

**WEEKLY PARENT & CARER BULLETIN  
6 OCTOBER TO 10 OCTOBER 2025**

**KEY DATES FOR THE TERM AHEAD**

Events	Dates
Year 7 Intertutor Singing Competition	6 Oct
Year 9-11 Flu Vaccine	8 Oct
Year 13 Parent Success Evening	9 Oct
Sixth Form Open Evening	16 Oct
Year 7 Music Concert (5.00-5.45pm)	22 Oct
School's 95th Birthday Celebration	23 Oct
School Closed	23 Oct
<b>HALF TERM BREAK</b>	<b>24 Oct-31 Oct</b>

**1. PTA HALF-MARATHON SUCCESS – THANK YOU!**

We are delighted to share that a team of incredible staff members and parents proudly represented our school in the Ealing Half-Marathon on Sunday. A huge congratulations and thank you to all those who took part in the run, as well as the wonderful PTA members who helped organise the event behind the scenes. Together, we raised an amazing £2,300 for the school – and donations are still open if you would like to contribute.

[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/dmhs-half-marathon-heroes?utm\\_medium=CR&utm\\_source=WA](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/dmhs-half-marathon-heroes?utm_medium=CR&utm_source=WA)

Special thanks and congratulations go to the following parents

- Ms Sue Watts (Organiser) and all the PTA members who helped on the day.
- ChihHao Chen
- Mariona Sorrosal
- Shujan Shakya
- Sanjeev Shrestha
- Mike Green
- Hannah Gordon
- Monika Maniak-Griffiths

and to the following teachers

- Mr Johnston
- Mr Boniface
- Mr Patel
- Ms McNiff
- Ms Walker
- Mr Bayeh
- Mr Jampani
- Mr Obi

We are so proud of everyone involved and grateful for the continued support of our school community. We look forward to sharing more details in the upcoming newsletter.

## **2. SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING – THURSDAY 16 OCTOBER 2025**

We invite you to attend our Sixth Form Open Evening at Drayton Manor High School on Thursday 16 October. The evening will commence at 5.00pm and you will have the opportunity to listen to the Head's talk in the Hall at 5.30pm.

In addition, the Head of Sixth Form and current students will outline the opportunities that are available in our Sixth Form and explain the admissions process. Information will also be provided on courses and extra-curricular activities. You will be able to discuss individual courses in detail with subject staff. The evening will end at 7.00pm.

We look forward to seeing you and your child at this important time in their life. May we also remind you that students will not be admitted to the evening unless they are accompanied by an adult and are in full school uniform.

Please note that this is a ticketed event which can be booked by completing this online form: <https://forms.office.com/e/rWbF2JXQi1>

Admissions applications will open after the evening has finished. All details can be found here: [APPLICATION PROCESS AND COURSE GUIDE \(draytonmanorhighschool.co.uk\)](https://www.draytonmanorhighschool.co.uk/application-process-and-course-guide)

## **3. YEAR 7 INTERTUTOR SINGING COMPETITION – MONDAY 6 OCTOBER**

After some very successful performances earlier this week, the final event of the House Music Festival, the Year 7 Intertutor Singing Competition will take place on Monday 6 October period 3. This is a lovely event where the whole of Year 7 perform to each other to win House Points. Please do encourage your child to prepare over the weekend by practising their class song. The school will take photos and send these through.

## **4. YEAR 13 – SUCCESS IN THE SIXTH FORM EVENING – THURSDAY 9 OCTOBER**

We are hosting a 'Success in the Sixth Form Evening' for Year 13 parents/carers on Thursday 9 October at 5:00pm. This event will provide key information to help you support your child through their final year, including guidance on UCAS, student finance, enrichment, and revision strategies. Programme: • 5:00pm – Presentation from the Sixth Form Team • 5:30pm – Q&A with refreshments in the new Sixth Form • 6:00pm – Close Please note: • This event is for parents/carers only • Entry via the

student entrance • Sign up here: <https://forms.office.com/e/eXAdnrXAcy> We look forward to seeing you there!

