

The Bishop's Stortford High School

Parental Bulletin



Wednesday, 18th May 2022

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Whole School

Meat-Free Mondays

Following lots of great work from both our student council and subsequently our Climate Change reps, we will be launching 'Meat-Free Mondays' on Monday 23rd May. We have put a large focus on educating the students on the crucial issue of climate change and sustainability, encouraging them to take greater responsibility for protecting *their* environment. In addition, we've made significant efforts to reduce waste and improve the amount and variety of recycling we do in school, to emphasize the importance of playing our part in helping to protect the planet. Although this may not be every student's preference, we hope they appreciate the importance of making small sacrifices and the need to change habits for everyone's benefit. It would really help if you could talk to your son/daughter about the importance of reducing the amount of meat we consume and encourage them to have an open mind about the different food options available on Mondays.

Warm weather

On days when the weather is forecast to be hot, students are given permission to remove their blazers/jackets during the course of the day. As the temperature tends to be much cooler at the start of the day, they will still be required to wear their blazer to school in the morning and will be notified by their form tutor of any decision to permit removal during the day. This prevents students choosing to wear non-uniform items as an alternative to a blazer. They are still expected to maintain the usual high standards with the rest of their uniform. Your support with this is much appreciated.

Mr Reeve, Headteacher

Instrumental Music Lessons

The governors have approved an increase in the cost to parents of instrumental music lessons for the academic year 2022-23. The new rate will be £17.50 per 30-minute lesson, an increase of £0.50 from the current rate. A term of 11 lessons will now cost £192.50. **Mr Emery**

Library

Did you know... Reading for 6 minutes a day reduces stress by 68%.

ePlatform offers over two thousand titles for students to choose from, browse here:

<https://tbshsuk.wheelers.co/>

Students can also browse titles available in the school library here:

<https://uk.accessit.online/thb03/#!dashboard>

Debating and Public Speaking

Sponsorship

Hopefully you will have read, on the school website and in the local paper, of the school's many successes in debating and public speaking. In 2021 we were runners up out of around 200 teams in the English-Speaking Union Mace, the oldest and probably most prestigious interschool competition. Results last term confirmed our standing as one of the leading debating schools in the East of England and one of very few non-selective state establishments in the country to reach International Finals Day at both Oxford and Cambridge Universities. TBSHS is the only local school that competes regularly in these national debating competitions.

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Since last September no fewer than 34 students have represented the school in debating and/or public speaking contests and we are determined to maintain, and even extend, our participation in the future. However, all these competitions cost money - entry fees for the past 'season' totalled £750 and, as I am you are aware, funding for schools is desperately short. We would therefore welcome any offers of sponsorship, from parents or local businesses, to support this very worthwhile activity. If you would like to help, or just find out further details, please contact anthony.fraser@tbshs.org.

As parents seldom get the opportunity to see their sons and daughters debating (it's not quite the same as a family argument!), we are hoping to run a **Family Debating Evening** in July, probably in the last week of term. Last time we held such an event we had a Parents vs Students debate, but this time we'd like to try an inter-family debate, with each side consisting of two members of the same family, one of whom is a current student at the school. The other family member could be an elder sibling, parent or even grandparent. If you think you might like to take part, please contact anthony.fraser@tbshs.org.

Thank you, A.D Fraser

Public Health Nursing

Please click [here](#) for the latest School Nursing Service newsletter.

Sixth Form

Year 13 Post-18

Date	Subject	Notes
20 May 2 days left	Student Finance Deadline Students starting courses Sept/Oct	More information: here . Do not need to have made choices. Do not apply if have applied for deferred entry in 2023. Applications can be made after this date but it is no longer guaranteed that it will be processed in time for start of term
9 June	Accepting UCAS Offers Deadline Students need to make their Firm and Insurance choices by this date or lose all their offers.	Still 60 students to do this. Make sure it is done before getting heads down in exams. More information: Replying to Offers . <u>UCAS NEXT STEPS</u>

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Year 12 Post-18

Date	Subject	Notes
7 June	UCAS Apply Education UCAS process explained and registrations started	Although UCAS portal opens earlier, students must wait until this education session to start a UCAS application
13 June	Tutor Feedback on 1st Draft PS	Students should receive feedback from their PS reviewer
13 -17 June	Gateway Exams	Study Leave
20 – 24 June	Work Experience	No lessons in school
29 June	2nd Draft PS Deadline	Students to submit 2 nd draft PS
Summer Term	Post-18 Visits/Tasters University Open Days, industry tasters and insight events	Check events in Careers Notices and Bulletins. Requests for absence to be made in advance to Mr Stark or Mr Munro. Also use summer weekends and holidays to visit the localities of universities/employers to get a feel for the environment Uni Open Days Calendar

Year 10

Year 10 Work Experience

Nearly all students now have a Private Placement or a placement allocated by school. In either case and if not done so already, it is essential that students make contact with their prospective employer to reconfirm and clarify details of their placement; first-day arrangements, timings, dress code etc. Including the half-term break, **work experience is just three-and-a-half weeks away**. Many thanks.

Careers, Opportunities & Competitions



*There are many more opportunities for Years 12 & 13 in the
6th Form Bulletin - issued every 2 weeks by Mrs Price.*

***Please note, students can find the careers section of the
parent bulletin in the 'Others' area of the Q Pool File***

[Click here](#) for this week's Careers News

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PTFA



**TBSHS Golf Umbrella
Only £22**
(You'll need one at Jobbers Wood!)