Holmer Green Senior School Weekly Newsletter

16th October 2026

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE:

Congratulations to all our students who have contributed towards a record total of 57,000 achievement points for the first half-term.
Year 7, in particular, have been instrumental in leading this record by starting so fantastically well.
Our new Year 12's have also been working hard and have successfully completed their first half-term at HGS.

We wish all those on trips to Woodrow and Barcelona this half-term safe journeys and look forward to hearing about their trips.

We are currently advertising for **Parent Governors** here,
but also **Community Governors** here,
particularly those with experience in estates; finance; audit; or procurement.
If you, or anyone you know would like to support the school in this way please either apply, or to find out more about the roles contact us at jacobsl@holmer.org.uk

Wishing you all a great half-term.

Uniform and Equipment Reminder for After Half Term

As we approach the half term holiday, we would like to thank families for their continued support and remind everyone of our expectations regarding uniform and equipment for after half term.
At Holmer Green Senior School, we believe that high standards of uniform and readiness for learning help students develop confidence, responsibility and a sense of belonging. Ensuring students are correctly dressed and fully equipped from the first day of term helps them settle quickly and focus on their learning.

Uniform reminders
Please ensure that students return in September wearing the correct school uniform:

- Skirts should be an A-line design, non-stretchy material and worn at a smart school length (no more than 2 inches above the knee).
- Trousers should be plain black, tailored school trousers.
- Shoes must be plain black leather or leather-imitation school shoes. Trainers and branded sports footwear are not permitted.
- Socks should be black.
- Coats should be black of navy blue.
- Students may wear one pair of small stud earrings only.
- Nose piercings are permitted only with a clear retainer.
- All other facial and body piercings are not permitted.
- Acrylic nails, false nails and gel nail extensions are not permitted.

Hair and appearance
If haircuts or colouring are planned over half term, please ensure they comply with our uniform policy. Hair should be a natural colour and extreme hairstyles, including shaved patterns, razor lines and dramatic undercuts, are not permitted.
If any piercings are planned during the half term holiday, please be aware that students will be expected to comply with the school's jewellery expectations from the first day of term. Any additional piercings that do not meet the school's policy must be removed.

✅ Correct black school shoe



: ❌ Trainer



Equipment
Students should arrive each day fully equipped for learning, including:

- A suitable school bag
- A pencil case containing essential stationery
- A scientific calculator
- A reading book
- A fully charged Windows laptop (where applicable)
- Please also ensure that students are prepared to use our phone locker system every day. Mobile phones must be switched off and secured in their phone pouch throughout the school day. Phones are for the journey to and from school, not for use on site.

Being organised and equipped helps students participate fully in lessons, avoid unnecessary disruption and develop the habits that underpin success.

Full details of our uniform and equipment requirements can be found on our website: https://www.hgss.co.uk/page/?title=Uniform+and+Equipment&pid=1034

Thank you for your continued support in helping us ensure that every student starts the new term, ready to participate and ready to succeed.



COMMUNICATION UPDATE

In the background we are working to switch from SIMS to Abor for January 2027.
This will allow parents to view timetables, homework, behaviour, lunch money, etc. all in one user friendly app.

Details about this move will come out towards the end of next half term.

Arbor

MESSAGE FROM THE PA TEAM:

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our Parent Association team are looking to do a Christmas raffle for the school and would like some help with obtaining prizes! if you or your company can offer any support by offering vouchers for meals out, spa or activity experiences that would be amazing.
We would also appreciate donations or wine, chocolates, bubble bath to make up a hamper.

Please can any of these offering be brought into Reception.

If you would like to become a member or to find out more, please email PA@holmer.org.uk

Many thanks in advance.

PA Team

HGSS Parents' Association

HOLMER GREEN SENIOR SCHOOL PARENTS ASSOICATION

Lucky Numbers Club

HGSS Parents Association "Lucky Numbers Club" runs a monthly charitable draw. Half of the money collected is returned in prize money each month, with the other half being used to buy items for the school.

Each year we offer all parents and friends of the school, the opportunity to purchase up to 3 numbers, the more numbers you have the greater your chance of winning. The Club runs from September until August of each year.

