

WEEKLY PARENT & CARER BULLETIN 21 SEPTEMBER TO 25 SEPTEMBER

KEY DATES FOR THE TERM AHEAD

Events	Dates
Sixth Form Enrichment Programme Launch	23 Sep
Coffee Morning (Inclusion and SEND)	23 Sep
Open Evening – 5pm to 8pm (Early finish for students at 12.40pm)	24 Sep
Late start for students – 10.10am	25 Sep
House Music Festival	29 Sep & 30 Sep
Community Languages Coffee Morning (Somali)	7 Oct
Year 13 Parent Success Evening	8 Oct
Helping Your Child Stay Safe Online Coffee Morning	14 Oct
Sixth Form Open Evening	15 Oct
Drayton Manor 96 th Birthday Celebration	21 Oct
Half Term Break	22 Oct – 30 Oct

1. STUDENT ABSENCE REMINDER

To ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students, parents/carers must report any student absence **before 8:30am** on each day of absence. Absences should be reported either via the **MyEd app** or by emailing studentabsence@draytonmanorhighschool.co.uk.

Prompt reporting enables the school to complete safeguarding checks and maintain accurate attendance records. Parents/carers are also reminded that **routine appointments**, including dental, medical and other non-urgent appointments, should be arranged outside of school hours wherever possible. This helps to minimise disruption to learning and supports students in maintaining strong attendance.

2. SIXTH FORM ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME LAUNCH – WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER

On **Wednesday 23 September**, all Sixth Form students will begin their enrichment activities during Periods 5 and 6. Students have chosen from a wide range of opportunities including football at the school field, volleyball, netball, hockey, debating, fencing, chess, music, art, crochet and the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).

Our enrichment programme is designed to complement academic studies by encouraging students to develop new skills, pursue personal interests and build valuable experiences beyond the classroom. Participation in enrichment helps students develop leadership, teamwork, creativity and resilience, while also strengthening university, apprenticeship and employment applications. Students taking part in sporting activities are reminded to **bring their PE kit on Wednesdays**. Students who have selected **boys' football** should also note that they will be **dismissed directly from the school field at the end of the session** and should make appropriate arrangements for their journey home. We look forward to seeing our students fully embrace these opportunities and make the most of this important aspect of Sixth Form life.

3. OPEN EVENING – THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

The school Open Evening is a major school event where the parents of many prospective students visit the school. The school will close early on 24 September at **12.40pm** to enable staff to prepare for the event. Attendance to our Open Evening is by ticket only. Please [click here](#) for those who are interested in attending.

4. LATE START OF SCHOOL DAY – FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

There will be a later start on Friday 25 September in which students will register for **10.10am** due to several students helping in last night's Open Evening.

5. EALING HALF MARATHON SUPPORTERS AND FAN ZONE – SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

On Sunday 27 September, staff from Drayton Manor alongside parents will be running the highly anticipated Ealing Half Marathon to raise money for the PTA. There will be a fan zone outside the school building for students and parents/carers to support runners during the event in which we will giving out sweets to runners and cheering them along. If you and your child would like to join please let us know by completing this form.

Additionally, if you would like to donate to this amazing cause, please [click here](#) to our fundraising page. Any donation would be hugely appreciated by the school.

6. HOUSE MUSIC FESTIVAL – TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER AND 30 SEPTEMBER

House Music Festival is an annual opportunity for all students in who are interested in music to show us what they can do and win valuable points for their House! This year the event will take place on 29 and 30 September and sign up is already open! A timetable will be shared on Monday 28 September and all students who sign up will come to share their pre-prepared performance with the Head of Music and a small group of other students at their allotted time. There are winners in each year group but every single student who takes part will win valuable points for their House. Students can perform on their own or in small groups. **Whether they've been playing for years, just started lessons or feel like preparing a song independently, please encourage them to sign up in their lessons or the Music Office.**

7. MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS SIGN UPS

If your child would like to sign up for musical instrument lessons, please [click here](#) to complete the form.

8. STUDENT LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Following assemblies this week, we are delighted to launch our student leadership programme for the year ahead. We strongly encourage parents and carers to speak with their children about applying for one of the many leadership roles available across the school.

Student leadership provides an excellent opportunity for young people to develop confidence, communication skills, teamwork and responsibility, while making a positive contribution to our school community. With a wide range of positions available, there is truly something for everyone, regardless of their interests, strengths or previous experience.

House Captain and Tutor Representative Elections on Tuesday 22 September, there will be an extended tutor period from **8.50am–9.30am**. Students wishing to stand for **House Captain** or **Tutor Representative** should prepare a short speech (approximately one paragraph)

explaining why they would make a good representative. Speeches will be read during tutor time and students will then vote to elect **one male and one female representative**.

