



Hulme Hall Grammar School

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SENIOR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

16TH APRIL 2021

Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils and Friends,

It is a very warm welcome back to all our pupils. I hope they and their families have been able to enjoy a restful holiday.

The news in this past week has been dominated by the sad passing of His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. In education circles, His Royal Highness touched many lives through his founding and patronage of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. Over many years, this scheme has empowered young people from all communities and equipped them with the skills they need to make the most out of life. I am sure that Mr Ryan, who oversees the programme at Hulme Hall, is looking forward to being able to resume the scheme here once the restrictions allow. For now, I am sure many owe a debt of gratitude to the late Duke of Edinburgh for having the vision to set up such a worthwhile scheme.

I would like to remind our Year 10 pupils and parents that internal examinations for Year 10 begin on Monday 19th April and run until Wednesday 28th April. A timetable for the examination period is enclosed with this newsletter. Internal examinations for pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 are scheduled to commence after the half-term break on Monday 7th June.

Finally, congratulations to our Year 11 Food Preparation and Nutrition pupils who this week completed their 3 hour practical examination. Well done to Mrs Norman and all the pupils involved for their fantastic efforts.

Dean Grierson

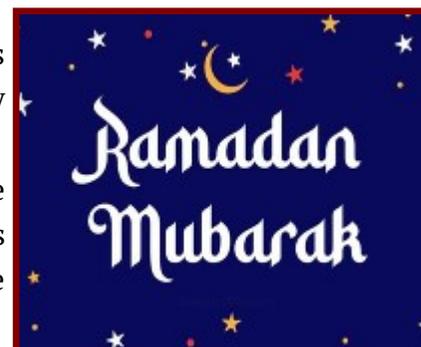
Ramadan Mubarak!

Some families in our school community were gearing up at the weekend for the Islamic month of Ramadan where they will be fasting from sunrise to sunset for the next 30 days!

A fasting pupil in Year 10 said, "It's hard getting up before sunrise to eat something and then not eating and drinking all day, but it's nice to think loads of people around the world are doing this at the same time so there is a community feel to it. When you feel hungry and thirsty you can know what poorer people go through who can't easily get food and water."

The fast is broken at sunset which is always a bit of a feast. Food is swapped and shared with other families. Local mosques and community centres often provide food for the poorer in the community.

When the new moon is sighted, Ramadan is officially over and the celebration of Eid ul Fitr begins! Muslim's dress-up in their finest outfits and visit their friends and families homes, although celebrations will be taking place in people's gardens this year!



Alumni - Dr Neil Bradbury

Dr Neil Bradbury was a Hulme Hall pupil from 1973 to 1978. After studying A Levels at Wythenshawe College of Further Education, Neil went on to study Biochemistry at the University of St. Andrews. He is now a Professor of Physiology and Biophysics at the Chicago Medical School.

What was pupil life like at Hulme hall?

I think school was a bit more formal then than it is now. School uniform rules were strictly adhered to, though it is surprising how big a knot you can get in the school tie, and still be technically wearing the tie. Of course, I loved science class, particularly physics and chemistry with Mr O'Neill. I'm sure half the things we did in lab would not be allowed today. Certainly no-one had ever heard of safety glasses, but everything was fine, and I don't recall any injuries. Having said that, why anyone would assume that letting a bunch of teenage school boys loose with Bunsen burners was a good idea, is still beyond me.

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

Obviously friends had a huge impact on daily school life. Even though we didn't all have classes together, we still had time during breaks to get together. It's a shame that friendships fade so quickly once school finishes. The teachers were wonderful, and clearly wanted us all to succeed. I was particularly fond of Mr Kellock, the maths teacher. The thing that stands out regarding Mr Kellock was his ability to explain things and relate them all to Star Trek!

How did Hulme Hall prepare you for your career?

The teachers were really good. Pushing and cajoling and always supportive. Everyone was expected to perform to the best of their abilities. While individual accountability was emphasised, working in groups and teams was also stressed. Giving a sense that you can accomplish things if you work hard and put the effort in has been important throughout my career.

Describe your career journey post Hulme Hall

After leaving I did A levels at Wythenshawe College of Further Education before moving on to the University of St. Andrews to study Biochemistry for 4 years. I then moved down to Cardiff to the Welsh National School of Medicine for a Ph.D. in Medical Biochemistry. I then moved to America, first to Alabama, then Pittsburgh and finally to Chicago where I am now Professor of Physiology and Biophysics at the Chicago Medical School.

