



HOE VALLEY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

COURTESY ○ INTEGRITY ○ RESILIENCE ○ COMMUNITY ○ LEADERSHIP ○ ENTHUSIASM



Student Spotlight

We are incredibly proud of our GCSE results this year. Our students have done exceptionally well, and their hard work, dedication and perseverance have truly paid off. A special mention goes to Jenaya, who achieved an outstanding nine Grade 9s and a Grade 7 – an exceptional achievement. We are extremely proud of all our students and wish them every success in their next steps.



A special shout-out to Megan B, who has earned the most House Points in her year group! Her consistent effort, positive attitude and contribution to school life have really stood out. Well done, Megan! 🍌



Welcome to Our September Newsletter

A very warm welcome to all our students, families and staff as we begin another exciting academic year at Hoe Valley School.

A special welcome to our new Year 7 students, as well as those joining us in other year groups. We hope you are settling in well and already beginning to feel part of our Hoe Valley community. To all our returning students, it has been wonderful to welcome you back and see the school full of energy once again.

The year ahead promises to be an exciting one, filled with opportunities to Learn, Thrive and Belong. We look forward to seeing our students take on new challenges, discover new interests, build friendships and make memories together.

Our international opportunities have also continued to grow over the summer. A group of Hoe Valley students embarked on an incredible two-week cultural and educational experience in China, visiting Chengdu and Beijing as part of our growing international partnership. From exploring new places and experiencing Chinese culture to developing their understanding of life beyond the UK, it was a fantastic opportunity for our students to broaden their horizons.

You can read all about their Chinese adventure later in this newsletter, alongside some fantastic photographs from their trip.

Here's to a brilliant new academic year at Hoe Valley School!



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Year Group News

UPCOMING EVENTS

- * **Year 7 Meet the Tutor**
30 September 2026
- * **Open Evening**
08 October 2026
- * **INSET Day**
09 October 2026
- * **Year 11 Practical Exams – Pt 2**
12–16 October 2026
- * **Year 13 Practical Exams**
12–16 October 2026
- * **Half Term**
17–30 October
- * **Start of Autumn 2 Term**
02 November 2026
- * **Year 11 Exams**
02–13 November
- * **Year 13 Exams**
02–13 November



Year 7 Drama Lesson

* Year 7 Update

Welcome to Secondary School: A Fantastic Start for Year 7!

We have been delighted by how brilliantly our new Year 7 students have settled into life at Hoe Valley. They have quickly adapted to new timetables, confidently navigated the school and established positive routines. Staff have been impressed by their enthusiasm, polite manners and willingness to get involved, with many students already earning House Points for their hard work and positive contributions.

We look forward to welcoming parents and carers to our Meet the Tutor Evening on Wednesday 30 September, providing an opportunity to hear how your child has settled in and meet their form tutor.

We are incredibly proud of Year 7 and thank parents and carers for their continued support in making such a positive start to secondary school.



* Year 8 Update

It has been a fantastic start back for Year 8, with pupils settling in really well to the new school year, and telling stories of the summer that has been. It was also great to see many parents at the information evening earlier in September, to remind and update on important information for the year ahead. If you missed the evening, the slides can be found here. [KS3 Information Evening 2026-2027](#)

Year 8 becomes a really important year, with GCSE options being launched in November, which then will form the basis of discussions around parents evening and a GCSE taster day in the new year. Students have started to have conversations about options which is fantastic to hear and really inspiring that students are thinking already about further study options.

* Year 9 Update

Year 9 have made a fantastic start to the new school year and have settled well into beginning their GCSE courses. Starting GCSEs is an important step, and the year group have approached it with real enthusiasm and a positive attitude, both in lessons and around school.

It has been particularly encouraging to see students developing greater independence. Many are becoming more organised, taking responsibility for their own learning, and showing



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Year Group News Continued...

* Year 9 Update continued

real accountability for the way they present themselves in school, from their uniform and punctuality to their conduct around the building. These are habits that will serve them well over the next three years.

Year 9 are a lively and friendly group, and it has been a pleasure to see so many smiling faces each day. I'm looking forward to watching this positivity continue to grow and to seeing the year group flourish throughout their first year of GCSE study. Thank you to parents and carers for your continued support at home; it makes a real difference.

