



15th December 2025

Autumn Term 2025-26 – Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

As outlined at the beginning of this academic year, I will write to you at Christmas, Easter, and summer, to provide updates on our school's progress and celebrate our successes. Please be sure to read through to the end of this PDF, as it features our newsletter highlighting and celebrating the achievements of our departments and students.

Academic Success

This term has been extremely successful. Students have started the academic year well, and we are starting as we mean to go on. We encourage students to embrace school life and take advantage of the wide range of extracurricular opportunities available to them. There are over 30 clubs each week, all free of charge - providing students with the opportunity to develop thinking, collaboration, and resilience (our school's learning behaviours) outside of the classroom while socialising with peers across their year group and the wider school community.

As you know, this term I am pleased to announce Hornchurch High School's academic success, with provisional Department for Education (DfE) data published this term confirming that our school is ranked among the top three in the borough for Attainment 8. We have outperformed many selective schools, strengthening our position as the highest-performing comprehensive in Havering. The data also show that our Strong Basics measure for English and Maths at grade 5+ is well above both the national and local authority averages.

I would like to thank our entire learning community. These impressive outcomes are only possible when we work together in a strong partnership with shared goals, supporting our young people to achieve their very best. We don't stay good by standing still! We are excited to embrace the next two terms so that students at Hornchurch High School thrive and have an array of opportunities post-16 and beyond.

Attendance

Attendance continues to be a key priority (above 97%), as regular attendance has a significant impact on students' learning and progress. This term, students engaged positively with our



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annual *Non-Stop November* challenge. A record number achieved a full 20-day streak, earning a golden ticket to the 'Non-Stop Nov Movie Festival'. Over 65% of students had 100% attendance during this rolling period. Overall, the challenge provided an excellent opportunity to reinforce positive habits, supporting students' learning and strengthening the foundations for their future success. Congratulations to all the students who achieved 100% attendance and were here, ready, every day, on time.

Continual Feedback

Your feedback as parents and carers is invaluable, and as we reach the end of term, your voice is important for us and our live school improvement plan. Please complete the following survey with your child: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5DYQY3>

Parent Engagement and School Community

This term also saw the inaugural Parent Engagement Forum. Members have begun their work by launching the Christmas Donation Appeal and have started planning a Hornchurch High Family Fun Day, scheduled for the summer term.

Safer Schools Scheme

We would like to remind you about the borough's implementation of the Safer Schools Scheme that comes into effect from Monday 5th January 2026. Please refer back to the letter dated 8th December which can be found [here](#). For further information please see [Havering Road Safety](#).

Progress Reports and Parents' Evenings

Students are assessed three times a year, and teachers provide a predicted grade based on assessments, classwork, and contributions. The Autumn Progress Report for Years 7–10 will be sent out today/tomorrow, accompanied by a letter explaining the reporting system. If you have any further questions, please contact your child's Head of Year. Year 11 students will receive theirs in person on Friday 19th during their mock results day.

Please find below the Parents' Evening dates for your son or daughter. These dates have been scheduled following a data drop, providing you with an opportune time to engage in meaningful discussions about your child's progress.





Parents' Evenings 4-6.30pm	
Year 11 – Parents' Evening	Tuesday 20 th January 2026
Year 9 – Options Presentation & Year 9 Parents' Evening	Tuesday 3 rd February 2026
Year 8 – Parents' Evening	Tuesday 10 th February 2026
Year 10 – Parents' Evening	Tuesday 28 th April 2026
Year 7 – Parents' Evening	Tuesday 5 th May 2026

End of Term Arrangement and Spring Term Start 2026

The final day of this autumn term is **Friday 19th December, when students will be dismissed by 12.00 noon** for staff to attend an end of term review meeting. The final day is business as usual in terms of lessons periods 1 and 2. Students may wear non-uniform and donate £1 however, all dress must be appropriate for a professional learning environment.

The term dates for 2025/26 are published on our website should you wish to plan future holidays. In addition, we have published our term dates for 2026/27. They are both attached to this letter.

The first day of spring term will start on Monday 5th January 2026 with students arriving at 8:15 for a prompt 8:30 start, our breakfast club starts at 8am. All students have access to free bagels and free porridge with toppings – we encourage students to take advantage of this offer.

From all of us at Hornchurch High, for those celebrating, I wish you and your family a joyful Christmas, and a Happy New Year to all.

