



Hulme Hall Grammar School

◆Caring ◆Nurturing ◆Achieving



SENIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

12TH FEBRUARY 2021

Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils and Friends,

As the half-term draws to a close, I am sure that many pupils, parents and staff will be looking forward to a well-deserved break from remote learning. I would like to congratulate all the pupils who have worked tremendously hard to continue engaging with their studies in these challenging circumstances and also thank the staff for the fantastic efforts they have made in delivering as full a curriculum as possible, the vast majority of which has been delivered live on Microsoft Teams. You all deserve to enjoy your break!

I would like to encourage all our pupils, parents and friends to visit our social media channels and 'like' or 'share' some of our posts on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. We are only a small school community,



so we would appreciate the help in growing our social media footprint.

I hope you are all able to enjoy a safe, healthy and relaxing half term break.

Dean Grierson

We Remember

This week marks the 63rd Anniversary of the Munich Air Crash, where 23 people died. Dennis Viollet, one of the survivors and 'Busby Babe', coached football at Hulme Hall in the 1960's, when he played at Stoke City.

Munich had a profound effect on Dennis's life, and he took the view that he must not waste a minute of what was left!

He has long been thought of as a hero, on and off the pitch, both for his goal scoring ability, and his recognition to the fans. Imagine premier league footballers of today having to take two other jobs on just to survive!

We remember.



Pictured: Dennis Viollet with Hulme Hall boys. Our Chair of Governors, Tim Lowe, is fourth from the right, on the back row - what a claim to fame!

Our Very Own Alumna—Ms Ahsan

Ms Ahsan was a pupil of Hulme Hall from 1985 until 1998. She went onto the University of Manchester to study English and Drama, and stayed there to complete her masters in Social Anthropology before achieving her PGCE at the University of London Institute of Education. After teaching at schools in and around Manchester, from Whalley Range High School, Abraham Moss and Parrswood High School, Ms Ahsan came to teach at Hulme Hall seventeen years ago.

What was student life like?

I arrived at Hulme Hall at the beginning of Year 9 and I immediately loved the friendliness of a small school, where everyone knew everyone. It was like a breath of fresh air, and I knew this was where I was meant to be. It was quite bizarre as in those days, Hulme Hall owned its own coach company, so at the end of the school day, the teachers would then drive you home!

What do you remember most about your time as a student at Hulme Hall?

Mostly I remember my teachers! They inspired me as they were so enthusiastic about what they were teaching. The school theatre had a massive impact on me—Chetham's School of Music would send musicians to perform which I thought was amazing. I was involved in many school productions which I really enjoyed.

How did Hulme Hall prepare you for your career?

I had no idea I'd become a teacher, but in retrospect, I realise the impact and impression the teachers made on me shaped the path I would eventually take. Having seen the English, drama and music staff not only teach, but write, produce and direct plays, as well as collaborate with the art, design and technology departments to create sets and props, I realised being a drama teacher was a great job to have, as you get to do a bit of everything.

What made you come back and work here?

I always had a feeling I would come back one day. Once I left in 1988, I joined the staff choir at Hulme Hall and performed in various concerts until I went to University. After qualifying as a teacher, I worked at various Manchester schools, but when I saw the advert for a drama teacher at Hulme Hall, I spent two weeks on my application because I knew I wanted to step into the shoes of those wonderful teachers who had inspired me so much.

Describe Hulme Hall for someone who has never been here before.

Hulme Hall is most definitely a caring and nurturing place. But it is also an inspiring and motivational school that adds value to the lives of all the children that come here, not only academically but on a personal level. I think this is because, as staff, we see the value in every pupil and work hard to help them reach their true potential on so many levels. What's nice is that the ethos and values of the school have not changed since I arrived here as a shy 13 year old all those years ago!



Mathematicians Winning Trophies

Year 7 mathematicians have been on the hunt for trophies during remote learning! They've been working hard on a range of topics including algebraic manipulation, working with decimals and problem solving with angles. So much so, that many of 7EO are now having to build bigger virtual trophy cabinets!

Congratulations go to Aritra and Alisha in particular for being the stand out trophy collectors. A big well done to all 7EO for their hard work in Mathematics; we are looking forward to claiming a few more trophies when we return to school after the half term.



RSPB Bird Watch Weekend

Hulme Hall took part in the RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch Weekend. It was an amazing opportunity to get into the garden, or just outside, and connect with nature. The project tied in with our focus on wellbeing and offered a practical way to increase our mood and

created an opportunity to get outdoors whilst at home. We received so many pictures of our staff, pupils and friends getting involved, we had to share a selection with you. We hope you can continue your outdoor adventures over half term. Let us know what you get up to!



Landmark Challenge - Answers

1. The Cage, Lyme Park
2. Stockport Town Hall
3. Vernon Park
4. Stockport Market

JLC News

During lockdown, the children have found reading to be a valuable source of escapism, and have shared their favourite books for each other to read over the holidays:

The Ickabog by J.K. Rowling

Code Name Bananas by David Walliams

The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse by Charlie Mackesy