Unlike most prices these days we have kept the existing £1 per number per month payable in advance. We do hope you will support your child's school in this way, as well as supporting other events we organise. The option to purchase Lucky Numbers is now available from the School Gateway. The costs are as follows:

- £12.00 for 1 number per monthly draw for 12 months
- £24.00 for 2 numbers per monthly draw for 12 months
- £36.00 for 3 numbers per monthly draw for 12 months

Thank you for supporting the school and your children. The deadline for entering the draw will be 16th October 2026. The first draw will be in November, when we will also draw the winners for September and October, so please purchase your Lucky Numbers now!

HGSS PA Association
Fund-raising on behalf of the Holmer Green Senior School Fund
Charity number: 1051142

Year 11 Mock Exam Preparation- GCSE English Language

Well done to the 85 year 11s who attended our Creative Writing revision workshop this week.

A huge thank you for to Mrs Watson for leading the workshop and to Miss Simpson, Mr Bulteel and Miss L'Esperance for their support.



Revision at HGSS

We have two Assessment Points at HGSS. For years 7-10 and 12, you will receive a report in February and July. To support with students' preparation and wellbeing, we don't have exam weeks until the end of year 10, therefore assessments happen at different times.

You can find the dates of these assessments in Revision Booklets published on our website here: **https://www.hgss.co.uk/Learning/Revision-Guides/**

Please use the links to resources on these to support with preparation before assessments in each subject.

For Year 11 and 13, Content Guides have been published on this section of the website. We will publish Content Guides for Year 10 and 12 before the mock exams in June.

HGSS Careers

Work Hard · Be Kind · Have Passion

HGSS DAY TO WORK

Know a trusted grown up with an exciting job?

Spend a staff INSET day working alongside them and see a career in action.

WHEN	LAUNCHES	WHERE
Any staff INSET day	Monday 2nd November	Wherever they work!

Who could you shadow?

Parents	Family	Friend	Local Business
Your Primary School	A Charity	A volunteer	Careers contact

Open to every student, Year 7 to Year 13
Pick up a form at the careers clinic.
Miss Christiansen- Careers Lead

Prizes up for grabs!

CAREERS DROP-IN CLINIC

Got a question about your future?

Just turn up. No appointment, no pressure, and no question is too small.

WHEN	TIME	WHERE
Every Thursday	3.30pm to 4pm	Purple Study Room, Careers Office

Ask us about…

GCSE options	A Levels & BTECs	T Levels	Apprenticeships
University & UCAS	Work experience	CVs & applications	Part-time jobs

Open to every student, Year 7 to Year 13
Bring a friend. Bring your questions.
Miss Christiansen- Careers Lead

Drop in, no booking!

