



HGS News

Term: Autumn 1 2024

Welcome from Mr Renton

We would like to say thank you to parents/carers for all your support during the first week of term and extend a warm welcome to all our new parents and students.

We have had a very positive first week and it has been a real privilege to see students returning to school. We have seen students quickly engaging with their teachers and settling back into routine.

In our assemblies on the first day, where we welcomed students back to school, we talked about:

- The importance of attending school. A copy of the attendance letter emailed to parents on Monday can be [found here](#).
- The importance of respect. We launched our [Respect Pledge](#) with students who commit to respecting themselves, others and our environment. We also talked about the Reach out app.
- The importance of a good work ethic.
- The importance of getting involved and taking part in [wider enrichment activities](#).



Each year group has an allocated year manager who should be your first point of contact, their email addresses are listed in this newsletter. Please contact them with any issues or concerns that you have. We welcome feedback and want to form an effective partnership between home and school. It is crucial, therefore, that we have open and honest communication. The [general school email](#) can also be used if you wish to make general contact with the school or make contact with a member of the senior team via the following [link](#).

There are a number of important school policies and these can be found on our school website. Three particularly important policies are linked directly below:

[Respectful Relationships and Behaviour](#), [Safeguarding](#), [Bullying and Harassment Policy](#)

This newsletter contains important welcome messages from the Assistant Headteachers leading each Key Stage. We hope this information is useful at the start of term.

We look forward to working with our school community over the next school year to provide the very best for all our students. We do encourage you to follow the school on social media and the links are provided below.

The next HGS newsletter will be available before the October break. You can access the weekly student newsletter via this [link](#).

Mr Renton

School Social Media
Accounts – click on icon:





Senior Leadership Team

Headteacher



Neil Renton
Headteacher



Kirstie Moat
Associate Headteacher



Kristin Smith
Deputy Headteacher

Directors of school



Ben Twitchin
Director of Sixth Form



Nik Mason
Assistant Headteacher
Director of Upper School



Victoria Gee
Assistant Headteacher
Director of Lower School

Assistant Heads



Charlotte Dunne
Assistant Headteacher



Jason Hill
Assistant Headteacher



Liz Zoccolan
Assistant Headteacher
SENDCO



Nicola Fareham
Assistant Headteacher
Exec Head of Maths



Alison Smith
Assistant Headteacher

Associate Assistant Headteachers



Kate Hooper
Associate Assistant
Headteacher



Adrian Stipetic
Associate Assistant
Headteacher

Welcome back from our Assistant Headteachers:



Years 7 to 9

Miss Victoria Gee

Assistant Headteacher, Director of Lower School

[Click here](#) to read Miss Gee's welcome message to Year 7

[Click here](#) to read Miss Gee's welcome message to Year 8 and Year 9.



Years 10 and 11

Mr Nik Mason

Assistant Headteacher, Director of Upper School

[Click here](#) to read Mr Mason's welcome message.



Years 12 and 13

Mr Ben Twitchin

Assistant Headteacher, Director of Sixth Form

[Click here](#) to read Mr Twitchin's welcome message to Year 12.

[Click here](#) to read Mr Twitchin's welcome message to Year 13.



Key Contacts

Pastoral Team			
Year 7 Manager	Mrs Melanie Oliver	Ext 7050	OliverM@hgs.rklt.co.uk
Year 8 Manager	Mr Scott Manning	Ext 7046	ManningS@hgs.rklt.co.uk
Year 9 Manager	Mrs Marie Ellenthorpe	Ext 7051	EllenthorpeM@hgs.rklt.co.uk
Year 10 Manager	Mr Adam Thurley	Ext 7054	ThurleyA@hgs.rklt.co.uk
Year 11 Manager	Mrs Kate Wilkinson	Ext 7049	WilkinsonK@hgs.rklt.co.uk
Assistant Director of Sixth Form	Mrs Carly Jackson	Ext 7109	JacksonC1@hgs.rklt.co.uk