* Year 10 Update

The vision for Year 10 this year is "everything lost can be found again except for time wasted" and it seems from the reports I am receiving from Year 10 teachers that there definitely appears to be more urgency, which is fantastic. This is the year when I often see a greater sense of maturity from the pupils and that is why towards the end of the year we open up leadership opportunities through our prefect programme. We also have work experience which, although at the end of the year, it is right to start having these conversations to try and plan early so there isn't a mad rush. So much is happening this year that I look forward to updating as the terms develop. Thank you as always for your support.

* Year 11 Update

Year 11 have had a busy start to the year and are now beginning to think about their next steps after GCSEs. Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our Year 11 Information Evening. We hope you found it useful and that it gave you a clearer idea of what to expect over the coming year.

This week, students have also heard from Guildford College, Woking College and SJB, with Brooklands College visiting in a few weeks. Interventions have now started across all subjects to support students with their exam preparation. Please check your child's EduLink for details of Maths and English interventions, which will take place during PSHE, Core PE and Independent Study slots. GCSE option subject interventions will be listed in the Clubs section, so please check this regularly.

With mocks fast approaching, and some practical mock exams already underway, it is important that students make the most of every lesson and keep up with their revision. Please support your child by ensuring they are in school and on time every day, attend all lessons and complete the work and revision expected of them.

Year 11 can be a challenging year, but the effort and habits developed now will make a real difference. We look forward to supporting them throughout the year and seeing them achieve their best.



Year 7 Music Lesson



Year 7 Drama Lesson





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READ ALL ABOUT IT!

— SUBJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Maths

It has been a fantastic start to the new academic year in Maths, with students settling into their lessons really well. Our Year 7 students have been getting to grips with statistics and data, developing their skills in interpreting and presenting information. Meanwhile, our Year 11 students are working hard and preparing for their first set of mock examinations, building confidence and revising key skills and knowledge. We are really pleased with the positive attitude and effort being shown across the department!



Year 7 Maths Lesson



Year 11 Science Lesson



Science

Year 11 have been putting their knowledge of sound waves into practice with a hands-on experiment. Working in pairs, students used two wooden planks to create a sharp sound and investigated how long it took for the sound wave to travel to a wall and return as an echo. They measured the time taken for the sound to travel and used their results to explore the relationship between distance, time and the speed of sound.

A great opportunity to turn the theory from the classroom into real-world Physics!



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Partner school - China Visit

An Unforgettable Journey to China

This summer, a group of Hoe Valley students embarked on an incredible two-week cultural and educational experience in China, visiting Chengdu and Beijing as part of our growing international partnership.

From the moment they arrived, our students embraced every opportunity to experience Chinese culture, language and daily life. In Chengdu, students took part in a fantastic range of activities, including martial arts, traditional printmaking, sports and cultural workshops, while also having the opportunity to meet and learn alongside Chinese students. The group then travelled to Beijing, where they explored some of China's most iconic landmarks, including the Forbidden City, the Great Wall of China and the Temple of Heaven. These experiences brought their learning to life and gave students a much deeper understanding of China's history, culture and people.

One of the highlights of the trip was the opportunity for students to develop friendships with young people from our partner schools. Despite language and cultural differences, students quickly discovered how much they had in common. Their confidence, independence and willingness to try new things grew enormously throughout the trip. We were particularly proud of the way our students represented Hoe Valley School. They showed curiosity, resilience, kindness and respect throughout the programme and were excellent ambassadors for our school and our international community.

The trip was not simply a visit to another country; it was an opportunity for our students to become global citizens, broaden their horizons and create memories and friendships that will stay with them for years to come.

A huge thank you to our students, families, staff and Chinese partner schools for making such a memorable experience possible. We are already looking forward to building on this exciting international partnership in the future!





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China Presentation Evening

Our China Presentation Evening was a wonderful opportunity to come together and celebrate the students' experiences from the trip. Students spoke confidently about their favourite memories, the friendships they made and what they had learned from visiting China. It was lovely to see them sharing their experiences with parents, grandparents, staff and guests and for everyone to be able to personally thank Mr Yang for his exceptional care and organisation during the visit to China.

The evening was made even more special by the delicious food prepared by our chef and his team, who worked incredibly hard to provide such a warm welcome and excellent service. It was a very enjoyable evening and a fitting celebration of a memorable trip.





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Could You Host a Student from China?

Could You Host a Student from China?