HGSS Careers

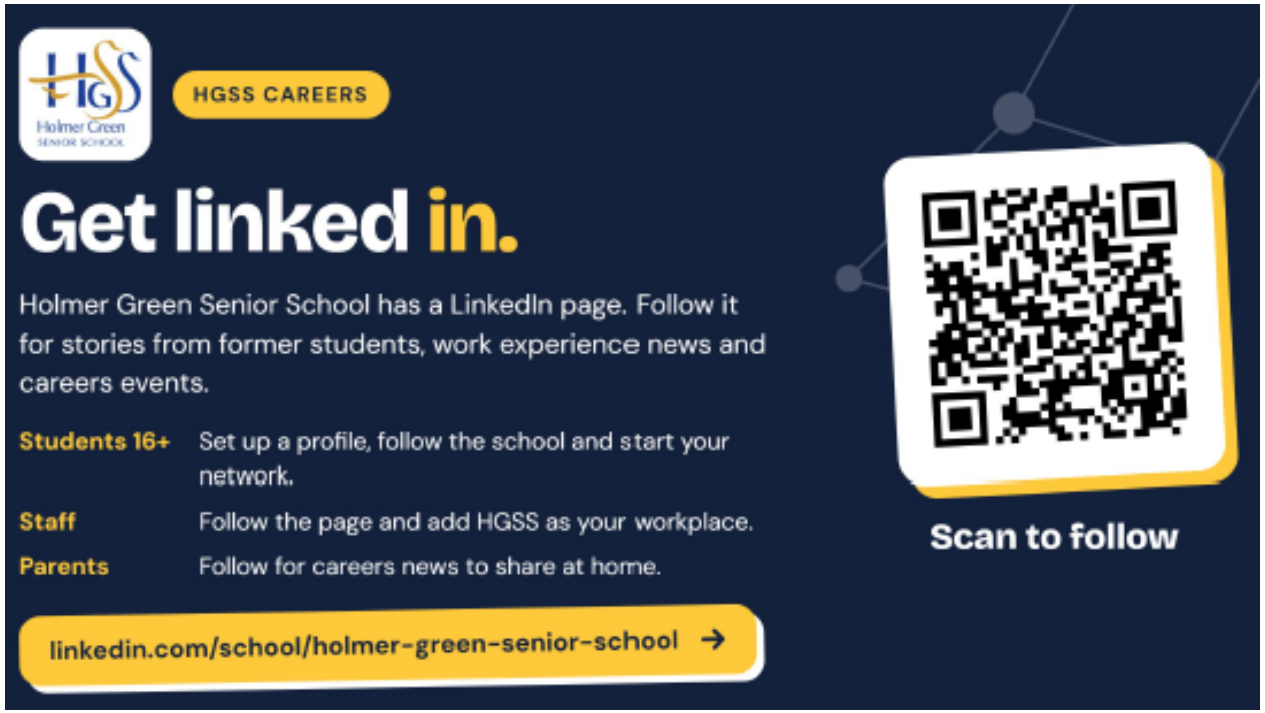
Work Hard · Be Kind · Have Passion

The October 2026 **Higher and Degree Apprenticeship Vacancy Listing** is out, with hundreds of paid jobs starting in September 2027 at employers such as the BBC, Airbus, Amazon, KPMG and the Metropolitan Police, including roles in Milton Keynes, Reading and Oxford.

Degree apprentices earn a salary while studying for a degree, with course fees covered, and starting pay can be high: solicitor apprentices at Freshfields start on £32,000 and Met police constable apprentices on £42,210.

Some deadlines are in October and November, so Year 13 students should look now, and they can apply to university at the same time. Find the listing here: Higher and Degree Vacancy Listing, October 2026. Students can explore their options on Unifrog or get help with applications at our career's clinic, Thursdays 3.30pm to 4pm in the Purple Study Room.





SPORTS:

Edward in year 10 has successfully been selected to play rugby for the Northampton Saints Academy Pathway, U15 Foundation Phase 2026-27.

Edward attended two intense Talent ID sessions in September and was successfully chosen from over 1200 young players across the Northampton Saints region, which includes Bucks, Beds, Northants, Suffolk, Essex and Cambs, amongst others.

This season Edward will attend weekly training sessions and match opportunities with professional coaches alongside other talented players, in a bid to maintain his place in the Academy Pathway for the following season.



Yr 9 Football team won 3-0 against Chiltern Hills in the District League Cup.



The Yr7 Netball team had lots of players who were super excited to be going on their first fixture and represent the school. Lovely bit of singing on the way there.



Rhain in year 11 is a member of the Young Racing Driver Academy (YRDA), where he receives specialist coaching and development as he works towards a future in single seater racing.
He is coached by Steve Hutchinson, an experienced racing driver and coach who has played a role in developing young racing talent, including Oscar Piastri, who has progressed through the YRDA pathway to become a Formula 1 driver. The academy has also supported other drivers who have gone on to compete at the highest levels of motorsport.
Due to his current age and the championship's eligibility requirements, Rhain is not yet able to compete in a full GB4 race season. However, he is actively preparing for this next step through GB4 car testing and regular simulator training. These sessions are an important part of his development, allowing him to learn circuits, improve his driving technique, analyse performance data and develop the racecraft, consistency and mental resilience needed to compete at this level.
The programme extends beyond simply driving a racing car. It requires considerable commitment, discipline, preparation and a willingness to learn from feedback.
Rhain is working towards achieving the standard required to progress into competitive single seater racing when he becomes eligible.

Dear Year 7 Parents and Carers,

We hope your child has settled well into life at Holmer Green Senior School and is enjoying their Maths lessons.

