

# HSW News

## From the Head's Study...

Dear everyone,

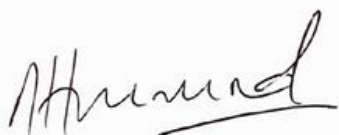
I'm not a fan of gloating. One often sees boasts and gloats on social media and they always leave one wondering why someone feels a need to show and tell so publicly. But brace yourselves, I am about to...

Last night, our Registrar, Alison Hart, and I spent the evening at The Roche School, for their annual Senior Schools Fair. It is an opportunity for many senior schools to exhibit their wares and talk to parents. I have done so many of these events since joining HSW. And the boast: I am proud to say that we must surely have had the longest queue of prospective parents in the room. We couldn't even speak to everyone, such was the interest in our little stand. In all our conversations, we detected a tangible relief from parents that we were not opening our conversations with 'What is your child's standardised score? What are their chances at 11+?' Instead, we asked their name, their hobbies and interests, what motivates them, where their talents lie, how they feel about school. Every leader will say that talent comes in many forms. Every school will have values that champion kindness, inclusivity and opportunity. But the degree to which a school truly value these things is not measured by how often the words feature in a prospectus or speech; rather it can be seen and felt in the culture of a school and the amount of time and effort channelled into educating the whole child. We have increased our after-school clubs provision tenfold, we have increased the number of educational visits and sporting fixtures tenfold, and we continue to recruit additional staff to join our pastoral team so that we can truly know every child.

We value academic rigour and hard work here, but we will not engage in the sorting and ranking often seen in London schools. We believe passionately in creating conditions in which a child can find their element, develop self-worth, and, through the combined efforts of everyone, feel confident to be themselves!

I left the event feeling justifiably proud.

Yours,



**Andrew Hammond**  
Head

## Important Dates

**February:**

**W/c Mon 26th -**  
GCSE Mocks

**Mon 26th -**  
Scholastic Book Fair

**Thurs 29th -**  
Year 9 GCSE Options  
Evening  
6-7pm

**March:**  
**W/c Mon 4th -**  
GCSE Mocks

**Tues 5th -**  
Year 7 parents evening  
(Scroll for further  
information)

**Thurs 7th -**  
World Book Day

**W/c Mon 11th -**  
Assessment Week



# This week at HSW...

Year 6 started their new computing project of the half term: building 3D objects! They used the Tinkercad software and began experimenting using the workplace to create their own projects.



Our A-Level Geography students were investigating how the character of Brick Lane has changed over time. We spoke to locals and visitors to understand their lived experiences and explored the bustling streets and markets of East London. It wouldn't be a day out to Shoreditch without a quick stop at the historic Beigel Bakery and the Spitalfields City Farm!



# This week at HSW...

The weather this week may have been rather unpredictable but that didn't stop some of our students playing football in the rain! (Umbrellas optional...)



Our DofE Silver Award participants are currently off on their practice expedition - unfortunately the rain has made it a very muddy one, but everyone is in good spirits!



# This week at HSW...

Year 3/4 have been experimenting with different forces in their science lessons this week.



# Upcoming Events...

 HALL SCHOOL  
WIMBLEDON

The HSW Music Department proudly  
invite you to our

## Spring Piano Recital

Friday 15th March  
4-5pm @ Oberon

*The concert will feature HSW students of all ages.  
Performances will include piano pieces, singing duos,  
and you may even spot a teacher or two!*

# Please note...

## Future Parents Evenings

All families were sent information this week regarding our change in parents evenings. As explained, going forward these will be held digitally, but please note, if you wish to have a meeting in person with one of your child's teachers you can email them directly. To highlight a few of the reasons for this decision, it allows us to extend our evenings to allow for more appointments, there's no risk of students losing their bookings sheet, there will be no issue with parking, and parents/guardians who would not have been able to make it can now join the meetings. Our first digital parents evening will be held on Tuesday 5th March for Year 7 students and online booking will open on Tuesday 27th February at midday and work on a first come first served basis. Please email Mrs Ria Blees on [vrx@hsw.co.uk](mailto:vrx@hsw.co.uk) if you have any queries or if you have not received the email with full information and instructions.

## Social Media

Students in our online posts are based on the permissions you gave us - if you would like to edit these, please email Mrs Ria Blees on [vrx@hsw.co.uk](mailto:vrx@hsw.co.uk) to let her know your preferences.

Instagram: [hsw.school](https://www.instagram.com/hsw.school)

X (Twitter): [@hsw\\_school](https://twitter.com/hsw_school)

LinkedIn: Hall School Wimbledon

Our student digital team have been meeting with Mrs Blees this week to come up with some fun ideas for our newest platform, TikTok, due to launch in the next couple of weeks!

## Sports Next Week

The planned sports fixtures for next week are currently as follows:

**Monday 26th:** Football - Girls U13 - Merton SSP Comp - 15.30pm start

All sports fixtures can be found at <https://sport.hsw.co.uk/>

If your child mentions they are in a sports fixture during the week, please have a look at the website for further details on the team sheet.

If your child usually takes the school bus, please arrange a pick up or different mode of transport to get home for fixtures that return after 4pm.

If you have any questions regarding sports fixtures, please email Ms Ofori on [rxo@hsw.co.uk](mailto:rxo@hsw.co.uk)