



Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you have all had a lovely week in this beautiful weather. Uniform adaptations will still be in place for all of next week. Therefore, students may still wear their PE kits. Please ensure that they have their water bottles and plenty of suncream.

Please see below an update from this week and some key messages:

Uniform – PE kit

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of our expectations regarding the Hodgson PE kit. This week we have noticed an increasing number of KS4 students wearing black sports shorts that are not part of the approved school PE kit. In particular, items such as Gymshark and Nike Pro-style shorts are becoming common. While these may be popular athletic wear, they do not meet our school guidelines for appropriate PE attire. To ensure consistency, comfort, and suitability for a school environment, all students are expected to adhere strictly to the Hodgson PE kit policy. This includes wearing the correct, approved shorts or alternative kit items as outlined by the school.

Thank you for your continued support in maintaining our standards and expectations.

P.E. updates

Sports Day Results

It was fantastic to see so many students getting involved and participating enthusiastically across all Sports Day events this year. The level of effort, determination and team spirit on display was exceptional, with a number of students breaking longstanding Sports Day records throughout the day. The competition between the Houses was incredibly close and the final standings were not decided until the last relay events, creating a thrilling finish to an outstanding day of sport. Congratulations to Phoenix, who were crowned Sports Day champions in 1st place, followed by Pegasus in 2nd place, Dragon in 3rd place, and Griffin in 4th place overall. Well done to all students for their participation, support and sporting excellence.

The Bolton Smash 26

Senuth Sarathchandra is a super star playing Badminton. He represents the county regularly and plays at Kirkham Juniors. On Sunday 5th July, he played in a tournament At Bolton arena called “The Bolton Smash 26”. This was an open competition consisting of players from his age group, from Cheshire, Lancashire and the Isle of Man.

Senuth entered both Singles and Doubles competitions. He won, both competitions, with determination and skill. This young man really does have a huge talent. Well done to him.



Water Safety Assemblies

This week, students have taken part in a series of powerful and important assemblies focused on swimming safety, open-water risks, cold-water shock and the decisions young people make around water. The final House assembly will take place next week, ensuring all students receive this vital message.

Living so close to the coast and open water, this is particularly relevant to our community. As the warm weather continues, the temptation for young people to swim in the sea, rivers, lakes, reservoirs and other unsupervised areas is very real. The assemblies have focused not on frightening students, but on helping them understand risk, recognise how quickly situations can change and make safer decisions — including the potentially life-saving importance of knowing what to do if they or a friend get into difficulty.

We strongly encourage parents and carers to talk openly with their children about water safety. These conversations matter. A spontaneous decision with friends on a hot day can quickly become a serious situation, and clear communication between school, students and home can help young people pause, think and make safer choices.

Parent Voice: Mobile Phones, Smartwatches and Social Media

A huge thank you to all parents and carers who took the time to complete our recent survey. We have been overwhelmed by the response, with well over 500 families sharing their views, experiences and concerns. The strength of engagement reflects just how important this issue is to our community and highlights significant shared concerns around children's use of mobile phones, smartwatches and social media.

Early analysis shows a remarkably consistent picture:

- 90% of respondents expressed some level of concern about the impact of phones smartwatches and social media
- 93% believe schools have an important role in developing healthy digital habits
- 87% support opportunities for face-to-face interaction without digital distraction
- 85% of parents believe mobile phones are a distraction to their education, during the school day.
- Parents also identified social media pressure, mental health, cyberbullying and excessive screen time among their leading concerns.

We are now carefully collating and analysing all responses, including the extensive written comments and the important concerns raised by parents who hold different views. This feedback will directly inform our next steps and future policy development. Further correspondence will follow shortly, setting out what parents have told us, the evidence we have considered and the Academy's approach moving forward.

Trips

On Tuesday, all students will be taking part in an end-of-term trip, with Year 7 visiting Blackpool Zoo, Years 8, 9 and 10 visiting Blackpool Pleasure Beach, and some Years 8, 9 and 10 visiting the Trafford Centre. A reminder that some students still need to pay for their trip via ParentPay. To ensure everyone can make the most of their time at each venue, students must arrive at school promptly on Tuesday morning. Students should wear appropriate clothing and footwear for the day's activities and will need to bring money to purchase lunch and any additional items they may wish to buy. We look forward to an enjoyable and memorable day for all students.

Enrichment Trip to Lake Windermere

On Wednesday 8th July, 18 of our students of SEND, enjoyed an amazing day at Lake Windermere, taking part in paddleboarding and swimming. The trip gave students the opportunity to try new activities, build confidence, develop teamwork skills and enjoy the beautiful surroundings on such a lovely day.