As you may be aware, students are placed into Maths sets based on their mathematical attainment and learning needs. This enables us to provide additional support through smaller class sizes in some groups, while offering increased pace, challenge and independence in others.

Following our review of the available attainment data, there may be some set changes over the October half-term break, which will take effect at the start of next half term. These decisions will be informed by a range of evidence, including your child's Baseline Assessment, CATs scores and Key Stage 2 Mathematics scaled score.

Students will have a further opportunity to move between sets following the AP1 assessments in January. This allows us to ensure that students are appropriately supported and challenged, while reinforcing the importance of consistent effort and preparation for assessments.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either myself at ortegaj@holmer.org.uk or Mr Richards, Deputy Head of Mathematics, at richardsb@holmer.org.uk.

Thank you for your continued support. We wish all our Year 7 students and families a restful and enjoyable October break.

Kind regards,
Mr J. Ortega
Head of Maths at HGSS

MULTI-CULTURAL LUNCHES

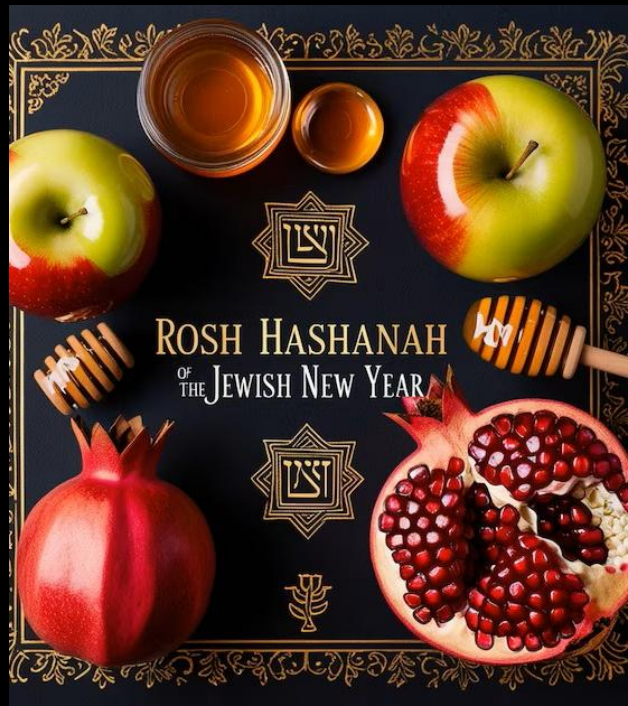
We celebrated Rosh Hashanah on 16 September and will celebrate Diwali on 5 November

With traditional and tasty meals served in our Dining Room











- The Choir will be performing at **Christmas on the Common** on the 29th November outside Holmer Green Village Hall. Time slot to follow, however it will be late afternoon/evening time.

- Tickets for the **Christmas Showcase** will be available on School Cloud.
- This festive event will feature performances from the Choir, Band, Performing Arts groups and an array of individual talents.
- It will be held on the 15th December. If you son/daughter would like to take part, please encourage them to come along to auditions on the 10th November which will be held after school in the drama studio.

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Latest Vacancies

Please see our website for full details:

Holmer Green Senior School - Work with us

Current Vacancies:

Pastoral Manager
LSA
Parent Governor
Community Governor

CAREERS

Follow this link for the latest Classroom to Careers Newsletter

Classroom_to_Careers_Newsletter_September_2026.pdf

REMINDERS:

Student safety – please encourage your children to be attentive when using the roads. The use of mobile phones whilst walking along the pavements or crossing the roads should be discouraged so that children can concentrate on their surroundings and other people.

We strongly encourage our students to be as independent as possible on their journey to and from school. Walking, cycling and taking the bus are all good options. If you do need to drive your children to school, please do not drive along Parish Piece at the start and the end of the school day as this causes congestion and significant danger for students as they make their way home. Please arrange to meet your sons and daughters at a location away from Parish Piece. When parking, please park legally, safely and respectfully of our neighbours.

Please remember to sign up for extra curricular clubs and interventions and include the School Cloud link: SchoolCloud - Holmer Green Senior School https://holmergreensenior.schoolcloud.co.uk/