



Hulme Hall Grammar School

◆ Caring ◆ Nurturing ◆ Achieving



SENIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

12TH MARCH 2021

Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils and Friends,

It was fantastic to welcome all of our pupils back to the school site this week. Despite the fact that we are still operating in a very different way to that which we would usually, I am sure all our pupils and staff will be happy to get back to more 'normal' lessons, rather than spending all day in front of a computer screen. I certainly hope so anyway.

Before the return to lessons, last Friday the vast majority of our pupils took part in the first round of Covid-19 lateral flow testing on the school site. Thankfully it all went smoothly, allowing a return to the classroom for all year groups last Monday morning. The second round of testing was completed on Monday and the third and final round of in school testing was scheduled for today. The focus for testing now switches to home testing, more details of which will be circulated to parents when they are finalised. I would like to thank all the parents who provided consent for their child to be tested, as well as congratulate all the pupils who enabled us to complete the process smoothly.

I would also like to thank the staff who were involved, especially our Pastoral Team for supporting the pupils throughout and our Business Manager, Mr Lynch, who oversaw the organisation and completion of the programme.

Last night we held our final 'Virtual' Parents Evening of the academic year, this time for parents of Year 7 pupils. Many parents have provided us with positive feedback regarding the new system and some have expressed a feeling that they would prefer to stick with the new system, even when restrictions on coming into school are relaxed.

Mr Bradford (p.bradford@hulmehallschool.org) would be delighted to hear the views of any parents with a strong opinion, whether that be to stick with the new virtual meetings, or to revert to the more traditional parents' evening format in the school sports hall.

Dean Grierson

Year 7 3D Modelling

Before Christmas, Year 7 pupils designed 3D models and, this week, they were finally able to collect the finished 3D prints! They used software called Blender to create the models, then Mr Corker printed them on the 3D printer.



Our Very Own Alumna—Mrs Burge

Mrs Burge was a pupil of Hulme Hall from 1996 until 1999. After studying A levels at Aquinas Sixth Form College, she went to the University of Ulster to study Irish History and Politics. Then she went on to study communication advertising and PR before embarking on a career in public relations for several years. After studying for a PGCE at Manchester Metropolitan University, she embarked on a new career as a teacher of history at Hulme Hall.

What was student life like?

I loved school and got involved with school life straight away, joining the sports teams and after school drama club. I had come from a big state school and loved the small feel of the school, where everybody knew your name.

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

We had great school trips! My favourites were the ski trip to Alpe d'Huez and a German language trip to Cologne where we visited a chocolate factory and climbed to the top of the cathedral.

How did Hulme Hall prepare you for your career?

Hulme Hall instilled in me a passion for history which I took through to university level, and eventually back here to teach. I had a very inspiring history teacher and I hope I inspire the pupils I teach at Hulme Hall too.

What made you come back and work here?

I initially came back as a teaching assistant as I had not yet found a teacher of history role. When the position became available, I jumped at the chance. Coincidentally, I took over from the history teacher who had taught me!

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

Hulme Hall is a lovely little school with a real family feel. We know all our pupils well and we can offer a tailored approach to ensure our pupils reach their potential, not just academically but become well rounded individuals too.



Recommendations

Everybody loves learning. The snippets people drop into conversations that spark an interest are usually followed up and investigated, and our lives are enriched for the better. We thought it would be interesting to start a weekly share in the newsletter of recommendations that are interesting and informative. It would be great to inspire our pupils to read more too. **Let us know if you have one to share!**



Book Review

A Year at the Circus by Jon Sopel (BBC North America Editor)