It was fantastic to see everyone encouraging one another, showing resilience and embracing new challenges with such enthusiasm. Many students stepped well outside their comfort zones and achieved things they never thought possible, making the day a real success.

The students' behaviour was exemplary throughout the trip, and they were a credit to the school. We are incredibly proud of all of them. It was such a memorable and rewarding experience for us all. Thank you to the staff for arranging this amazing opportunity for our students.

Blackpool Sixth Form Year 10 Taster Day

Year 10 students had an inspiring opportunity to experience a real day in the life of a sixth form student during their visit to Blackpool Sixth Form College on Wednesday 8th July. They explored the outstanding facilities, took part in engaging lessons, met current students and staff (and even previous students leading the sessions!), and gained valuable insight into post-16 pathways.

The visit helped raise aspirations, build confidence for the future and encouraged students to start thinking positively about the exciting opportunities that lie ahead. As a bonus, students also enjoyed complimentary food during the day. Thank you so much to the Sixth Form for their efforts to make the day a huge success.

Iceland Trip 2027 (extended deadline and now open to Year 7 students)

All parents of students in year 7, 8 and 9 will have received an email containing an important letter regarding an exciting opportunity for students to take part in a Geography field trip to Iceland during the next academic year. The letter contains full details about the visit, including dates, activities, costs, and how to express interest in securing a place. If you have any questions after reading the letter, please do not hesitate to email Mr Long:

r.long@hodgson.lancs.sch.uk.

Please see the link for expression of interest:

<https://forms.office.com/e/2uea0N0muA>

Important Travel Update – 594 Bus Service and Staining Road Closure

Parents and carers of pupils who use the 594 bus service are asked to be aware of an upcoming road closure affecting travel to and from Staining. A road closure is expected to be in place from 31 August, potentially through to November, due to works taking place along Chain Lane. As a result, from the first week of September, all pupils using the 594 service to travel to and from Staining will need to board and alight at the Staining Road End bus stop. We strongly encourage families affected by this change to discuss and plan the revised journey arrangements with their child before the start of the new academic year. We will share any further updates with families as soon as they are received.

We Will Rock You

Our talented students have performed the Musical 'We Will Rock You Young@Part' this week. Thank you to all the staff and students who made it a tremendous success. It was an absolutely fantastic performance, and everyone involved should be incredibly proud. The talent, commitment and hard work that have gone into the production were evident throughout, and it was a real credit to our school. I am looking forward to watching the performances tonight at 7pm.

PTFA Uniform Shop Sale – On site shop closing down sale

Online Uniform Shop Stock Sale – Grab a Bargain!

We're holding an online stock sale, giving you the chance to pick up some great uniform bargains while stocks last. Limited stock is available - please see the stock list and reduced pricing on the school website.

<https://www.hodgson.lancs.sch.uk/parents/ptfa-uniform-shop>

To place an order, please email the details of the items you would like to purchase to:

ptfauniformshop@hodgson.lancs.sch.uk

Once we have confirmed that your requested items are in stock, payment can be made by bank transfer.

Free School Meals (FSM) Changes from September 2026

We would like to draw parents' and carers' attention to important changes to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility from September 2026. Under the new national criteria, all children living in households receiving Universal Credit will be entitled to free school meals. We are encouraging any family who receives Universal Credit but is not currently registered for FSM to submit an application as soon as possible to ensure provision is in place for September 2026. In addition to providing a healthy meal each day, FSM registration enables schools to access valuable additional funding to support students' learning and wellbeing. Please click on the link below for further details:

[Free school meals letter](#)

Holiday and Activities and Food (HAF)– Summer 2026

The summer holidays are just around the corner, and the Summer Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) is getting ready to launch!

As the programme and funding of Free School Meal vouchers ended in March 2026 the new HAF programme was introduced and has already been launched.

This summer, eligible children and young people can enjoy a fantastic range of fun, free and exciting clubs and activities across Lancashire. From sports and games to arts and crafts, outdoor adventures, creative workshops, enrichment activities and **tasty meals**, there will be plenty on offer to help children stay active, make friends, try something new and have a brilliant summer.

Parents who are eligible will have already received the e-mail from holidayactivities.com to enrol your child on the programme.

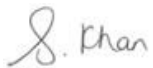
Note: This is for children who receive free school meals only.

Children's Commissioner's National Survey

It is important students have the opportunity to share their experiences, views and aspirations as part of the Big Future survey that the School's Commissioner is conducting. Below is a link to complete this and we would ask that you encourage your children to do this:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Khan'.

Mrs S. Khan
Headteacher