## 5. YEAR 7 CONCERT – 22 OCTOBER

We will write to year 7 parents separately about our upcoming year 7 concert. This is always a wonderful event and we encourage parents to save the date.

## 6. GAMES LESSONS

Please click the [link](#) to view information regarding the venues for Games lessons this half term. This will help ensure your child is prepared for their lessons.

## 7. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: WINTER COATS AND JUMPERS

### What type of coat is allowed as part of the uniform?

Students are required to wear plain black coats without any logos. Kindly note that we do not encourage parents to purchase expensive coats—affordable options can be found at popular retail stores such as Primark, Tesco (F&F), and ASDA (George).

### What colour jumper should my child wear with their blazer?

Students must wear a navy-blue jumper with their blazer. Please note that the PE jumper is not to be worn with the full school uniform. For more details, please visit our website [here](#).

## 8. FLU VACCINATIONS – WEDNESDAY 8 OCTOBER

The Ealing Vaccinations Team will be visiting our school on 8 October (Year 9-11) and 3 December (Year 7-8 and anyone who missed the first event) to offer flu vaccinations to students.

This is a free and optional service provided through the NHS, designed to help protect young people from the flu.

Families can choose between two vaccine types:

- Nasal spray vaccine (needle-free)
- Injection vaccine (pork-free and gelatine-free)

**To provide consent, parents must sign up via the Vaccinations Portal:**

<https://nwl.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2025/ealing>

If you have questions about the vaccination or the consent process, you can email: [ealing@v-uk.co.uk](mailto:ealing@v-uk.co.uk)

There will also be a free parent webinar covering FAQs, including possible side effects and the importance of the vaccine. The webinar can be accessed via the QR code on the poster.

### **PARENT SUPPORT CLINICS (BY APPOINTMENT)**

We are pleased to introduce Support Clinics for parents and carers of students at Drayton Manor High School

These sessions are an opportunity for you to share any challenges or worries you might have, and to talk directly with Ms Hynes (Family Engagement Officer).

These sessions offer an opportunity to cover a wide range of topics, from attendance, medical needs wellbeing and friendships, to behaviour, safeguarding giving you the opportunity to access additional support services for you, your child or family both within the school and beyond.

Dates:

- Friday 3 October 8.30-10.30am
- Friday 10 October 2.30-4.30pm
- Friday 17 October 4.00-6.00pm

Format: You can choose either in-person at school or online

To help us plan, parents must sign up in advance via Microsoft Forms:

<https://forms.office.com/e/ia5S6SH3PJ>

Appointments will last up to 20 minutes.

We hope these sessions provide a supportive space to talk through any challenges you might have and strengthen our partnership in supporting you and your child.

## **FLU IMMUNISATION FOR PUPILS IN SCHOOL YEARS RECEPTION - YEAR 11**

**Prevent your child from being seriously ill this winter!  
Vaccinating is crucial in protecting them and  
vulnerable friends and family from flu.**

### **NASAL VACCINE**



No needles - just quick,  
painless, effective flu  
protection  
(contains gelatine)

**OR**

### **THE INJECTION**





We offer a **PORK-FREE,  
GELATINE-FREE** injection  
considered a  
faith-friendly alternative.

Complete this form, even if you do not want the vaccine.

**<https://nwl.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2025/ealing>**

**Secondary School students only:** Young people under the age of 16 can give or refuse consent themselves if considered competent to do so by nursing staff.

### **CONTACT THE TEAM**

 **[ealing@v-uk.co.uk](mailto:ealing@v-uk.co.uk)**  
 **0208 150 1215**

Need more  
information?  
Please see our FAQs  
sheet attached with  
this letter.

Or visit our  
website:



We endeavour to come to your child's school twice.  
If your child is absent or unable to be vaccinated at  
school, they can still receive this important vaccine by  
attending one of our community clinics for the vaccine.

Details of these can be found on our website or you  
can contact the team above.

Your consent will remain in place for the entire flu season.  
If your child misses a first visit, you do not need to  
complete a second form.