Website & Blog recommendation

www.janespatisserie.com



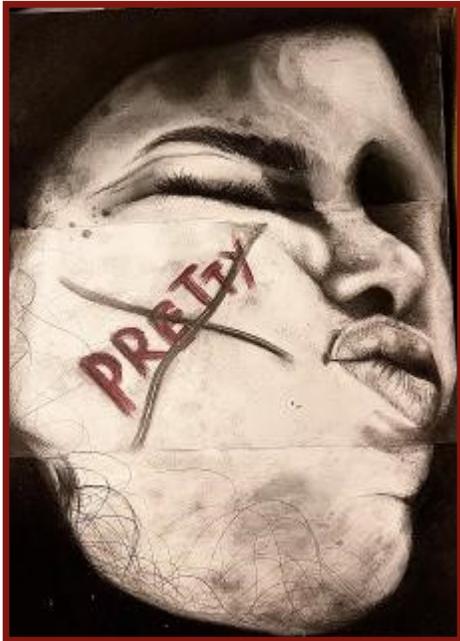
Netflix Documentary

The Mind, explained.



Artwork in Lockdown

It has been tricky for all subjects during lockdown and GCSE Art, 3D Design and Photography are no exception. The pupils have been working tirelessly to carry on with their projects, adapting to the ups and downs of producing work with limited resources and learning new techniques via Teams instead of the usual workshop environment. Throughout all this, pupils have not faltered in producing excellent work in these strange circumstances. So much so, we couldn't wait to share some with you!



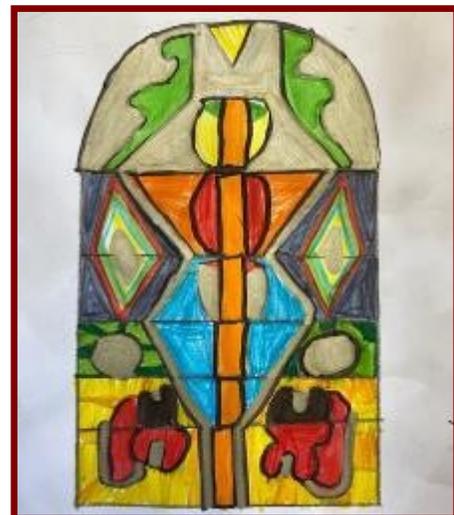
Issabella, Year 11



Imogen, Year 11



Ben, Year 11



Aritra, Year 7

JLC News

This week is British Science Week. The JLC children have been working hard on making a model that moved using a pneumatic system, learning about aerodynamics and air-resistance, and building dragsters which were powered by wind. Mr Grierson couldn't wait to get involved and race —he lost!

They also spent time in Art and Food and Nutrition, using their creative skills to make cards and special cakes.



Year 11's Thoughts On Notoriety

Our Year 11's have been having interesting discussions this week about whether people deserve notoriety just because of power and status, or should it be about talent and skill.

Imogen, our Head Girl, chose to write about how powerful it is to be motivated and how that could breed success.

What a positive and timely piece as our motivation is being compromised by the pandemic. We wanted to share an excerpt with you...

On the one hand, I believe that if you have a goal in mind and you have the determination to achieve it, no one can stand in your way. If you are mentally prepared to spend those nights studying endlessly or training relentlessly nobody can say that you are not deserving. On the other hand, throwing somebody that only has passion into the deep end, could be a waste of time.

I remember running round and round at park run every week. But through the pain was a community with a similar goal. They were not all fast: many came through the finish an hour later with the same hard working game face on. The desire to be better was contagious, covertly dragging everyone back the next week to keep building at their goals. However, these were only the few who had the motivation to get out of bed and make their dreams happen while the others sat in their homes waiting for success to find them.

What is motivation? It is something so important yet so hard to find. If you are motivated do you really need to be skilled because surely it is motivation that allows you to put in the hard work which is the path to success. The type of people who can motivate themselves are the undiscovered heroes of the world. Those who work twice as hard but don't even realise because they are driven by their passion or their dreams or just from who they are as a person.

Mother's Day Preparations

All over school, we've been busy preparing for Mother's Day. Here's a selection of what the pupils have been up to. Mums: look away now!