Following the huge success of this year's visit from our partner school in China, we hope to welcome another group of Chinese students to Hoe Valley School next summer.

We are now looking for families who would be interested in hosting one or two students for approximately one week.

No knowledge of Chinese is required! Our visitors are keen to practise their English, and our staff will provide full guidance and support throughout the visit. Host families simply provide a warm welcome, a bed, breakfast and an evening meal, while students spend the school day taking part in lessons and organised activities.

This year's exchange was an enormous success. Our students formed fantastic friendships, families embraced the experience wholeheartedly, and our visitors left with wonderful memories of their time at Hoe Valley. We are excited to build on this success and would love to welcome even more host families next year.

If you think your family might be interested, or if you would like to find out more before making a decision, please contact Mrs Boniface via the school office.

There is absolutely no obligation at this stage, we would simply love to hear from families who may be interested in being part of this exciting international opportunity.





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A message from the Head Teacher – Ms Owoh



A very warm welcome to our new Year 7 students and to all our returning students. It has been wonderful to see the school come alive again as we begin a new academic year.

We look forward to a year filled with opportunities to Learn, Thrive and Belong, and to celebrating all that our students achieve along the way.

Here's to an exciting year ahead!

AWE Apprenticeships: Insights into STEM Careers for Parents & Students

Date: Wednesday 30th September

Time: 6-7pm

Venue: Online

- An Introduction to AWE and the STEM Career Pathways on Offer
- A breakdown of the September 2027 apprenticeship opportunities, including roles and entry requirements
- A first hand journey from a current AWE apprentice
- A parent's perspective, hearing from an AWE employee who is also a parent of an AWE apprentice
- Guidance on the application support available through Pathway CTM
- The chance to ask questions live

Follow the link to learn more and to register.

<https://pathwayctm.com/event/awe-apprenticeships-insights-into-stem-careers-for-parents-students/>

How to Write Your Great First CV

Date: Tuesday 6th October

Time: 6.30-7.30pm

Venue: Online

A FREE interactive online workshop to help young people write a CV that really sells their skills....and helps them get a Great First Job!

What it will cover:

- How to write a great Summary Statement
- What order to put the CV in (and why that can sometimes change)
- How to lay out qualifications
- Why part time jobs are really important...and how to present them
- Is anyone interested in your interests? Of course they are!
- What to do about references
- What design templates to use.....and which ones to avoid

Follow the link for more information and to register:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/how-to-write-your-great-first-cv-tickets-2000009717905?aff=odcleoeventsincollection>

Inspire the Next Generation – Get Involved

Hoe Valley School has now been hosting a Careers Fair since 2024. It helps deliver inspiring encounters with higher and further education, apprenticeships and employees and employers. This all helps reinforce our aim as a school to raise aspirations, unlock potential and broaden students horizons regarding all the different options open to them in the future.

We are always looking for new and varied ranges of employers to participate in this activity. If as a parent you are interested in attending the next Careers Fair as an exhibitor, I would be delighted to speak to you. Please can you contact Sandra Cox at careers@hoevalleyschool.org.



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MITSkills Open Day

Date: Wednesday 21st October

Time: 10am-12 noon

Venue: 12-13, Camphill Industrial Estate, West Byfleet KT14 6EW

MITSkills (www.mitskills.com) is hosting an Apprenticeship Open Day. Working with their partners, MITSkills has successfully placed thousands of apprentices with hundreds of different employers.

The day will be focussing on their apprenticeships. This is a great opportunity for students to find out about apprenticeships, explore the facilities and try some hands-on activities.

Interest in previous open days has proved to be very popular and has resulted in MITSkills delivering a T-Levels Programme providing learners with the entry level skills for the electrical sector, coupled with work experience with local employers as a pre-apprenticeship programme, plus a pre-apprenticeship programme for the aspiring Motor Vehicle mechanics of tomorrow.

Open Days are designed to give prospective learners, and parents, an inside look at how they deliver career-ready training:

- Tour their facilities: Walk through our industry-standard trade workshops, automotive bays, and practical learning spaces.
- Meet the tutors: Talk one-on-one with experienced trade professionals who teach our courses and manage our apprenticeship programmes.
- Explore career pathways: Learn about eligibility, entry requirements, and career progression across construction trades, engineering, automotive, and administration.

