



Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you have all had a lovely week and are enjoying the warm weather. Please see below an update from this week and some key messages:

London Marathon

We are delighted to congratulate Miss Buckley and Mrs Wade on their fantastic achievement of completing the London Marathon. This is an incredible accomplishment, and we are extremely proud of their dedication, resilience, and determination.

They ran in support of two charities that Hodgson proudly supports, making their achievement even more meaningful. We would like to thank them for representing our school community so positively and for raising awareness and funds for such worthwhile causes.

If anyone would like to support their fundraising efforts, please see the **donation links below**.

Brian House

https://www.justgiving.com/page/rach-ony?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=WA

Doherty's Destiny

https://www.justgiving.com/page/mrswadelindonmarathon?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=WA

PE updates from this week

Hodgson Mini Marathon

Well done to everyone who took part in the Mini Marathon on Monday this week in Years 7 to 9. The students were amazing and even Mrs Wade joined in with them, despite running the London Marathon on the Sunday!

The event was designed to be fully inclusive, allowing all students to participate at a level that suits them—whether striving for a personal best, jogging with friends, or simply enjoying being active outdoors.

A huge thank you to Mr Webb and all staff who helped to organise and manage this on the day.

Lancashire County Pentathlon Final – Sports Leaders

We are incredibly proud of our 16 Sports Leader students, who were outstanding representatives of Hodgson Academy at the County Pentathlon Finals in Blackpool this week.

Working in partnership with the Blackpool School Games, our students helped to host a fantastic event, welcoming eight SEN primary and secondary schools from across Lancashire. They played a key role in leading, officiating, and supporting a range of adapted sports and activities within a competitive round-robin format.



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



Our Sports Leaders demonstrated professionalism, enthusiasm, and genuine kindness throughout the day. Their positive attitude and support for all participants were widely praised by event organisers and visiting staff. It was also particularly pleasing to see our younger Year 7 Sports Leaders contributing so confidently, showing maturity and compassion when working with pupils, many of whom were older than themselves.

The impact of this group was so strong that they have been invited to support the North West Finals later this year—an excellent recognition of their efforts and conduct.

This experience provided a valuable opportunity for our students to develop important life skills, and they embraced it brilliantly. We are extremely proud of them and look forward to seeing their continued success.

Year 7 Lancashire Cup Finalists

We are delighted to share that the Year 7 Boys Football team have qualified for the Lancashire Cup Finals Day. The boys beat Holy Cross 5-1 last night to confirm a place in the final 4.

The finals day will be played at AFC Darwen on Tuesday 12th May (5pm KO) if you wish to come and join us to support the team.

Year 11 GCSE support

Please see below the final revision and warm up sessions that will take place for Year 11 students next week.

Tuesday 5th May **Exam: Construction @ 1:15pm start**

Final revision: Friday 1st May 15:05 to 16:05

Warm up session - Tuesday 5th May from 11:10 - 12:10

Wednesday 6th May **Exam: Enterprise @ 09:30 start**

Final revision: Tuesday 5th May from 15:05 to 16:05

Warm up session: Wednesday 6th May from 08:10 – 09:10

Thursday 7th May **Exam: German @ 13:15 start**

Final revision: Wednesday 6th May from 15:05 to 16:05

Warm up session: Thursday 7th May from 11:10 – 12:10

Friday 8th May **Exam: Sport Studies @ 09:30 start**

Final revision: Thursday 7th May from 15:05 to 16:05

Warm up session: Friday 8th May from 08:10 – 09:10

I appreciate that for some students, this time can be overwhelming, and we want to strike a balance between overwhelming them and not encouraging them. We will provide students with details about what is on offer and when and we ask that you do the same.

Support is always available for any students who need it, especially at this time, so do not hesitate to contact their form tutors if you feel this is needed. As we say to them all the time in school, Year 11 **We Believe in You** and I hope that they do believe in themselves. We wish each of our students the very best of luck for their upcoming exams.

Language Choice for Year 8 Students

An email was sent to Year 8 parents last week explaining that students will now choose which of their two studied languages - **French** or **German** - they wish to continue into Year 9. Students have already been informed during Reg and Read, and they are encouraged to select the language they feel most confident in, with MFL teachers available for support. Parents are asked to submit the choice by **Thursday 14th May at 9am** via the Microsoft Form on the email. Families of students in **X4** or **Y4** will not have received the email, as those students study only German and will automatically continue with it next year. Any questions can be directed to the student's MFL teacher.

Student safety and wellbeing update

Following last week's very successful *Supporting Our Children Together* Parents' Evening, we would like to thank families for their continued support and engagement. Colleagues from the police and external services provided valuable insight into the risks, trends and challenges facing young people today, particularly in relation to vaping. This included growing concerns around vapes containing harmful and illegal substances, such as synthetic cannabinoids ("spice") and cannabis. Based on the excellent feedback received, we are also planning to offer more frequent events for parents, each focused on specific themes to further support our school community.

As part of our ongoing work to educate and safeguard students, Mr Farmer will be delivering assemblies next week focusing on the dangers of vaping, the risks of unknown substances, and how students can make safe and informed choices. We are committed to working closely with parents and building on the strong partnership highlighted during the evening. In response to feedback and in line with guidance from the Department for Education, we are planning to introduce the use of non-invasive handheld scanners ("wands") as part of our safeguarding procedures from next half term. This follows discussions with a range of stakeholders, including staff and parents, and ensures the highest standards of safety and behaviour across the school. Further details regarding their use, implementation and rationale will follow in due course.

Students will be informed about this in assemblies next week, where they will be shown how such devices accurately detect items that may be deemed illegal or dangerous, alongside a clear explanation of how and why they may be used in school. Our priority remains the safety, dignity and wellbeing of every student, and this measure will be used proportionately and in line with national guidance. We will continue to keep parents updated and appreciate your ongoing support in helping us safeguard all students.

Edulink

Our new app is ready to launch, and we will be sending login details to parents next week. Please take time to read the how to guide that accompanies the headteacher's update this week so you are ready when the login details arrive. You can also access more information about Edulink [here](#). The app will be fully up and running at the start of half term 6 and this is when you will start to see homework being set and start to receive notifications through Edulink of student's achievement and behaviour throughout the day.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Khan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'S'.

Mrs S. Khan
Headteacher