



DRAYTON MANOR HIGH SCHOOL

WEEKLY PARENT & CARER BULLETIN 14 OCTOBER– 18 OCTOBER 2024

KEY DATES FOR THE TERM AHEAD

Events	Dates
Autumn Art and Photography Competition	14/10/2024
Speakers for Schools	
Parent Event (6pm-7pm)	
Year 7 Singing Assembly	15/10/2024
Year 8 Singing Assembly	16/10/2024
Sixth Form Open Evening	17/10/2024
Sixth Form Wear Red to Give Racism The Red Card Day	18/10/2024
PTA Quiz and Curry Night	
Careers Talk - Met Police and Brunel University - Police Apprenticeship	21/10/2024
Mozartist Year 9 music trip (evening)	
Jamie's Farm Residential Trip	21-25/10/2024
French Institute Visit	22/10/2024
Year 7 Music Concert	23/10/2024
Art trip to the Wallace Collection	24/10/2024
Journalism Workshop	
HALF TERM BREAK	

1. SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD WITH THEIR MENTAL WELLBEING - PARENT EVENT

Save the date! We warmly invite parents/carers to join us in the new Sixth Form building on Tuesday 15 October from 6.00pm to 7.00pm for an evening focused on strategies and techniques to support children's mental wellbeing. This session will provide valuable insights to help you navigate your child's emotional needs. Please [sign up here](#) to confirm your attendance.

2. SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

We are delighted to host our Open Evening on Thursday, 17 October, a special occasion when we welcome prospective students to the school. Some of our students will have the opportunity to assist during the event, and we kindly ask for parental permission for their participation.

3. YEAR 13 SUCCESS EVENING RECAP

Thank you to all the Year 13 parents who attended our Success Evening on Wednesday, 9 October, at the Sixth Form Centre. It was a valuable session where we provided key information to help support your child through this pivotal year. The Sixth Form team covered important topics, including key dates, UCAS applications, student finance, and strategies for reinforcing revision skills at home. The evening featured presentations, a Q&A session, and an opportunity to meet the team over tea and coffee. Stay tuned for more details in our upcoming newsletter!

4. PTA QUIZ AND CURRY NIGHT FRIDAY 18 OCTOBER

Parents—especially Year 7 parents—are invited to a fun-filled quiz night of friendly competition, laughter, and great food! Enjoy a delicious curry supper, and feel free to bring your own drinks. Tickets are £12 per person, with all proceeds going to support Drayton Manor students. Please [click here](#) to sign up and here [to know more](#). Payment can be done to Student Reception by Monday, 14 October, or pay via Parent Pay. Kindly email PTA@draytonmanorhighschool.co.uk with any questions.

5. INTRODUCING THE PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT PASSPORT

We are delighted to announce an exciting new initiative aimed at enhancing the personal development of all students from Years 7 to 13 – the Personal Development Passport. Every student will receive their own passport, designed to support and reward their participation in a variety of activities that foster growth beyond the classroom while upholding our core values of Ambition, Character, and Civic Virtue. The Personal Development Passport will track and monitor each student's involvement in extracurricular activities, leadership opportunities, and community engagement. We look forward to seeing how our students embrace this new initiative and will share more details shortly.

6. SCHOOL BLOG

The school blog is a dynamic platform that will be regularly updated with articles about the latest happenings at our school, insightful educational resources, and other informative content designed to keep you in the loop and engaged with our school community. From student achievements and upcoming events to tips for supporting your child's learning at home, our blog aims to be your go-to source for all things related to our school. Stay connected and informed by visiting our blog regularly. Click [this link](#) and be sure to bookmark the page so you never miss an update. We look forward to sharing our school's journey with you and fostering an even stronger school community through this new platform.

YEAR 7 UPDATES:

7. SHOW MY HOMEWORK

We recognise that parents play an invaluable role in supporting students to complete their homework and Show My Homework provides transparency to make this process easier. [Please click on this link](#) to know how you can get started on Show My Homework.

8. AUTUMN TERM MENU 2024-2025

Our school caterers, Culinera, offer a wide variety of exciting dishes in the school canteen, ensuring there's something for everyone. The diverse tariff accommodates all budgets. To view the school's menu, [please click this link](#). We understand that it is important for Parents/Carers to know what their children are eating each day and so this link will support with it.

9. YEAR 7 PTA VOLUNTEER

The PTA is always on the lookout for volunteers! If any Year 7 parents are interested in helping, please email PTA@draytonmanorhighschool.co.uk to sign up and join the list of parental helpers and support.

SIXTH FORM AND YEAR 10

10. EXCITING OPPORTUNITY FOR YEAR 10, 12, AND 13 STUDENTS:

WINGS OF HOPE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS (WOHAA)

Kashaf from the Wings of Hope Achievement Awards (WOHAA) Programme recently presented our Year 10, 12, and 13 students with an incredible opportunity to develop key life skills through a social enterprise project. WOHAA is a student-led initiative that empowers young people to take ownership of their projects, exploring creativity and social enterprise. To learn more or to get involved, visit the [Wings of Hope website](#) and watch inspiring student projects in action.