Ms S Madhvani
Headteacher



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HORNCHURCH
HIGH SCHOOL
EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

Academic Year 2025-2026

Hornchurch High School
School Term and Holiday Dates 2025 - 2026



September 2025						
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October 2025						
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November 2025						
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December 2025						
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March 2026						
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April 2026						
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May 2026						
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June 2026						
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July 2026						
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August 2026						
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 School Holidays

 Bank Holidays

 Staff PD Days
non-pupil days

Autumn Term

Tuesday 2nd September	Start of Term (Y7)
Wednesday 3rd September	Start of Term (ALL)
Friday 24th October to Friday 31st October	Half Term
Friday 19th December	Last Day of Term

Spring Term

Monday 5th January	Start of Term
Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February	Half Term
Friday 27th March	Last Day of Term

Summer Term

Monday 13th April	Start of Term
Tuesday 26th May to Friday 29th May	Half Term
Thursday 16th July	Last Day of Term



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Autumn Term

Wednesday 2nd September 2026	Start of Term (Y7)
Thursday 3rd September 2026	Start of Term (ALL)
Monday 26th October 2026 - Friday 30th October 2026	Half Term
Friday 18th December 2026	Last Day of Term

Spring Term

Monday 4th January 2027	Start of Term
Monday 15th February 2027 - Friday 19th February 2027	Half Term
Thursday 25th March 2027	Last Day of Term

Summer Term

Monday 12th April 2027	Start of Term
Monday 31st May 2027 - Friday 4th June 2027	Half Term
Friday 16th July 2027	Last Day of Term



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HORNCHURCH HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Message from the Headteacher

I'm incredibly proud of what our learning community has achieved - a testament to what can be accomplished through hard work, ambition, and belief. We're proud to be a place where students *aspire, believe, and achieve* every day. Hornchurch High is a school where every child is encouraged to excel. I would like to extend my thanks to parents and carers for your ongoing support at home - I wish you a happy Christmas! ~ Ms. Madhvani

PARENTS' EVENINGS

* Save the dates

Parents' Evenings 4-6.30pm	
Year Group	Date
Year 11	Tuesday 20 th January 2026
Year 9	Tuesday 3 rd February 2026
Year 8	Tuesday 10 th February 2026
Year 10	Tuesday 28 th April 2026
Year 7	Tuesday 5 th May 2026

Remember to sign-up to [Easyfundraising](#) - a quick way to raise money for the school through your everyday online shopping.

School name	Type of school	Number of pupils at end of key stage 4	Attainment 8 score
Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School	Academy	120	62.1
The Coopers' Company and Coborn School	Academy	209	58.1
Hornchurch High School	Academy	132	53.9
The Campion School	Academy	151	52.7
The Frances Bardsley Academy for Girls	Academy	232	51.3

Top 3 for A8

Aspire, believe, achieve

Our motto, *Excellence for All*, reflects the ambition at Hornchurch High School, where our values — aspire, believe, achieve — guide everything we do. We aim to be the best school in the borough, providing a wide range of opportunities so your son or daughter can have choice, take control of their future, and see education as a powerful agency for success.

Provisional DfE data published this term shows we are one of the **top three schools in the borough** for Attainment 8, outperforming many selective schools and therefore the **best comprehensive in Havering**. Our Basics measure for English and Maths at grade 5+ is **well above** both the England and local authority average, reflecting the high standards we set for every student.

Grade 5 or above in English & maths GCSEs

This tells you the percentage of pupils who achieved grade 5 or above in English and maths GCSEs.



Attainment 8

Schools get a score based on how well pupils have performed in up to 8 qualifications.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

We are thrilled to announce our Head Students, Harry & Afnan and Deputy Head Students, Burchin and Michal, chosen through a democratic process by their peers - an inspiring reflection of student leadership and community spirit!



Well-being Ambassadors

Our Wellbeing Ambassadors have launched First Aid Fridays, designed to introduce students to essential life-saving skills. These sessions not only build confidence but also equip students with practical knowledge that could make a critical difference in an emergency situation.