Other contact numbers		
Main reception	01423 531127	maile@hgs.rklt.co.uk
Sixth Form reception	01423 535235	HGSSixthForm@hgs.rklt.co.uk
Attendance (Years 7 to 11) Click on the links: Planned absence e.g. medical appointment Unplanned absences e.g. illness (via Studybugs - more information below)	01423 535635	HGSAttendance@hgs.rklt.co.uk
Attendance (Years 12 and 13)	01423 535236	ReedT@hgs.rklt.co.uk
Learning Support	01423 531127	HGSsend@hgs.rklt.co.uk
HGS Finance team	01423 531127	HGSFinance@rklt.co.uk
iPad co-ordinator	01423 531127	HGSiPads@hgs.rklt.co.uk
PTA		HGSPTA@hgs.rklt.co.uk



Dates for your diary

Date	Activity	Year Groups
Wednesday 11 September	Year 13 Parent Information Welcome Evening – 6.30pm, Forum	13
Thursday 12 September	Year 7 Parent Social Evening – 7pm, Hall	7
Monday 16 September	Parent Information Evening Year 10 GCSE subjects* – 6pm, Hall *Personal invite to follow for those whose children are studying GCSE PE, Art, Music or Drama	10
Tuesday 17 September	Year 11 Parent Information Evening – 6.30pm, Hall Supporting Success	11
Tuesday 17 September OR Wednesday 18 September	Year 12 Parent Welcome evening – 6.30pm, Forum	12
Wednesday 18 September	<u>Open morning for Year 6 parents</u>	6
Tuesday 24 September	PTA meeting	All years
Tuesday 24 September	Year 10 Parent Information Evening – 6.30pm, Hall Supporting Success	10
Saturday 5 October	<u>Open morning for Year 6 parents and students</u>	6

Headphones

(Year 7 and Year 12 students new to HGS)

For music and language lessons, you need to bring in a set of headphones which have a mini jack adapter on them so you can plug these into a desktop computer and with some of the instruments (e.g. electronic keyboards).



Students will also need an adapter to use your headphones with your new iPad as this does not have a headphone socket. Opposite is an example of the USB-C adaptor you will need, which can be purchased at a very low cost from many online retailers.



Lockers

We have already started to allocate lockers. The site team will continue to visit form groups next week to allocate lockers. If your child would like a locker they need to bring a small padlock into school.

HGS Parent Handbook

We would like to point you in the direction of the [HGS Parent Handbook](#).

The Handbook contains lots of information for your child starting back at school and we would like to draw particular attention to the sections on uniform and attendance.




Reporting Absence in Years 7 to 11 Introducing a New System

We are pleased to announce that we are introducing a new, more efficient and secure system for reporting if your child will be absent from school due to illness. This new system is called Studybugs.

Please download the free Studybugs app, or you can register on the [Studybugs website](#). Use this new app to advise when your child is ill and unable to attend school. Absences should be reported to school by 9.30am each morning.




Why use Studybugs?


- Studybugs app is integrated with our MI system, Arbor, so we know straight away if your child will not be in school.
- It is quick and easy to use. The app is free, and registration only takes a minute to complete. The app prompts you to keep us posted about how your child is feeling.



Download the Studybugs app for reporting your child's absence.

A quick and secure way to report absence due to illness and send messages to school.



Studybugs 

When should I use the Studybugs app?

Use the **Studybugs app** for:

- To report when your child is ill and too unwell to attend school
- To update the school about a current illness
- Please inform the school by 9.30am that morning

Use the **planned or unplanned absence form** for:

- Requesting time off school to attend a pre-arranged medical appointment, please state the date, time and time your child will leave and return to school. Use the [unplanned absence form](#)
- Other requests for time off school - please use the [planned absence form](#)

Additional information about attendance and reporting absences can be found on [this link](#).



Park and Stride

Keeping Our Children Safe

After congestion on Arthur's Avenue this week, please can we remind you of the Park and Stride safe drop-off zones. We would encourage you to use them as an alternative to driving up Arthurs Avenue at these very busy times. We ask that you do not stop on the zig zags and double yellow lines outside school. We would like to remind parents that Cundall Way, Southway, Grasmere Crescent and Rossett Way are Access Only and as such parking is not permitted. Please do not park in the main car park at drop off and pick up times as buses are trying to drop off and collect students. Your co-operation is very much appreciated.

