Head's Newsletter

Friday 20 November 2026

'Excellence in a Caring Community'

https://www.hobart.org.uk

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope this newsletter finds you well and you have had an enjoyable week.

Odd Socks, Anti-bullying Assemblies and More…..



Celebrating What Makes Us Unique – Odd Socks Day

On Tuesday, our school community took part in **Odd Socks Day**, wearing brightly coloured and mismatched socks to celebrate individuality and raise awareness of Anti-Bullying Week. It was wonderful to see so many students and staff getting involved and embracing the message that it is okay to be different.

We will be announcing our winning tutor groups and individual Odd Socks winners next week, so watch this space! Check out more amazing sock combinations below!







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Anti-Bullying Week 2026 – Break the Silence

Millions of children and young people experience bullying every year, yet many never tell anyone. They may remain silent when they are being bullied, when they witness it happening or, sometimes, when they find themselves caught up in bullying behaviour. Bullying can take place face-to-face, online and through emerging technologies. In a world where kindness and understanding are more important than ever, we all have a part to play. By coming together, speaking out and choosing kindness, we can help take away the power of bullying.

This year's Anti-Bullying Week theme, led by the Anti-Bullying Alliance, was **'Break the Silence'**. Throughout the week, we used assemblies and tutor time activities to explore how we can all play a role in breaking the silence around bullying. We focused on three simple but powerful actions: **SEE – SAY – SUPPORT**. These encourage us to recognise when bullying is happening, understand when and how we can safely intervene, and know how to access or offer support. We all have a responsibility to make sure that nobody feels alone or unheard.

Norfolk Youth Against Bullying Conference

On Wednesday, ten Hobart students joined Miss Whittaker at the annual Norfolk Youth Against Bullying Conference in Thetford. They had a fantastic day working alongside young people from across Norfolk and taking part in a range of thought-provoking workshops. We look forward to hearing more about their experiences and sharing what they have learned with our school community over the coming weeks.

Where to Find Support



Although Anti-Bullying Week provides an important opportunity to raise awareness, our commitment to tackling bullying continues throughout the year. A reminder that our **online bullying reporting form** is available via the school website for students and families to report any concerns. The Anti-Bullying Alliance website also provides a wealth of helpful information, guidance and advice for parents and carers. At Hobart, we want every student to feel safe, valued and respected. By continuing to **SEE, SAY and SUPPORT**, we can all help create a community where everyone feels they belong. **Together, let's break the silence and choose kindness.**

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Unifrog Career Courses and Webinars Arrive @ Hobart

www.unifrog.org.uk



Students in KS3 had the opportunity to explore the Unifrog careers website this week. We started off by signing up to a live webinar on careers in zoos, led by Hertfordshire Zoo (the recording will be available soon for students to watch). We then had two sessions for Years 7, 8 and 9 to explore the Unifrog website and find out about different careers. This involved students choosing a course within a career they were interested in, and working through tasks independently. Some of the sectors that were popular included creative arts, hair and beauty and conservation. Students got to watch videos, answer questions and create documents to get a deeper understanding about the skills required for that particular vocation.

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Welcome Back and Congratulations to the Class of 2026

Last Thursday, we welcomed back students who completed their GCSEs in the summer. The celebration event provided the chance for us to hear about how their new study and training adventures have started, reminisce their time at Hobart, and celebrate their success. It was a lovely evening and great to have them back!

Career in Medicine?

If you are a Year 10 or Year 11 student interested in a career in medicine, please take the time to look at the exciting opportunity below to attend a free 'Get into Medicine' event online.

Get Into Medicine Conference Sign Up - Medic Mentor - aimed at Year 10 and above.

E-Scooter safety: What schools and families need to know

To support conversations about safer travel choices, a short e-scooter safety video has been produced for young people and families. The video provides clear information about where e-scooters can legally be used, the difference between private and rental e-scooters, and practical steps to help reduce risk and keep themselves and others safe.

Watch and share the E-Scooter Safety Film here.

Key messages for young people and families

- Privately owned e-scooters are currently illegal to use on roads, pavements and in public spaces. They may only be used on private land with the landowner's permission.
- Rental e-scooters can only be used as part of approved trials (such as Beryl in Norwich).