WORD OF THE WEEK

WINNERS

Congratulations to our Term 1 Word of the Week Wizards. These students have shown exceptional dedication to expanding their vocabulary, earning the most House points in their year groups. They will receive a special edition novel to reward their linguistic brilliance:

Year 11: Freda Year 10: Elley
Year 9: Oluwadolabomi
Year 8: Linson Year 7: Arush



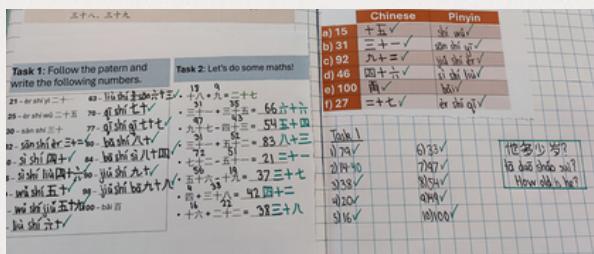
"You don't stay good by standing still"

A few weeks ago, we welcomed our latest Challenge Partners Quality Assurance Review. Over the course of three days, a team of experienced headteachers and senior leaders carried out a thorough peer evaluation at Hornchurch High School. The reviewers noted that **leadership at all levels is leading** (highest judgement), with a high ambition for every student, and that the quality of provision and outcomes for our pupils, including those who are disadvantaged or have additional needs, is effective. They praised the consistency and focus of our routines, commenting on the clarity of purpose and

commitment to continuous improvement throughout the school. As a school, we are committed to developing learning that goes well beyond the classroom, ensuring that students are equipped with broader skills and understanding to thrive in the wider world. We were delighted to receive an Area of Excellence accreditation for 'Everyone Thinking', recognising our excellent approaches to engaging students' thinking and embedding high-quality learning strategies that we will be sharing with other schools. The full report can be found on our [website](#).

我喜欢学中文

We have introduced Mandarin to some of our Y7 students, beginning with the numbers, days of the week and moving on to introducing themselves. Students have been immersed in learning how to write and pronounce new characters as well as Pinyin, the use of the Latin alphabet to represent the Chinese characters and sounds. Students are already completing wordsearches in Mandarin! Next half term, Mandarin club will be available for all students to learn more about Chinese culture and the language - we encourage everyone to attend.



"Learning a new language is really fun and we also learn about the culture. I might even prefer it to Spanish"

Game on!

Students have been actively earning points for their Houses through House competitions in both PE and Geography. In Geography, students tested their knowledge in 'Name the Flags and Countries' competition.



"Everest are leading with 16,448 House Points!"

Careers

Year 10 students enjoyed an inspiring day at the 'What Career & University?' event at London Olympia. They explored a range of future pathways, engaged with universities and employers, and gathered practical advice to help shape their next steps. Experiences like this are invaluable in building the skills and knowledge needed for post-16 choices and beyond.



Extra-curricular and Sports



Students are taking part in weekly self-defence lessons, learning practical skills to stay safe and confident.



James represented Havering in the London Youth Games Cross Country competition, finishing 71st out of 251.

A huge congratulations to all who represent the school - we are incredibly proud of you!

Adventure Highlights

KS4 students had an inspiring trip to the National Portrait Gallery this term, exploring iconic artworks and discovering the stories behind famous figures. Students developed critical thinking, observation, and interpretation skills, while connecting history, art, and culture.

KS3 students had an unforgettable night at Ebony Scrooge at Sadler's Wells - a hip-hop re-imagining of A Christmas Carol that had them energised, inspired and feeling festive all the way home!



Computing

This term, all KS3 students participated in the international Bebras Problem-Solving Challenge for the second consecutive year, with an impressive 72% of students outperforming their 2024–25 results. The highest achievers in each year group were:

- Year 7: Liam
- Year 8: Manraj
- Year 9: Robert (achieving top marks for the second year in a row!)



Kyan Fenton
Aspire Believe Achieve

Kyan has successfully qualified to compete in the British Schools Judo Championships in March.



Our football, basketball and netball teams are going from strength to strength with their recent victories over Brittons, Emerson Park & St Edward's.

During November, three Year 8 girls' teams took part in the CyberFirst Competition during break times. The teams competed against other schools nationally, aiming to be the top girls in coding. We look forward to announcing the competition results next term.



Workshops

Year 9 students attended an important session led by TFL, focusing on sexual harassment on public transport. The talk provided guidance on staying safe, understanding rights, and knowing how to seek help if needed.

Noble Residential

A big thank you to Noble for generously donating the tree in our reception. It has brought extra cheer to our learning community!

