



Dates for your Diary:

Monday 20th March 2023

School choir are at the Theatre at the Mill, Mossley - recording for King's Coronation Day.

Monday 20th March and Tuesday 21st March 2023

Year 12 CCEA GCSE Art Exam - 08.40

Tuesday 21st March 2023

GCSE Motor Vehicle Road Users Exam

Wednesday 22nd March, Thursday 23rd March and Friday 24th March 2023

Year 13 & 14 CCEA AS and A2 Art Exam – 08.40

Friday 24th March 2023

Year 12 Single Award Science Practical Exam (periods 7-10) Mr Hill's and Mr Wray's classes

Year 11 Geography Fieldtrip

Monday 27th March 2023

Business Studies Controlled Assessment Exam

Tuesday 28th March 2023

Half day; School ends at 12:30; Year 8 Parent Interviews 13:00 – 15:00 Buses will be available at 12.30pm

Wednesday 29th March 2023

Music Department Spring Showcase 5pm to 6pm

Monday 1st May 2023

May Day Bank Holiday

Monday 8th May 2023

King's Coronation Bank Holiday

Friday 26th May 2023

School closed for pupils (Staff Development Day)

Monday 29th May 2023

School closed for pupils (Staff Development Day)

General Information:

Free Breakfast: The free breakfast will continue for all year groups, daily from 8am to 8.30am in the school canteen.

Zero Tolerance: As a school we continuously work to provide a safe, calm, orderly environment for pupils and staff. We encourage all our parents and external visitors to adhere to an appointment system, should they need to speak or consult with a member of staff. There are benefits to this, in that it ensures a calm, orderly running of the school. We have sent out previous safeguarding messages about visitors reporting to our visitor's reception, please continue to do this. As a further safeguarding update, we want to advise all our parents and carers that swearing, threats or any act of violence will not be tolerated. Anyone giving verbal abuse to members of staff will be asked to leave the premises.

EXAMINATIONS:

Art Examinations: Year 12 CCEA GCSE exam is **Monday 20th March** and **Tuesday 21st March** both days start at 8.40am and end at 3pm and will be held in your Art Classroom. Those pupils entitled to extra time will attend Wednesday 22nd March 8.40am to 11.30am. Deadline for all work to be handed in is Monday 17th April.

Year 13 & 14 CCEA AS and A2 exam is **Wednesday 22nd March, Thursday 23rd March** and **Friday 24th March** all three days start at 8.40am and end at 3pm and will be held in your Art Classroom. Those pupils entitled to extra time will attend Tuesday 21st March 8.40am to 12.40am. Deadline for all work to be handed in is Tuesday 9th May.

Single Award Science Practical Exam: Pupils in Mr Hill's and Mr Wray's classes will be completing their practical exam on **Friday 24th March, periods 7-10**. It is essential that all pupils are present for this and during the week for preparation.

Business Studies Controlled Assessment Exam: The Booklet B exam paper for Business Studies Controlled Assessment will take place on **Monday, 27th March in R235**. Students in **12B** should arrive promptly to start their exam at **8.50am**. Students in **12D** will need to **take an early break from 10.05 am to 10.20 am** as they will start their exam at **10.30am**. It is very important that students attend on this date to complete their exam.

Year 11 Digital Technology class: As discussed on Year 11 Parents Afternoon, Miss Nevin will be running an after-school class for Year 11 Digital Technology pupils to support pupils in having the best chance of success in Module 1 on 18th May. The classes will continue **Wednesdays at 3pm until 4pm** and run until their module on Thursday 18th May. It would be highly beneficial for your child to attend these classes.

CCEA Advanced Information: On Monday 27th February, CCEA released Advance Information to help students with their preparation for the exams in May and June. They have produced a presentation and a digital poster to help explain what this information is. *Please find attached.*

OUTSIDE AGENCIES:

EMA advance notice: Eligibility courses starting 2023/24 FAO Year 12 and Year 13: If you decide to stay on at school or go to a further education college in Northern Ireland, you may be able to get the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA). It is available for both academic and vocational courses. EMA is a weekly award of £30 which is paid fortnightly to students who meet the eligibility criteria laid out in the leaflet attached. It is intended to help cover the day-to-day costs that you must meet when you stay on at school or college like travel costs, books and equipment for your course.

