

WEEKLY PARENT & CARER BULLETIN 7 JULY 11 JULY 2025

KEY DATES FOR THE TERM AHEAD

Events	Dates
School Musical Production	8 July
UCAS Day Parent Event	9 July
Year 8 Fun Day	11 July
Drayfest	16 July
Sports Day	18 July
END OF TERM	22 July

1. SCHOOL MUSICAL PRODUCTION - TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE

We are excited to invite you to our upcoming production of Legally Blonde Jr. on Tuesday 8 July. Entertainment will begin in the dining hall from 5:00pm, with the show starting promptly at 6:00pm. There will be fun photo opportunities and themed merchandise available on the night. If you haven't already, please reserve your tickets on Parent Pay. Tickets are available on ParentPay for £4. For more information, please see the poster at the end of the bulletin. Please note that funds raised are used to help cover the cost of running the event. However, we do not wish for finance to be a barrier to attendance. For assistance, please contact sho@draytonmanorhighschool.co.uk.

2. DRAYFEST 2025 - TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE

We are delighted to announce that our Annual Summer Showcase, 'Drayfest' 2025, will take place on Wednesday 16 July from 5:00pm. This year promises to be bigger and better than ever, with an incredible lineup of events, activities, and surprises showcasing the talents of students and staff across Music, Art, Photography, Drama, Humanities, and Design Technology. Tickets are now available! Please click this link. We warmly invite all parents to join in the fun and excitement. Mark your calendars and get ready for an unforgettable evening Please note that financial circumstances should not be a barrier to attending the event. If you require any assistance, please don't hesitate to contact Mr Moffet at music@draytonmanorhighschool.co.uk, who will be happy to help.

3. UCAS DAY

On Wednesday 9 July, students will take part in our annual UCAS Information Day, exploring the range of post-18 options available, including university, apprenticeships, and other pathways. The day will include sessions led by external providers and our Sixth Form team. Parents and carers are warmly invited to attend the UCAS Information Evening on the same day, from 5.15pm to 6.00pm in the Sixth Form building (arrivals from 5.00pm). The evening will offer a summary of the day's learning, outline the school's ongoing support, and include time for questions over light refreshments. Please note that the focus of this evening will be UCAS and post-18 pathways.

4. YEAR 8 FUN DAY - FRIDAY 11 JULY

On Friday 11 July, Year 8 students will enjoy a Fun Day on the school playing field, packed with a variety of House-based activities designed to build team spirit and encourage friendly, active competition. Students should arrive at school wearing their PE kit, a top in their House colour, and their blazer. They will attend Periods 1 and 2 as usual, before heading to the field for the rest of the day. Dismissal will take place from the field at 3.30pm.

5. SPORTS DAY - FRIDAY 18 JULY

We are excited to announce our annual Sports Day, taking place on Friday 18 July at Perivale Park Athletics Track. This inter-House competition will see students competing in a variety of athletics events as part of their House teams, and all students will be involved. We will share further details soon, including the day's schedule and what students need to bring.

CAREERS

6. WORK EXPERIENCE ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMMES FOR 2025–26

The Enrichment Partnership offers flexible, employer-led career workshops and alternative work experience programs for students Year 7 to Year 13—perfect for those unable to secure traditional placements. Activities include career talks, skills development, mock interviews, and more, designed to boost confidence and employability. Pricing is flexible to ensure accessibility. For details, contact michelle@enrichmentpartnership.com.

7. BRENTFORD FC: FREE EMPLOYABILITY PROGRAMME

Brentford Football Club is offering an exciting opportunity for students through Jumpstart. This is a free two-day employability programme taking place on 18 and 29 July. Open to ages 16 to 20, the programme is designed to help participants become truly work-ready. Sessions include CV workshops, self-branding guidance, an introduction to LinkedIn, interview tips, and mock interviews with feedback. Delivered in a relaxed, supportive environment with input from professional partners. For more information, please contact youth@brentfordfccst.com.

MUSIC

8. CADENZA MUSIC CENTRE – APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR 2025/26

Applications are now open for Cadenza 2025/26, Ealing Music Service's flagship music centre, which offers monthly rehearsals in Ealing and a wide range of ensembles for young musicians of all abilities, from beginners to Grade 6+. Following the success of the recent Royal Albert Hall concert, Cadenza continues to provide a friendly and enriching environment with expert tutors and over 19 ensembles including orchestras, jazz bands, choirs, percussion groups, and more. Fout more and apply at www.ealingmusicservice.com/cadenza.

PASTORAL

9. HOT WEATHER ARRANGEMENTS

As we experience a period of warmer weather, we are taking steps to help ensure students remain comfortable and safe throughout the school day. Students should continue to bring their blazers to school but wearing them will not be required during hot weather. We kindly encourage students to bring a refillable water bottle to stay hydrated and to apply sunscreen before attending school. Should a student forget their water bottle, cups will be available in the Welfare Room. We will continue to monitor temperatures and make any additional adjustments as needed to support students' wellbeing.

10. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: SCHOOL MUSICAL PRODUCTION

Q: When and where is the School Musical taking place?