Car parking - collection from extra-curricular activities after school

Parents are encouraged to use the main car park when collecting students from after school extra-curricular activities. At this time, school buses have departed so the car park is much quieter. We would ask that you switch off car engines if you are waiting for your child.

House Competitions

House competitions will commence later this month. Our first competition is 'House Cross Country'.

House cross country will take place over the forthcoming weeks during PE lessons, please check the timetable below for the date your class have been assigned.

Class	Date	Period		Class	Date	Period
7a	Thu 19 Sep	5 and 6		8a	Mon 16 Sep	1 and 2
7b	Mon 23 Sep	5 and 6		8b	Fri 20 Sep	3 and 4
7c	Thu 26 Sep	5 and 6		8c	Tue 17 Sep	3 and 4
7d	Tue 24 Sep	3 and 4		8d	Mon 23 Sep	4
9a	Tue 17 Sep	5 and 6		10R	Thu 26 Sep	4
9b	Mon 16 Sep	3 and 4		10L	Wed 18 Sep	3 and 4
9c	Mon 23 Sep	1 and 2				
9d	Thu 19 Sep	1 and 2		11R	Fri 20 Sep	1 and 2
				11L	Fri 20 Sep	5 and 6



What students need to bring:

- PE kit
- Football boots/old trainers (they could get muddy!)
- A spare bag for muddy kit
- A towel

House points will be awarded across all the events.



Enrichment and Extra-Curricular Activities

We are delighted to share with you the initial timetable detailing the clubs and activities that will commence from Monday 9 September.

Link to timetable

What do I need to do if my child would like to attend?

- Via the Arbor Parent app, please sign up for any clubs within the Clubs Section
- Students should make their way to the PE changing rooms or classroom noted on the timetable for the start of the club/activity

Further clubs and activities will be added to the timetable over the next couple of weeks. Details of these will be shared with students in the weekly student newsletter (which they will receive every Friday afternoon).

Learning Resource Centre

The LRC will be open from 8am to 8:40am and after school until 5pm each day if your child would like to use the library before or after school.

HGS e-library

Our HGS e-library is available to students. Students will be shown how to access books from the LRC during their English lessons.

The e-library allows students to digitally borrow books in the same way as they can in person from the library. They can access recommended reading suggestions for all year groups and browse a wide range of books across a range of genres.

Log in details: students should use their school email address and their school password (used to access their school email).

Sports Fixtures

Sports Events w/c 9 September

Day	Sport	Age	Venue	Home/Away	Meet	Start	Return to HGS
Wednesday 11 September	Rugby	1st XV	Scarborough College	Away	11am	2.30pm	6pm
	Netball	U19s	Ashville - Area tournament	Away	1.30pm at Ashville	2pm	-

Welcome from our PTA

A very warm welcome back from the PTA, particularly if this is your first child starting at HGS. We look forward to welcoming you to one or all of our events planned this academic year.

Further information regarding upcoming events will be communicated later this term.

In the meantime, if you would like to get involved with the PTA please email Rhona Johnson (Chair) on HGSPTA@hgs.rklt.co.uk

Vacancies

HGS Vacancies

HR Officer, closing date Monday 9 September

Teaching and Learning Assistant, closing date Monday 9 September

PE Technician, closing date Tuesday 17 September

Finance Officer, closing date Friday 20 September

Current vacancies within **Red Kite Learning Trust** can be found [here](#).



Life @ HGS

GCSE and A Level results days - August 2024

Well done and congratulations to all the students who received GCSE and A-Level results during the Summer break. We wish you all the best on your next adventure.

Links to press releases:

[GCSE results](#)

[A Level and BTEC results](#)



Netball Summer Camps

Our Netball camps took place in the Summer holidays. Thank you to everyone who took part. Amazing energy and enthusiasm.



Well-Being

HGS is a positive place to learn where all staff and students feel safe, supported and that they belong.

Mental health and wellbeing is embedded in both the pastoral programme and through our curriculum. Students can ask for support via their Form Tutor or Year Managers. The school also has strong links with local agencies and organisations which offer mental health support services. Please click [on this link](#) to access more information.