ENRICHMENT, CLUBS AND TEAMS:

11. YEAR 7 CONCERT

On Wednesday 23 October at 5pm we will be hosting our annual Year 7 concert in the school hall. This event is an opportunity to celebrate the musical talents of our new students and will feature performances from the Year 7 choir, a handpicked group of students representing each tutor group, as well as instrumentalists and the two winning whole class performances from the Year 7 inter-tutor singing competition. Tickets are on sale to all Year 7 parents and can be purchased on ParentPay. A separate letter will be sent to the parents of all students performing on the night. We look forward to seeing you there.

12. INDIAN DRUMMING

We are delighted to add tabla and dhol drumming to our instrumental lesson offer from October half term. Lessons will initially be in small groups and be charged at £4 per lesson (£1.50 for students on Free School Meals). An Indian drumming ensemble will also run after school on a Monday from 3.30pm-4.30pm for all students taking lessons as well as those who learn outside of school. If you are interested in signing your child up for these lessons, please complete this [form](#). Lessons will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Please feel free to contact the school with any queries and a member of the music department will get in touch with you.

13. MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

Music and singing, is a huge part of what we do at Drayton Manor High School and there are several exciting opportunities coming up where students will be able to participate in singing events. On Tuesday 15 and Wednesday 16 October we will be holding our first singing assemblies for Year 7 and 8 students where the whole year group will stand up and perform a song they have been learning in their Shine or Music lessons. We also have the upcoming Year 7 inter-tutor singing competition as part of our House Music Festival in which all Year 7 tutor groups will perform their class song. Along with scoring points for their Houses, the winning tutor groups will perform in our Year 7 Music Concert at the end of term and get to attend a rewards trip in December. Please do encourage your children to participate in these performances.

14. FOOTBALL FIXTURE

Students involved in extra-curricular and enrichment football, please [see this list](#) of upcoming fixtures. As the season progresses, we will continue to update this list with additional dates, venues, and kick-off times. Stay informed and support your child's football journey by checking the schedule regularly!

15. ENRICHMENT

Students are encouraged to take part in a variety of activities designed to enhance their learning experience. Our Extra-Curricular Clubs run Monday to Friday, during break times, lunch periods, and after school. From PE clubs to jazz groups, these activities aim to support personal growth, skill development, and provide a well-rounded academic experience for your child. The full schedule of enrichment opportunities for the 2024-25 Academic Year can be found [here](#).

LIBRARY AND CAREERS:

16. CAREERS PROGRAMME SUPPORT

We are seeking parents and carers who are willing to volunteer their time to support our school's careers programme. This could involve delivering an assembly, giving a small group talk, or hosting a Q&A session about your area of expertise. We welcome speakers from all professions and industries! If you can assist, please contact adminoffice@draytonmanorhighschool.co.uk.

17. READING LIST

Our library offers a virtual portal where both parents and students can access our extensive reading list from the comfort of your home. Explore a wide selection of books and resources tailored for all reading levels and interests. Please take a moment to browse our collection by clicking this [link](#).

SAFEGUARDING, SAFETY, AND PASTORAL SUPPORT:

18. MEDICATION REMINDER

We would like to kindly remind parents that students are not permitted to carry medication on their person or in their bags. Any prescribed medication must be stored in the Welfare Room, where it can be administered with written parental consent.

19. MEDICAL NEEDS

Please ensure that the school is informed of any known medical conditions your child may have. Keeping us updated allows us to provide the best possible care and support for your child during the school day.

20. PARKING SAFETY REMINDER OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL

For the safety of our students and staff, we kindly request that parents avoid stopping or parking on the yellow zigzag lines outside the school. Keeping these areas clear is crucial for maintaining good visibility, especially during busy drop-off and pick-up times when many students are crossing the road. We also ask for your support in ensuring safe parking at the end of the day. Please do not park in a manner that obstructs visibility for children. Parking on the yellow lines is strictly prohibited, and senior staff will ask you to move if necessary. If you need to drop off your child closer to the school for medical or other reasons, please contact us in advance for assistance.

21. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: WINTER COATS AND JUMPERS

What type of coat is allowed as part of the uniform?

Students are required to wear plain black coats without any logos. Kindly note that we do not encourage parents to purchase expensive coats—affordable options can be found at popular retail stores such as Primark, Tesco (F&F), and ASDA (George).

What colour jumper should my child wear with their blazer?

Students must wear a navy-blue jumper with their blazer. Please note that the PE jumper is not to be worn with the full school uniform. You can view the full uniform list by clicking this [link](#). For more details, please visit our website [here](#).

22. TOP TIPS

Today's top tips from the National College is about small, simple actions that can help protect children's wellbeing when they are on the internet

Looking After Your **WELLBEING ONLINE**

We all know that taking care of our minds and bodies is essential to keep us feeling happy and healthy. The thing is, we spend so much of our time online these days that it's also important that we remember to look after ourselves in the digital world, too. Our poster has got some simple but useful tips for supporting your wellbeing while you're gaming, on social media or just using the internet.



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