There's still time to send in your views! Let us know what we do well and where you think we can improve here: <https://edurio.com/poll/GeKvR1> All entries are eligible for entry into a prize draw for a £25 Amazon voucher!



Key dates for weeks beginning 14th and 21st November

Description	Date	Time
Whole School Assembly	Monday 14 th November	08:30 - 9:00
No Year 7 enrichment– school finishes at 15:50 for all pupils	Monday 14 th November	-
KS4 mocks	Monday 14 th – Thursday 24 th November	08:25 - 15:30
Youth council drop in	Tuesday 15 th November	17:00 - 18:00
Year 7 conservation trip	Wednesday 16 th November	08:25 - 15:30
Parent forum	Thursday 24 th November	18:00 -19:00
Whole school inset – no school for pupils	Friday 25th November	All day



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