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- Rental e-scooter riders must meet the requirements of the rental operator. For example, riders using Beryl in Norwich must be aged 18 or over and hold at least a provisional driving licence.
- Rental e-scooters must not be used on pavements, helping to protect pedestrians.
- Wearing a helmet is strongly advised and can help reduce the risk of serious injury in the event of a fall.

Subject Stars of the Week - PSHE



Oli Jary 7R and Sam Springall 90

Both of these students have shown a mature approach to the subject, with a willingness to contribute to class discussions. They have shown a real insight into the lesson content. Keep up this fantastic approach!

Music



Abi Lee (Year 8) for her excellent contribution to folk club.

Anamaya Low (Year 8) for her excellent contribution to rock and pop.

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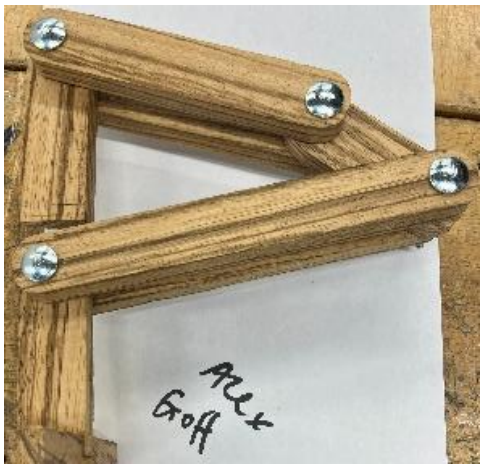
Design and Technology Latest
Year 10: Lamp Design - CAD/CAM Shade

Our current Year 10 students are some way along the path to completing the frame linking structure of the lamp … the arms.

Students were given the opportunity to select from a wide range of hardwood; oak, mahogany, elm, beech and zebrano. These were then paired and matched in length with linking sections. One end will be attached to the shade with the other end glued and fixed to the concrete base.

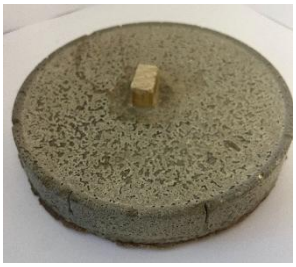


It is critical for the students to understand the CAD/CAM process, so we use the shade as a vehicle for learning the process. We suggest that 3.00mm MDF is used as this cuts accurately on the laser cutter and is a relatively cost-effective outcome.

Students can add colour to embellish the shade and include other materials that suit the design. In the past we have had various items added in designs, such as shells, sequins, and rope. The base requires a mould and any plastic food container with an unusual form can be used. Students will mix the correct ratio of sand, cement and small stones to create a strong and stable base for the lamp.

Below are some examples of the arms that have been completed so far, and some possible bases that could be used. We have been especially pleased with focus and outcome from the students listed below and their standard of work to date.

Freya Tuthill, Misha Rose Ellis, Mia Colby-Dudman, Frankie Gorton, Alex Goff, Jenson Loades, Ethan Riley, Wyatt Hickling, Blake Baylis.



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Year 10: Lamp and Base Designs













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LIBRARY CLOSURE DATES

Monday 23 November to Friday 4 December

for Year 11 Mock exams - closed for 2 weeks.

***Arranged** respite will be in an alternative space – mostly in E1, M5, M6 & T4 – please check posters in the school*

Lunch time library will be in M5

Quip of the Week

I went into form late on Thursday after getting caught in traffic. I said to them, bad things come in threes. 'On Monday I was late as I needed to get oil for my car, today I was late as the traffic was so bad, what next?' A student responded 'midlife crisis'.

BBC Apprenticeship Opportunity

Whether you are interested in a career in journalism, production, business management or AI it is worth taking a look at the BBC Apprenticeship programme. Applications are now open for 2027, to find out more, follow the link: https://www.bbc.co.uk/careers/earlycareers/

Forthcoming Dates

- Wednesday 25 November – Parent/Carer voice (7.00pm-8.00pm)
- Wednesday 2 December – Flu vaccinations
- Thursday 10 December – Science Lecture (7.00pm)

Take care and have a great weekend.