Describe your current role and what parts of your job you find the most enjoyable and challenging?

My time is split between doing research into genetic diseases, teaching and writing. I love running my own laboratory and being paid to do fun science and play with really expensive bits of equipment. I spend a lot of time teaching both medical students and science students. I saw what good teachers could do at Hulme Hall and this has made an impact on how I teach. Between writing scientific papers, text books and popular science books, I wish I had paid more attention in English class. Perhaps one of the most enjoyable things is discovering something no one has ever known about. To be the first person in the history of the planet to understand how a particular part of a cell works is pretty amazing.

What attributes would you consider are important in your field?

Without question a sense of curiosity. Being willing to ask questions, to not accept things at face value. But science is also a collaborative endeavour, so working closely with other people with respect is just as important.

What are you most proud of in your life so far?

Hard question, and I think has different answers at each stage of life. Passing all my exams at Hulme Hall was an important stepping stone to going to University. Then passing all my University exams to be where I am now. Recently, finishing a new book on poisons and murder has been particularly rewarding.

What is your best piece of advice to a senior school pupil, that you wish you had known when you left Hulme Hall?

Don't be afraid to dream. You may achieve your dream, or it may not work out. But the biggest regret will be not trying.



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
Andy Mitten Books



YouTube Channel
GCF Learn Free



BBC iPlayer Documentary
Climate Change: Ade on the Frontline

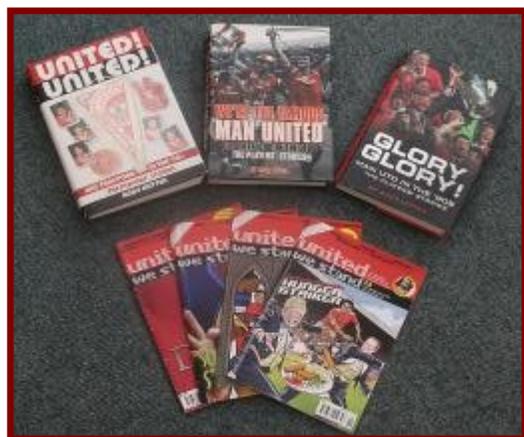


Year 10 Exam Timetable

The Year 10 exams are due to commence on Monday 19th April. Here is the timetable for reference.

	MONDAY 19th April	TUESDAY 20th April	WEDNESDAY 21st April	THURSDAY 22nd April	FRIDAY 23rd April
AM Session Period 1 & 2	Mathematics non calculator 1h 30m	Dual Award Science Biology 1.15h Separate Sciences Biology 1h 45m	English Language Paper 1 1hr 45m	Mathematics Calculator 1h30m	Dual Award Science Chemistry 1.15h Separate Sciences Chemistry 1h 45m
Break					
AM Session Period 3	Study session	Study session	Study session	Study session	Study session
Lunch					
PM Session Period 4 & 5	Geography 1h 30 m Drama 1h 15m	History 1h 20m Sports Studies 1h	Food and Nutrition 1h 30m	Psychology 1h 30m	Computer Science 1h 30m

	MONDAY 28th April	TUESDAY 27th April	WEDNESDAY 28th April	THURSDAY 29th April	FRIDAY 30th April
AM Session Period 1 & 2	English Language Paper 2 1hr 45m	Dual Award Science Physics 1.15h Separate Sciences Physics 1h 45m	Art		
Break					
AM Session Period 3	Music Listening 1hr	Study session or French Writing 1 hour	Art		
Lunch					
PM Session Period 4 & 5	French Listening 35m French Reading 45m	Mathematics Calculator 1h30m	Art		



JLC News

This week, the children learnt about the geopolitical reasons why the famine in Ethiopia occurred and the impact 'Band Aid' had on charities, the government and Ethiopia. The children produced some very interesting reports.

In PSHE, the children are following an online St John's Ambulance first aid course and this week was the signs and symptoms of asthma. They are now aware of the 4 steps they should take if someone has an asthma attack.

Year 5 Taster Day

Places are filling up for our Year 5 Taster Day which is great news! If you have any friends or family that you think would benefit from attending the event, please do pass on our contact details to them so they can book their place.



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Visit the website
or call
0161 485 3524 to
book

Year 5 Taster Day

Saturday 3rd July
9am —12.30pm
Experience life at Hulme Hall

Personal Tours*

Tuesday mornings
throughout the
summer term

*Subject to current government
guidance

An independent school for
boys and girls

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