Follow the link for the flyer:

<https://padlet.com/surreycareersh1/surrey-careers-hub-resources-board-gab8kgsoxl85qy5j/wish/e9YpQNN9zEyAQxjM>



Metro Bank Work Experience Programme

Metro Bank's free virtual work experience programme is now live on TalentXP, giving young people across the UK the chance to explore careers in banking and financial services.

Designed for young people aged 13 or over, the self-guided programme can be completed on any device, anywhere and self paced. Across four interactive modules participants will:

- Discover their stores, culture and Relationship Banking approach
- Build financial literacy and budgeting skills
- Explore retail and business banking
- Learn about fraud prevention and responsible lending

Everyone who completes the experience will receive an official Metro Bank digital certificate and badge to showcase their achievement.

Closing date for participation is 17th November 2026

Follow the link to find out more:

https://www.talentxp.co.uk/programmes/metro-bank-work-experience-programme-26/edc3b8c2-bfbb-44d8-ad5c-e94c141e351b?utm_source=Social&utm_medium=Organic&utm_campaign=Linkedin



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Specsaver Bright Stars Scholarship

Bright Stars University Scholarship for future optometry students

Combining financial support, real-world experience and a clear path towards a rewarding career, Bright Stars could help you take your first step into optometry. It's an opportunity to develop your skills, grow your confidence and start building the foundations for a successful career from day one.

Register your interest and, once you've applied for an optometry degree, you'll be invited to apply for the Bright Stars Scholarship.

You'll need a recommendation from a teacher, tutor or someone who can speak about your potential and commitment.

If you're successful, we'll aim to match you with a local Specsavers practice where you can gain valuable part-time experience alongside your studies. You'll also receive financial support throughout your degree, up to a total of £10,000.

By the time you graduate, you'll have both the qualifications and real-world experience to help kick-start your career in optometry.

Weblink for more information

<https://join.specsavers.com/uk/specsavers-bright-stars-scholarship>

Weblink to register Interest:

<https://specsavers.avature.net/brightstarsscholarship>



Guildford Careers Fair

Date: Friday 30 October

Time: 10.00am- 2.00pm

Venue: G Live, Guildford

The Guildford Careers Fair gives the chance to explore a wide variety of organisations and job roles. Attendees can engage in direct conversations with employers to gain valuable insights into their company culture, benefits, and hiring requirements.

Exhibitors typically hail from a diverse array of sectors, including finance, education, sales and marketing, motoring, human resources, IT, healthcare, tourism, commercial real estate, biochemistry, electronics, manufacturing, hospitality, social work, events management, retail, job boards, supermarkets, banking, and pharmaceuticals.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/guildford-careers-fair-tickets-1421903123519?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Lloyds bank has a virtual event on Tuesday 6th October at 5-6pm. This event is aimed at years 10-13, for any student considering an apprenticeship, work experience or graduate programme in the world of banking or finance
<https://mailchi.mp/young-professionals/insight-to-lloyds-banking-group-careers-event-for-students>



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Pre-Loved School Uniform

We have a selection of pre-loved uniform items available to purchase. Please see the price list below and contact for availability. Uniform@hoevalleyschool.org

Blazer - £10.00	Sports Polo - £4.00
Sports Bag - £7.00	Shirt - £3.00
¼ Zip Fleece - £5.00	Tie - £2.00
Skirt - £5.00	Jumper - £4.00
Trousers - £5.00	Shorts - £4.00

Vacancies

Join our team and help shape bright futures; click here for vacancies



Useful Links



School Calendar

<https://www.hoevalleyschool.org/calendar/?calid=4&pid=7&viewid=5>

School Website

<https://www.hoevalleyschool.org/>

Online Forms

<https://www.hoevalleyschool.org/parents-and-carers/forms-and-useful-links>



House Points Leaderboard



PHOENIX - 2,040



SIRIUS - 2,181



ANDROMEDA - 1,958



ORION - 1,959



POLARIS - 1,940



PEGASUS -

Club & Activity Corner

Get Involved!

- [Click here for the Hoe Valley School - Autumn Enrichment Timetable](#)



'Open 2 Music' at Hoe Valley!

'Open 2 Music' is an instrumental music service providing tuition in schools since 2007 and we are honoured to be at Hoe Valley School!

