Weekly Bulletin 9th October 2026

Welcome to our Weekly Bulletin, here you will find highlights from our most recent activities, key events for the coming week and updates from the headteacher.

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Catering Manager's Welcome

I have been a professional chef for 39 years!

I have worked in various hotels, restaurants and education sites In London, New York, and France.

I am a professional chocolatier and sugar crafter (which I really enjoy).

I have also worked as a private chef on a private 1000-acre estate in Berkshire for some 21years. I have catered for many celebrities and dignitaries on my journey.

From private events for 10 people up to a BBQ on the south bank for 36000 covers (that was interesting!).

When the Hamilton Lodge vacancy came up, why did I apply?

The answer is simple; this wasn't a career move this was about family and for me to give something back.

The feel of a community spirit is strong here and the idea of using food as an education medium appeals to me very much. I would like to make the food fun and exciting and a very welcoming environment for everyone ,I want to play a part in growing the school and making it fun.

I have many Ideas and projects, and I can't wait to start putting them into action. The staff and students have made me feel so welcome, now it's time to give my knowledge, time and experience back into a wonderful community.

Message from Head

WE VALUE AND NEED YOUR VIEWS!

Thanks to all the parents and carers who have responded to our survey and school uniform questionnaire. We hope a few more of you can complete it via the forms sent by email last week.

We are keen to hear from all of you, so we can respond to your feedback. We are keeping the forms open for you to complete online until 18th October.

Kindest Regards

Kirstie Fulthorpe

Interim Head Teacher

Stars of the week

A huge well done to our Stars of The Week- we are proud of you all.

RK (year 11)- has shown lots of resilience and determination. He doesn't rush through; he takes his time to carefully fill things out.

MB (Year 11) - has improved so much with solving two step problems. She is using high levels of mathematical problem-solving-based thinking. She has shown growth and determination.

UM (Year 10)- Independence of the week. She has grown in confidence with her abilities within residential and the community. Always with a smile!

RT (Year 14) - on his way back from college this week he noticed a man picking up his bicycle, that had fallen over. RT immediately went over and helped him lift it. The man was very grateful to RT.

Well done for showing great HLSC values.

School and Residential Highlights

School:

Year 11 English

In English, Year 11 learners have been preparing for upcoming college open days. They have been exploring their personal interests and considering future career pathways, as well as developing questions to ask during their visits. Learners will also be taking part in role-play activities to practise interacting confidently with college staff and gathering information to help them make informed decisions about their next steps.

Mathematics

Year 8 learners have been developing their understanding of ratios, exploring how they can be applied to real-life situations such as cooking and adjusting recipes.

Outdoor Education

Secondary learners have been learning about rockpool habitats, including the animals and other life forms that can be found within them. As part of this topic, they will be visiting Rottingdean Rockpools to apply their learning in a real-world environment. Learners have been using photographs and videos to support their understanding and prepare for the trip.

Deaf Studies

As part of their Deaf Identity topic this term, school learners have been exploring the importance of British Sign Language (BSL). This week's big question was: **"Why is BSL important?"** Learners discussed how BSL supports communication, access to education and services, and plays a vital role in Deaf culture, identity and community. This builds on previous discussions around the questions **"Who am I?"** and **"What does Deaf mean?"**

World of Work

Students are learning about skills, career paths, college options and visiting different places to see a wide variety of workplaces and the different roles within them.

We have invited staff to come and speak about their jobs and previous roles. Coming up, they will tell us about their lives as:

- A Police Officer
- An Ofsted Inspector
- A Chef
- A Teacher

We welcome our readers to express interest in coming and speaking to our students. Please email the office if you can contribute.

The world of work is endless and we want to show our students just how broad the horizons are!

Our FE students have been busy with their college courses, on the days when they are on site with us they have honed their maths and literacy skills with our qualified Teacher of the Deaf. They have also enjoyed being involved with the project work and will look forward to trips out in the coming weeks. Their work and determination is incredible.

We are really pleased that another one of our Year 14 students started her college course this week and benefited from a visit to Brighton Museum. She enjoyed learning new skills in badminton with some new friends. We are so proud of you NJ!!

In Community Skills, students have been supported by our occupational therapist to visit local cafes and shops. The students have practiced their team work and communicating with hearing peers. They have learnt new skills and really did Hamilton Lodge proud.

Residential:

Our Residential Learners have enjoyed various activities this week, including;

- Baking- some amazing healthy treats have been baked this week.
- Football- lots of football with both girls and boys houses..... did you know, our amazing Residential Officer Daniel Mace is part of Team GB Deaf Football, we think we have some budding team mates for him in the near future!
- Swimming- an amazing trip to The Triangle in Burgess Hill this week. We are so excited that IH (year 8) has conquered the flumes!!
- Arts and Crafts - Halloween theme has continued this week
- Connect 4 tournament has come to an end, our winner IH (year 8) worked hard to get to the top. Now we must see if she can defend her title in the next match.
- A belated birthday trip to Laser Tag - **Happy Birthday EI (Year 15)**

Our girls' house have been working hard with their new independence skills within the home environment, they are looking forward to receiving their rewards at the end of the week.

These treats are getting tastier every week.

HF (Year 11) hard at work in boys' house.

This was LG's design, finally complete and coming to an outside space near you!!

RT enhancing his communication skills at a local cafe.

Our Connect 4 winner, starting the next game with staff in Number 15.

The week ahead

Next week we are;

- Swimming on Wednesday during residential- all learners welcome- Please speak to your form tutor or one of the care team.
- A visit to Amex Football Stadium to watch a live match on Thursday.
- College open evening on Thursday (rescheduled from this week).

Reminder

Please ensure you email reception with any changes to circumstances, contact details, absences, medical appointments or taxi changes.

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