Additional Leadership Opportunities Applications will also open on **Monday 21 September** for the following roles

- Wellbeing Ambassadors
- Communications Officers
- Library Representatives

Students can apply via a Microsoft Forms questionnaire, which will be shared through **Satchel One**. The deadline for applications is **Wednesday 30 September**. Applications will be reviewed by the relevant staff members and members of the Sixth Form Leadership Team. We hope parents and carers will encourage their children to take advantage of these fantastic opportunities to lead, represent their peers and help shape school life. Every student has something valuable to offer, and we look forward to seeing a wide range of applications from across the school.

Strand	School		House		Academic		Pastoral		Operations	
Area	School Leadership		House Leadership		Librarians		Wellbeing		Communications	
Positions	• Senior Student Leaders (KSS) • Year Council • Tutor Council		• Head of House (KS5) • Deputy Head of House (KS4) • House Captains (KS3)		• Senior Librarians (KS5) • Library Ambassador (KS4) • Library Representative (KS3/4/5)		• Senior Wellbeing Team (KS5) • Deputy Wellbeing Team (KS4) • Wellbeing Ambassadors (KS3)		• Senior Lead Communications (KS5) • Deputy Lead Communications (KS4) • Communications Officer (KS3)	
Key Duties	• Represent student voice at tutor, year, and school level. • Lead and chair council meetings and assemblies. • Mentor younger leaders and support school initiatives. • Communicate student feedback to staff and SLT.		• Lead House assemblies, events, and competitions. • Promote House identity, values, and participation. • Mentor younger House leaders and encourage involvement. • Represent the House at school events and forums.		• Support daily library operations and maintain displays. • Promote reading through campaigns and book recommendations. • Assist with book loans, returns, and shelving. • Help plan and run library events. • Mentor younger librarians and encourage library use.		• Lead wellbeing campaigns and peer mentoring. • Deliver assemblies and promote mental health awareness. • Provide peer support and encourage inclusion. • Plan and run wellbeing events with staff support.		• Create bulletins, newsletters, and digital content. • Promote school events and student achievements. • Report on school life and lead media projects. • Mentor team members and manage communication schedules.	
Application Process	Senior Student Leaders: Year Council: Application, Interview, year group vote Tutor Council: Tutor vote		Tutor Vote		Microsoft Forms Application		Microsoft Forms Application		Microsoft Forms Application	
Skills Gained	Leadership Public Speaking Organisation	Networking Coaching/mentoring Event planning	Leadership Public Speaking Organisation	Event Planning Teamwork Communication	Leadership Teamwork Event Planning	Organisation	Leadership Public Speaking	Mentoring/coaching Interpersonal skills	Leadership Communication	IT, digital media Organisation

9. WEEKLY PLANNER CHECK

Please remember to review and sign your child's planner/diary each week. The planner helps students record homework, stay organised, and share important school information. Your regular check and signature provide valuable support and help us work together to ensure your child is successful in school. Thank you for your continued support.

10. SACHEL ONE, MYED APP, AND PARENTPAY GUIDANCE

Please click on the links below for helpful information to support your child.

[Satchel One](#)

[MyEd App](#)

[ParentPay](#)

11. COFFEE MORNING REMINDERS

We are delighted to invite you to our Autumn Half Term 1 Coffee Morning Series. Our coffee mornings provides an opportunity for parents and carers to meet with members of the school team, learn more about topics that support children's wellbeing and development, and connect with other families in our school community. Sessions are

informal, welcoming, and include time for questions and discussion with staff at the end. Home Language coffee mornings take place throughout the year in a number of languages.

All sessions will take place from 9:30am to 10:00am. Please arrive from 9.15am for hot drinks and refreshments, the presentation will begin at 9.30am.

- Session One: Wednesday 23 September Supporting Every Learner - Understanding Inclusion and Additional Support at School. To confirm your attendance please [click here](#) to fill out the form.
- Session Two: Wednesday 7 October - Community Languages Coffee Morning (Somali). To confirm your attendance please [click here](#) to fill out the form.
- Session Three: Wednesday 14 October Online Safety - Helping Your Child Stay Safe Online. To confirm your attendance please [click here](#) to fill out the form.

12. PARENT CLINICS – MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER AND TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER (2:30pm – 4:30pm)

Parent Clinics will be running on Monday 28 September and Tuesday 29 September from 2:30pm to 4:30pm. These sessions provide an opportunity for students and parents to raise any questions or concerns, however small. We are keen to address any issues promptly and ensure that every student feels happy, confident and supported as they settle into life at Drayton Manor High School.