*** FREE TASTER LESSONS***

**Weeks commencing:
28 September & 5 October!**

We offer all pupils **Free Taster Lessons**, so if your child is interested in starting then please get in touch to register your interest, we will then book your child in for their **FreeTaster Lesson!**

Learning goes far beyond music

Many research studies show learning to play an instrument can help build self-esteem, as well as increasing feelings of well-being and reducing feelings of stress and anxiety.

Choose from the instruments below and we will contact you to arrange a FREE lesson. If you would like to continue with lessons after that, prices are £13 a week for 20 mins, £17 a week for 30 mins, and lessons can usually start straight away!

PIANO DRUMS GUITAR VOCALS VIOLIN

Book now via our website:
www.music-in-education.co.uk

BOOK A FREE TASTER LESSON TODAY!



**SURREY YOUTH OFFER
SEND PROJECT**



**ADDRESS: WOKING YOUTH ARTS CENTRE, TRINITY ROAD, KNAPHILL, WOKING GU21
2SY**

TIMES: 6.30 – 8.30 PM WEDNESDAY

**OPEN TO YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OR
DISABILITIES AGED 12 TO 25 YEARS.**

**AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SEND TO BUILD FRIENDSHIPS AND
SOCIALISE WITH THEIR PEERS. IT OFFERS A SPACE TO ENJOY PROJECTS AND
ACTIVITIES SUCH AS ARTS AND CRAFTS, SPORT, GAMES, LOCAL COMMUNITY
EVENTS, AND LEARN NEW SKILLS.**

**FOR THOSE THAT WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH
AWARD SCHEME THIS IS ALSO AVAILABLE THROUGH SURREY YOUTH OFFER.**

**THE SEND PROJECT IS RUN BY PROFESSIONALLY TRAINED YOUTH WORKERS AND
SUPPORTED BY VOLUNTEERS WHO HOLD ENHANCED DBS CHECKS.**

**YOUNG PEOPLE REQUIRE A REFERRAL INTO THE SEND PROJECT, REFERRALS CAN BE
MADE BY YOUNG PEOPLE THEMSELVES, PARENTS, CAMHS, GP'S, CHILDREN'S
SERVICES, PARTNER AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL:

HANNAH JONES, WORKER IN CHARGE

**HANNAH.JONES1@SURREYCC.GOV.UK (WORKING HOURS: WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
ONLY)**

OR CONTACT

AMIT ARBEL, SENIOR YOUTH WORKER

07805689316

AMIT.ARBEL@SURREYCC.GOV.UK

**ALTERNATIVELY RETURN THE ATTACHED REFERRAL FORM TO EITHER OF THE EMAIL
ADDRESS.**



YOUR SCHOOL HAS BEEN ADOPTED

by your local Everyone Active Centre

WHAT IS THE ADOPT A SCHOOL PROGRAMME?

Everyone Active's Adopt a School programme is a brilliant opportunity for both Everyone Active and local Schools to work together in an effort to get the local community more active.

WHAT IS AVAILABLE TO YOU? *

During the 2 week period that your school is adopted, a variety of perks will be available to **parents/guardians, school pupils & school employees**, these will include the following:

FREE Swimming for School Pupils (Aged 10 & under)

FREE Junior Gym & Swimming for Pupils (Aged 11-15)

FREE Membership for Parent/Guardians (Aged 16+)

FREE Membership for School Employees (Aged 16+)

*Please note, the offers may vary by centre depending on the facilities available at your local centre.

Your adopting centre:

Woking Sportsbox
Egley Rd, Woking GU22 0AF

01483 730 965

Scan here
for more
information on
the programme:



everyone
ACTIVE



RECRUITING UNDER 14 BOYS

ARE YOU IN
YEAR 8 OR 9...
WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY
BASKETBALL AT PREM LEVEL?



TRAINING AT
WOKING



PLEASE CONTACT
wokingblackhawks1@gmail.com



GREAT TEAM

AND WE WERE AWARDED
**SOUTH EAST
CLUB OF THE YEAR**
★★★★★

— PLAY / DEVELOP / BELONG —



EVERYONE CAN JOIN THE GAME

JUNIOR BASKETBALL

11 - 15 Year Olds

Progression into local clubs available with elite coaching provided by Coach Costas

**Every Monday (Term Time)
6pm - 7pm**

**Woking Sportsbox
Egley Road
GU22 0AF**



| **everyone**
ACTIVE