



Week 1 Published 09/09/2022

Warm Welcome

Welcome back to HGS and the wonderful prospect of an exciting new school year ahead of us. It doesn't seem long ago at all that I was wishing you an enjoyable Summer and I do hope you have had a lovely time, hopefully spending some time together as a family.

We have had a busy start to the term, welcoming our new year 7 students, resplendent in their new school uniforms, with a real spring in their step, excitedly enjoying their first taste of grammar school life. As expected, they have all settled very well indeed, enjoying meeting new people, fellow students and staff and making their way round the school building without getting lost too many times.

Similarly, we have started the new year at a fast pace with approximately 240 very able indeed, year 12 students who have all achieved very strong grades at GCSE this Summer. The 2 years of sixth form goes all too quickly and we have been supporting the new intake in the transition to the challenges of A levels and at the same time choosing enrichment activities to balance their academic studies, upholding our motto of working hard and playing hard.

Indeed, this Summer our students achieved some exceptionally high grades both at GCSE and A level. Still to be ratified in due course, but at GCSE our students, on average, in every subject have

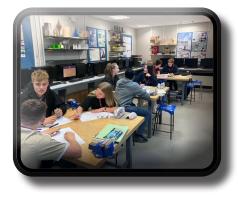
exceeded their very challenging target grades by over 0.8 of a grade. This is truly outstanding progress and a real credit to the students for their hard work over 5 years, 2 of which were significantly disrupted due to the pandemic. This set of results will place the school in the top 5% nationally. At A level, we have seen record grades, with 66% at A*-B, which is a significant step up from 2019, the last set of exam grades. Our year 13 students have typically gone on to progress to top universities, studying some very high calibre courses and as I write this letter I know many are packing their bags, ready to fly the nest for the first time. We look forward to hearing how they have got on at our annual Prize Giving event in December.

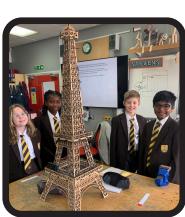
Clearly the end of our first week has been punctuated by the very sad news of the death of our Monarch, Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. Please do read the letter sent earlier today to parents which reflects our school community's deep sorrow and addresses some of the practical issues ahead, as to how we pay our respects to Her Majesty.



With my best wishes to you all.

Peter Roberts Headteacher









New year 7 and year 12 students enjoying the start of their new journey's at HGS.