13. CHESS CLUB RETURNS WITH GRANDMASTER DAMIAN LEMOS

We are delighted to announce the return of our highly successful Chess Club, led by Grandmaster Damian Lemos. Following the popularity of last year's programme, students once again have the opportunity to learn from an international chess expert, develop strategic thinking skills, and enjoy competitive play with their peers.

Students wishing to participate must complete the Microsoft Forms registration on Satchel One. Places are limited and demand is expected to be high, so we encourage students to sign up as soon as possible.

14. FENCING CLUB OPPORTUNITIES – YEAR 8 ENRICHMENT (WEDNESDAY 3.40pm – YEAR 8 STUDENT)

We are delighted to announce that we will be introducing Fencing as an additional enrichment opportunity. During the pilot phase, this will be open to Year 8 students during enrichment time. Any students interested in attending the Fencing Club please [click here](#) to sign-up by Tuesday 9am. Permission slips will be given during the day, and students will attend the club at the Downstairs Gym. Places may be limited; therefore, we ask students to sign-up in advance.

15. FREE SCHOOL MEALS UPDATE

We would like to make families aware of recent updates to Free School Meals eligibility. If you receive Universal Credit, your child may now be entitled to free school meals, and we encourage you to apply through Ealing Council.

Ealing Council will contact the school directly informing us of a list for students who are eligible and we will update our records. Once we update SIMS it takes around 24 hours to sync to Parent Pay and our catering system. If after 24 hours it has not changed, Parents/Carers should send the school a letter of confirmation they received which we will use to contact Ealing Council directly.

16. EXTRA-CURRICULAR SPORTS CLUBS – AUTUMN TERM 2026

The following extra-curricular clubs will be running this term. If your child would like to attend a club, they must collect a permission letter from the PE office (A105). The letter must be signed by a Parent/Carer and returned on their first attendance of the club. Please can students make a note of the start date of the clubs. Information can also be found on the PE notice board next to A107. If your child has any questions they can speak to a member of the PE department.

Day	Activity	Age	Time	Venue	Staff	Start Date
Monday	Year 7 Boys Basketball	Year 7	3.30-5.00	Gym	Coach Tasharn	14-Sep
	KS3 Girls Football	Year 7 - 9	3.30-5.00	Astro	Mrs Williams Coach Sarim	
Tuesday	Girls Netball	Year 7 - 11	3.30-5.00	Astro/Playground	Mrs Wallace Ms Kear Coach Evie Coach Mabel	15-Sep
	Boys Football	Year 7 - 10	3.30-5.00	Games Field	Mr Grudgings Mr Black Mr Bowman Coach Sarim Coach Noah	
	Senior Boys Basketball	Year 10 & 11	3.30-5.00	Gym	Mr Black Coach Tasharn	
Wednesday	Girls Basketball	Year 7 - 11	3.30-5.00	Upper Gym	Mrs Wallace Coach Tasharn	16-Sep
	U18 Girls Football	Year 10 - 13	Period 5 1.30-2.30	Astro	Mrs Williams	
Thursday	Junior Boys Basketball	Year 8 & 9	3.30-5.00	Gym	Coach Tasharn	17-Sep

17. TALKING TEEN PARENTING SESSIONS

Talking Teens is a practical and supportive programme that helps parents and carers navigate the challenges of raising teenagers. Learn effective ways to improve communication, understand teenage behaviour, manage conflict, and strengthen family relationships, alongside other parents facing similar experiences. Please [click here](#) for more information and to share with parents and carers who may find this support helpful.



NFL Flag football

a programme for boys and girls aged 11-24 that involves:

**A FUN, NON CONTACT
SPORT FOR ALL ABILITIES**
Learn the game, build your
skills and become part of a
team.

A GIRLS' FORUM
A space for girls to connect,
talk and have your voice
heard

MENTORSHIP SESSIONS
Personal support with
your goals and next
steps.

GIRLS & YOUNG WOMEN — WE WANT YOU ON THE FIELD!



Get in touch with us at: NFLPROJECT@GOSAD.ORG.UK



Locations: Activities will take place across West Ealing and Acton with
our base at [The W13 Impact HUB, 1 Bayham Road W13 0TQ](#).



Weekly sessions on Saturdays, 10am to 12pm



Visit our dedicated project page to find out more <https://gosad.org.uk/> OR
scan the QR below to register. <https://forms.gle/uASa5veoUqK5NZEx7>