Please read the attached leaflet to see if you qualify for the scheme. Application packs will be available soon. The school is only allocated a limited number of packs, so please read the information ahead of their release to ensure we can direct the packs to those who will need them. You do not have to have a firm plan for September 2023. Successful applications can be transferred to another learning centre if necessary. If you are in Year 13 and already receive EMA you do not need to reapply for 2023/24. If you are in Year 13 and were not eligible this year but think your circumstances might change for the new academic year, please read the *leaflet attached* for the most up to date information.

Strange Events Management Multisports Easter camp: based at Ballyclare High School. *Please see attached poster, cover letter and camp registration form.*

Parentline Discussion Groups: Please see the *attached flyers* for a parent discussion group and workshop that Parentline are hosting during March:

- Parents Talk ADHD, **Wednesday 29th March** 7.30-8.30pm

They are also running a workshop next week; 'Parenting Patterns and Pitfalls' that will focus on understanding parenting styles and why it matters. This free workshop is taking place on **Tuesday 21st March 2023 @ 7.45pm-9pm**, via zoom.

Call Parentline on 0808 8020 400 for more information or to book a place.

CLUBS:
Year 8 Cookery Club: Tuesdays 3.00-4.00pm. Bring your own ingredients (weighed). **Group 2 – Tuesday 21 March**

SU will continue to meet on **Wednesdays** in Mrs Campbell's Geography room (215); period 6 for Years 8 and 9 and period 7 for Years 10 and 11. All pupils are welcome.

Year 8 Art Club: will continue after school in mobile 4 on **Tuesdays** 3-3.30.

Junior Choir: will continue **Tuesday** at junior lunch in room 155.

Senior choir: will continue **Wednesdays** in room 102 from 3pm until 4pm.

Orchestra: will continue **Tuesdays** in the Assembly Hall from 3pm until 4pm.

Music Theory Club is on every Friday, room 155. This is for any musicians in years 8-14, GCSE or A level students who need to improve their music theory knowledge or complete their theory grades.

Robotics Challenge 2023: Pupils from Years 8, 9 and 10 have registered interest for this challenge. The club continues **Tuesday 14th March** in room 237 and is from 3pm until 4pm.

EVENTS:
Music Department Spring Showcase: It has been a busy year so far in the Music Department, and we would like to invite you to join us in celebrating our pupils' achievements in our Spring Showcase on **Wednesday 29th March 2023** from 5.00-6.00 pm. This event will take place in our assembly hall and drinks and refreshments will be available before the start of the event. Tickets for this event will be £5 for adults and £3 for children/concessions and can be purchased on Parent Pay App from Wednesday 8th March. Printed tickets will not be distributed for the event, but names will be ticked off at the door.

HOUSE SYSTEM:
House Competition 'Junk Couture': We are very excited to announce our next house competition: junk couture! Some of you may have watched junk couture TikToks in which school pupils get creative and design their own outfit from recycled and reused materials. Now it is your child's chance to be creative, channel your inner fashion designer and design an outfit, as well as promoting environmentally conscious behaviour. What kind of outfit would they want to create? Who will be their model? How might they use colour in their outfit to represent their house? They should create a small team of people in their school house; this can be across any year group. One of these people must be their model. They have until **Wednesday 29th March** to design their outfit before our own in-house fashion display before the Easter holidays. If they have any questions or queries, please ask them to speak to Miss Dunwoody in room 212.

HOUSE POINTS:



Canteen Menu:

WEEK 3 MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pizza Slice Breaded Fish Fingers Chicken Nuggets Chips Curry Sauce Gravy Beans Pasta & Sauces Salad Bar	Chicken Stir Fry Chicken Curry/Rice Pizza Slice Finger Bread Pizza Soup of the Day Bread Roll Pasta/ noodles & sauces Salad Bar	Roast Gammon or Chicken Dinner Toasties Soda Bread Pizza Pizza Slice Soup of the day Wheaten Bread Pasta & Sauces Salad Bar	Shephard's Pie Chicken curry /rice Pizza Slice Finger Bread Pizza Soup of the Day Bread Roll Pasta & Sauces Salad Bar	Sausages Chicken Goujon (S/F) Pizza Slice Chips Curry Sauce Gravy Beans Pasta & Sauces Salad Bar

Bakery available daily

Thought for the week:

