



DRAYTON MANOR HIGH SCHOOL

WEEKLY PARENT & CARER BULLETIN 21 OCTOBER– 25 OCTOBER 2024

KEY DATES FOR THE TERM AHEAD

Events	Dates
Careers Talk Brunel University	21/10/2024
Mozartist Year 9 music trip (evening)	
Jamie's Farm Residential Trip	21-25/10/2024
French Institute Visit	22/10/2024
Year 7 Music Concert	23/10/2024
Art trip to the Wallace Collection	24/10/2024
Journalism Workshop	
HALF TERM BREAK	

1. SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING SUCCESS

We were delighted to host our Open Evening on Thursday, 17 September, a special occasion where we warmly welcomed prospective Sixth form students and their parents to the school. It was wonderful to see some of our students assisting during the event, and we sincerely appreciate the support and permission from parents that made their participation possible. Stay tuned for more details in our upcoming newsletter!

2. YEAR 7 CONCERT

On Wednesday 23 October at 5pm we will be hosting our annual Year 7 concert in the school hall. This event is an opportunity to celebrate the musical talents of our new students and will feature performances from the Year 7 choir, a group of students representing each tutor group, as well as instrumentalists and the two winning whole class performances from the Year 7 inter-tutor singing competition. Tickets are on sale to all Year 7 parents and can be purchased by [clicking this link](#). Please do contact the school if cost is a barrier regarding you attending this event. As we will be able to make alternative arrangements to support your attendance. All funds raised contribute towards future opportunities in the Music Department. A separate letter will be sent to the parents of all students performing on the night. We look forward to seeing you there.

3. INTRODUCING THE PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT PASSPORT

We are delighted to announce an exciting new initiative aimed at enhancing the personal development of all students from Years 7 to 13 – the Personal Development Passport. We invite parents to join us for a Parental Engagement Evening focused on the Personal Development Passport, which will take place on Tuesday, 3 December, from 6:00pm to 7:00pm in the school's Main Hall. This event will provide an overview of the initiative and offer guidance on how you can support your child in making the most of the opportunities available. Please [click this link](#) to confirm your attendance. We look forward to seeing how our students embrace this new initiative, and we will be sharing more details on how you can get involved.

4. SAVE THE DATE FOR THE YEAR 11 PARENTS' SUCCESS EVENING

We are pleased to announce that the Year 11 Parents' Success Evening will be held on Tuesday, 5 November, from 5:00pm to 6:00pm. This event will provide valuable insights into supporting your child's progress during this crucial academic year. Further details will be shared in a letter in the upcoming week. We look forward to seeing you there!

5. SCHOOL BLOG

The school blog is a dynamic platform that will be regularly updated with articles about the latest happenings at our school, insightful educational resources, and other informative content designed to keep you in the loop and engaged with our school community. From student achievements and upcoming events to tips for supporting your child's learning at home, our blog aims to be your go-to source for all things related to our school. Stay connected and informed by visiting our blog regularly. Click [this link](#) and be sure to bookmark the page so you never miss an update. We look forward to sharing our school's journey with you and fostering an even stronger school community through this new platform.

YEAR 7 UPDATES:

6. AUTUMN TERM MENU 2024-2025

Our school caterers, Culinera, offer a wide variety of exciting dishes in the school canteen, ensuring there's something for everyone. The diverse tariff accommodates all budgets. To view the school's menu, [please click this link](#). We understand that it is important for Parents/Carers to know what their children are eating each day and so this link will support with it.

7. YEAR 7 PTA VOLUNTEERS

The PTA is always on the lookout for volunteers! If any Year 7 parents are interested in helping or parents from any other Year group, please email PTA@draytonmanorhighschool.co.uk to sign up and join the list of parental helpers and support.

ENRICHMENT, CLUBS AND TEAMS:

8. INDIAN DRUMMING

We're thrilled to announce an exciting addition to our music program - tabla and dhol drumming lessons - starting after October half term! This is a fantastic opportunity for students to explore the vibrant world of Indian drumming, developing rhythm, coordination, and cultural appreciation through these dynamic instruments. Lessons will begin in small groups, ensuring personalised attention and a fun, interactive experience. Each session is just £4 per lesson, with a discounted rate of £1.50 for students on Free School Meals. We'll also be launching an after-school Indian drumming ensemble every Monday from 3:30pm to 4:30pm, open to all students taking lessons and those who learn tabla or dhol outside of school. Please fill this [form to confirm your interest](#).

9. MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

Music and singing, is a huge part of what we do at Drayton Manor High School and there are several exciting opportunities coming up where students will be able to participate in singing events. On Tuesday 15 and Wednesday 16 October we will be holding our first singing assemblies of the Year 7 and 8 students where the whole year group will stand up and perform a song they have been learning in their Shine or Music lessons. We also have the upcoming Year 7 inter-tutor singing competition as part of our House Music Festival in which all Year 7 tutor groups will perform their class song. Along with scoring points for their Houses, the winning tutor groups will perform in our Year 7 Music Concert at the end of term and get to attend a rewards trip in December. Please do encourage your children to participate in these performances.

10. FOOTBALL FIXTURE

Students involved in extra-curricular and enrichment football, please [see this list](#) of upcoming fixtures. As the season progresses, we will continue to update this list with additional dates, venues, and kick-off times. Stay informed and support your child's football journey by checking the schedule regularly!

11. ENRICHMENT

Students are encouraged to take part in a variety of activities designed to enhance their learning experience. Our Extra-Curricular Clubs run Monday to Friday, during break times, lunch periods, and after school. From PE clubs to jazz groups, these activities aim to support personal growth, skill development, and provide a well-rounded academic experience for your child. The full schedule of enrichment opportunities for the 2024-25 Academic Year can be found [here](#).

LIBRARY AND CAREERS:

12. CAREERS PROGRAMME SUPPORT

We are seeking parents and carers who are willing to volunteer their time to support our school's careers programme. This could involve delivering an assembly, giving a small group talk, or hosting a Q&A session about your area of expertise. We welcome speakers from all professions and industries!

If you can assist, please contact adminoffice@draytonmanorhighschool.co.uk.

13. READING LIST

Our library offers a virtual portal where both parents and students can access our extensive reading list from the comfort of your home. Explore a wide selection of books and resources tailored for all reading levels and interests. Please take a moment to browse our collection by clicking this [link](#).

SAFEGUARDING, SAFETY, AND PASTORAL SUPPORT:

14. PARKING SAFETY REMINDER OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL

For the safety of our students and staff, we kindly request that parents avoid stopping or parking on the yellow zigzag lines outside the school. Keeping these areas clear is crucial for maintaining good visibility, especially during busy drop-off and pick-up times when many students are crossing the road. We also ask for your support in ensuring safe parking at the end of the day. Please do not park in a manner that obstructs visibility for children. Parking on the yellow lines is strictly prohibited, and senior staff will ask you to move if necessary. If you need to drop off your child closer to the school for medical or other reasons, please contact us in advance for assistance.

15. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: THE PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT PASSPORT

What is the Personal Development Passport?

The Personal Development Passport is a new initiative designed for students in Years 7 to 13. It helps track and reward participation in activities that support personal growth beyond academics, such as extracurricular activities, leadership roles, and community engagement.

Why is the Personal Development Passport being introduced?

The initiative aims to support the holistic development of students, ensuring they become well-rounded individuals. It encourages students to actively participate in various activities, which helps build skills and experiences valuable for future education or career opportunities.

Why do parents need to know about the Personal Development Passport?

As a school we work in partnership with families, and we are grateful for the crucial role you play in supporting and motivating your children to engage with school life. By understanding the initiative, parents can help students document their achievements and encourage participation in activities that will enrich their personal development and prospects.

16. TOP TIPS

Today's top tips from the National College is about small, simple actions that can help protect children's wellbeing when they are on the internet

Looking After Your **WELLBEING ONLINE**

We all know that taking care of our minds and bodies is essential to keep us feeling happy and healthy. The thing is, we spend so much of our time online these days that it's also important that we remember to look after ourselves in the digital world, too. Our poster has got some simple but useful tips for supporting your wellbeing while you're gaming, on social media or just using the internet.



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