

# Haydock Sports College



## Newsletter March 2010

Dear Parents and Guardians,

With the start of this term being delayed by the appalling weather conditions we have all experienced increased pressure trying to catch up. As a result, this has been an exceedingly busy term and I am sure that staff and students are looking forward to a well earned break. I am pleased to offer you the following information:

### Academic Review Days

It was pleasing to see so many parents at our Academic Review Days recently. We trust that you found your meetings productive and thank you for your continued support. This partnership can only have a positive impact on the outcomes for our students.

### Uniform

Our students are much safer and also look much smarter with the new ties. Please may I remind you, as we approach the Summer months, that cardigans should be navy blue and not black and that appropriate shoes should be worn for school, not boots or open back sandals. Further clarification regarding uniform including hairstyles, jewellery and make-up can be clearly seen in your child's planner.

### Year 11

As I write there are only 26 school days left to the start of the most important examinations of our students' lives. Many of our Year 11s benefitted from an excellent revision weekend at Barnstondale in March and we expect even more to take advantage of our Easter Revision School. Please be aware that many subjects will be offering after school study support in the Summer term.

### Easter Revision School Plans

Easter revision school for Year 11 operates on **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March**. Many students have benefitted from this in the past and we hope that you will encourage your son/daughter to attend at this very important time. This year we are offering Art, ICT, History, Maths, Technology and P.E. sessions.

You will be aware that we do not send our students home to revise alone during the examination period but expect them to remain in College and be involved in a programme of organised revision. **This is not enough to secure the best grades in GCSEs.** If your child has not yet started a programme of revision at home it is time to encourage him/her to do so as exams are fast approaching.

### Examination Dates

Please note examination dates below and please support us by encouraging your child to revise thoroughly for these tests.

Year 7	Week Commencing	4 <sup>th</sup> May	} Provisional: confirmation
Year 8	Week Commencing	10 <sup>th</sup> May	} to follow
Year 9	Week Commencing	12 <sup>th</sup> April	
Year 10	Week Commencing	10 <sup>th</sup> May	
Year 11	French GCSE orals	28 <sup>th</sup> April	
Year 11	Spanish GCSE orals	5 <sup>th</sup> May	
Year 11	Music GCSE	5 <sup>th</sup> May	
Year 11	GCSE exams	18 <sup>th</sup> May to 30 <sup>th</sup> June inclusive	

Please be aware that these examinations cannot be taken at any other time. Should students miss an examination without very good reason, they will be liable for the fee. Further information including a personalised timetable and precise information about examinations and after school classes will be sent out to you immediately after Easter.

### Holidays during term time

You may be aware that we currently restrict the authorisation of holidays in school time. Next year we plan to alter this ruling to be in line with some other St.Helens secondary schools.

We recognise that holidays are far more affordable during term time but we cannot condone the detrimental effect that these absences have on children's progress. As a result we have agreed that from Sept '09 we will no longer authorise any holidays in school time. In the event that there are very exceptional circumstances e.g. a parent cannot take a holiday at any other time due to work commitments, an application for authorisation should be made and evidenced appropriately.

May I remind you that any unauthorised absence is subject to the scrutiny of EWS and is liable to a fixed penalty fine or prosecution.

### Holiday Dates

#### Remainder of 2009/10

Open	Close
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2010	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May 2010 Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2010 (Bank Holiday)
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2010	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2010

#### 2010/11

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2010 (all years)	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2010 Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2010 (Training Day)
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2010	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2010
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2011	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2011
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2011	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2011
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2011	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2011 Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April, 2011 (Good Friday) Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2011 (Easter Monday) Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2011 (Bank Holiday)
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2011	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2011 Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2011 (Training Day) Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2011 (Training Day)

Training Days: Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2010, 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011

### Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> August:

**GCSE results published for pupils.**

### **Dropping students off at College**

May I remind parents that it is illegal to stop on the yellow zig-zags at the front of school. Please drop your children off further down the road to avoid endangering others and encourage them to use the pedestrian crossing where necessary.