The production will take place on Tuesday 8 July 2025 at 6.00pm in the Main Hall at Drayton Manor High School.

Q: How much are tickets and where can I purchase them?

Tickets are £4 each and can be purchased via ParentPay. However, we do not want finances to be a barrier to attendance. If you require any support, please contact the school and we will be happy to assist.

Q: What are the safeguarding measures in place during the event?

Ensuring the safety and well-being of all attendees is our top priority. Safeguarding measures include

- Security There will be staff members on site to monitor the event and assist in case of emergencies.
- Entry and Exit Points Controlled entry and exit points will be in place to ensure only authorised attendees are present.

Q: How can parents and carers support the smooth running of the event?

We greatly appreciate the support of parents and carers in ensuring our events run safely. Please remember that parents and carers are only permitted to bring their own children, not those of other families. Additionally, please bring a valid ID, as it may be required for verification. The school reserves the right to refuse entry if any safeguarding or safety concerns arise.

Q: Is there parking available at the school for the event?

Unfortunately, there is no parking available onsite.

Q: How can I stay updated with any changes or announcements about the Musical Production?

Updates and announcements will be communicated through the school's official communication channels, including the school website and emails. Please ensure you regularly check these sources for the latest information.

11. TOP TIPS

Today's top tips from the National College explores the risks and rewards of children using generative AI tools.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes.

For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CENERATIVE AI SAFETY

WHAT ARE THE RISKS? Generative AI tools – such as ChatGPT – are now commonly used by children. In fact, 3 in 4 pupils in the 2024 Annual Literacy Survey reported using generative AI, up from just 2 in 5 the previous year. While these tools can boost learning and creativity, they also raise concerns around misinformation, privacy and overuse. This guide explores the key risks and how to support safe use.

MISINFORMATION AND ACCURACY

Generative AI can sometimes produce false or misleading content. Children – and even adults – may assume the information is accurate and trustworthy. This can affect learning and understanding of important topics. It's vital to teach children to critically assess all information, even when it comes from AI.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Because generative AI is trained on vast datasets from across the internet, there is a chance it may occasionally generate harmful or inappropriate content. Without supervision, children could encounter disturbing or unsuitable material. Active monitoring and clear usage boundaries can help reduce this risk.

PRIVACY AND DATA SECURITY

Some At tools ask for personal details or store users' interactions. If privacy settings are not correctly configured, children's personal data could be exposed or misused. Teaching good digital hygiene and setting strong privacy controls is essential for protecting children online.

REDUCED CRITICAL THINKING

Relying too heavily on AI-generated responses may reduce children's willingness to think independently. If they consistently use AI to solve problems or complete tasks, it could impact their ability to reason, analyse and form their own ideas. Encouraging thoughtful reflection is kernecuraging thoughtful

DIGITAL DEPENDENCY

Regular use of generative AI can contribute to increased screen time and less real-world interaction. If left unmanaged, it may affect physical activity levels, sleep, and social development. Striking a healthy balance between online and offline activities is important for wellbeing.

UNCLEAR ETHICAL BOUNDARIES

Children may not fully understand the ethical implications of using AI to complete homework or creative tasks. This can lead to unintentional plagiarism or dishonest academic practices. Conversations around responsible use and grademic hopesty are cricial.

IDEAS

Advice for Parents & Educators

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12+12

ESTABLISH CLEAR GUIDELINES

Set clear, age-appropriate rules for when and how generative AI can be used. Reinforce these regularly to help children develop a healthy, respectful and informed relationship with the technology.

PROMOTE ACTIVE SUPERVISION

Keep an eye on how the children in your care use AI tools. Check is regularly to ensure they're using them appropriately and be read to step in if something doesn't feel right.

ENCOURAGE CRITICAL EVALUATION

Help children to question the accuracy of Al-generated information and seek out additional trusted sources. This builds essential digital literacy skills and supports better decision-makina.

ENHANCE PRIVACY AWARENESS

Talk to children about the importance of keeping personal information private. Make sure privacy settings are in place and explain how data shared with AI tools could be used.



Meet Our Expert

Brendan O'Keeffe, Deputy Headmaster and Director of Digital Strategy at Eaton House Schools, has extensive expertise in digital safety, safeguarding, and generative Al in education. As an author and speaker on digital literacy and online safety for institutions such as The National College, Brendan guides parents and educators in creating safe digital learning environments.





The National College





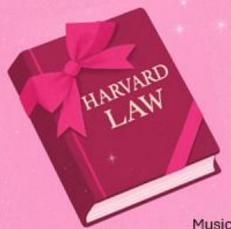




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DRAYTON MANOR HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS

LEGALLY BLONDE





Music and Lyrics by

Laurence O'Keefe and Nell Benjamin Book by Heather Hach

Based on the novel by **Amanda Brown**And the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture

Tuesday 8 July 2025

Main Hall – 6.00pm

Tickets available on Parent Pay for £4*

*Funds raised from ticket sales will go towards supporting the costs of running the production. Finances should not be a barrier to attendance — if you would like to attend but need assistance, please contact Mr Moffet at music@draytonmanorhighschool.co.uk, who will be happy to help arrange tickets.