**LEARN MORE** 

<https://www.schoolvaccination.uk/flu>  
[www.youtube.com/@vaccinationuk](https://www.youtube.com/@vaccinationuk)

#### **PRIVACY POLICY**

Our 2024/25 policy can be viewed here: [www.schoolvaccination.uk/privacy-policy](https://www.schoolvaccination.uk/privacy-policy)  
For data protection queries, please contact: [dpo@vaccinationuk.co.uk](mailto:dpo@vaccinationuk.co.uk)



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Q WHY ARE CHILDREN BEING OFFERED THE FLU VACCINE?

Flu can make children feel very unwell and can sometimes lead to serious complications like pneumonia or ear infections. Some may even need hospital treatment. It's especially important for children with long-term conditions like asthma or diabetes, as flu can be more dangerous for them.

### Q HOW DOES THE FLU VACCINE FOR CHILDREN WORK?

The nasal spray contains weakened flu viruses that help your child build protection without causing illness. Because flu strains change each year, the vaccine needs to be given annually. Most children only need one dose.

### Q IS THE FLU VACCINE SAFE FOR CHILDREN?

Yes, it has a very good safety record and has been used for over 10 years in countries like the US without any major concerns. All vaccines available in United Kingdom must pass strict safety testing before being approved for use. The Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) only approve vaccines that have gone through rigorous safety testing measures. The regulators continually monitor them all the time.

### Q SHOULD ANYONE NOT HAVE THE VACCINE?

Let us know if your child:

- Has a severe allergy to eggs, gelatine, or certain antibiotics
- Has recently had severe asthma symptoms or is wheezy on the day
- Has a seriously weakened immune system

Also, after vaccination, children should avoid close contact with people who have very weak immune systems for about two weeks—everyone else is fine to be around.

### Q ARE THERE ANY SIDE EFFECTS?

Side effects from the nasal spray are usually mild and short-lived. These may include a runny or blocked nose, headache, reduced appetite, or a slight temperature. Paracetamol or ibuprofen can help if needed.

### Q WE DO NOT EAT PORK PRODUCTS. CAN MY CHILD HAVE A DIFFERENT FLU VACCINE?

Yes. There is an injectable flu vaccine is available that contains no pork (porcine gelatine).

While the nasal spray is generally more effective and painless, we respect your preferences. Just complete the consent form for the injection—no need to fill out both.

### CONSENT INFORMATION

The consent form needs to be signed by a person with parental responsibility which includes:

- Mother: automatic
- Father: if married to the mother either when baby is born or marries subsequently
- Unmarried father: if name appears on birth certificate (since 1/12/03) or legally acquired
- Others: if parental responsibility is legally acquired
- Parental Responsibility Agreement: signed, properly witnessed and sent for registration to Principle Registry or the Family Division (High Court)
- Residence Order: granted by the Court

Please note that young people under the age of 16 can give or refuse consent if considered competent to do so by nursing staff.

### Q NATURAL IMMUNITY

While natural immunity from the flu can occur, it's not generally considered better than vaccine-induced immunity. Natural infection carries the risk of severe illness and complications, whereas the flu vaccine offers protection with significantly less risk. Natural immunity can be long-lasting against specific strains, but we know that the flu virus changes (mutates) overtime so natural immunity to one strain might not protect against a different strain that emerges later. Vaccines are a safer and more reliable way to protect against a wider range of flu viruses.

Flu vaccines are updated for each winter to give protection against the strains of flu that are most likely to be going around. For this reason, we strongly recommend that even if your child was vaccinated last year, they should be vaccinated again this year.

### Q MY CHILD NEEDS A DIFFERENT VACCINE

If your child needs another vaccine you can speak to our team or attend one of our community clinics, all information can be found on our website: [www.schoolvaccination.uk/catch-up-clinics](http://www.schoolvaccination.uk/catch-up-clinics)

### Q I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS

We run Q&A webinars which address frequently asked questions and gives parents an opportunity to ask their questions. You can find information and how to join on our website.