### **Health and medical**

For your child's safety please ensure that you inform College of any updated medical advice. We are pleased to accept the support of the Primary Health Care Trust with school nurse 'drop-in' facility on Friday lunchtimes in the Inclusion area and Clinic in a Box which provides sexual health advice for Years 9 – 11 on request on Mondays.

### **Mobile Phones**

Despite repeated warnings, a minority of students are still having their mobile telephones confiscated. Please discourage your son/daughter from bringing such telephones into College. Should a student bring a phone into College for emergency use it must be switched off between 8.40 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. In the event of a parent having to make emergency contact with a student during the College day please telephone the school office and resist telephoning their child directly as this can be very disruptive.

### **Piercings**

May I remind you that jewellery is not to be worn at College. Students who wish to have their ears pierced should therefore wait until the start of the summer holidays in order that earrings can be left in place over the 6 week period. We do not permit students to wear piercings covered by a plaster.

### **Parent Governor Vacancy**

We are currently seeking the support of a parent who would be prepared to act as a Governor and support the College's decision making. Any interested parents please contact me through the College. Further information regarding becoming a parent governor can be found on our web site.

### **Last Day of Term Arrangements**

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March** is our last day of term and the children will finish at **3.00 pm**.

School commences again on **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April, at 8.40 am**.

### **Car Boot Sale**

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. on the front car park.

Pitches available £5 if pre booked or £8 on the day.

Please ring College on 01744 678833 during school hours to make a booking or for further information.

### **Friends of Haydock Sports College**

Any parents wishing to be involved with the Friends of Haydock Sports College please contact Lesley Rowe or Sandra Taylor at College during College hours. This is a recently formed committee and is open to anyone who can spare some time and ideas. Last year we raised in excess of £1,000 and we would welcome any ideas from parents to fund raise.

### **Climbing Club – Saturday mornings**

We offer a Climbing Club on Saturday mornings at the Leisure Centre for all children age 8 years to 16 years, at £5 a session from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00. To take advantage of this opportunity please enrol on the Saturday morning or telephone 01744 677505 after 5.00 p.m weekdays for further information. Our Fitness Suite is also available for teenagers and parents during evenings and weekends.

## Easter Activity Event

Haydock Sports College is offering an exciting 2 day indoor and outdoor sports event over the Easter holidays. This event is open to all Year 5, 6 and 7 students and is taking place on Wednesday 7th April and Thursday 8th April. The arrangements are as follows :

- Arrive at 9.30 am for registration
- Start 10.00 am until 3.00 pm
- Cost £15 per child for 2 days!
- Please bring a change of clothes and a packed lunch/drink with you.

If you require further information please call our Sports Hall on **01744 677505**.

## Sale of School Uniform and PE Kit

Available at all times from 8.00 a.m to 4.30 p.m. Mornings during the holidays.

School blazers with badge: All sizes £25 Clip on ties: £5

### PE kit

Polo shirts - £10      Shorts - £6.50      Socks - £4.50      Rugby shirts - £16      Sweatshirts - £10

## Website Launch

Our new website is now up and running and can be accessed on [www.haydocksc.org.uk](http://www.haydocksc.org.uk). We believe that it is much more user friendly with easy to navigate sections for all of our school community. There is a wealth of information and reports on a variety of school events contained within it and we would be very pleased to have your comments.

**Fair Processing Notice** is available on the website.

## Trust

Many thanks to all parents who responded to the Trust consultation. The Governors are currently considering all responses and will make a decision whether to proceed early next term.

## Staffing

We have welcomed Mrs L Scott to our History Department as cover for Mrs Finnigan who is now on maternity leave. Mrs Gillian Bennett has taken over as our new librarian following Mrs Beswick's departure. We are pleased to have the services of Mrs Hilary Duncan and Miss Lisa Taylor who are supporting the SEN Department this term.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S R Fullerton, Headteacher.