Ross Li-Rocchi
Head of School



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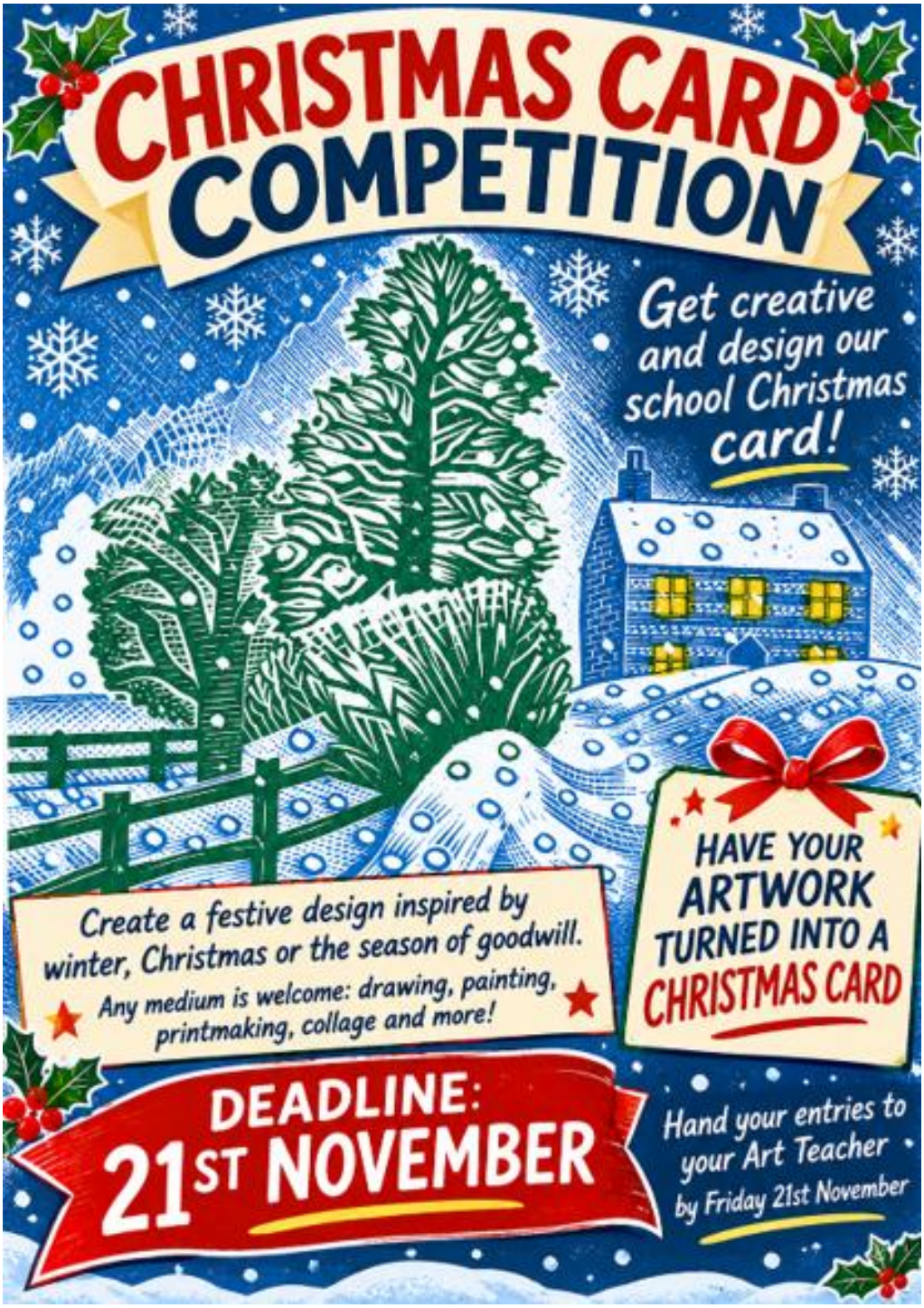

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Communications List

Topic/Query	Who to Contact
Attendance/Absence	Mrs P McLoughlin, Attendance Officer pmcloughlin@hobart.org.uk
Pastoral Issues, Wellbeing, etc.	Form Tutor
Significant Pastoral Concerns	Mrs Johnson, Head of Year 7 – rjohnson@hobart.org.uk Mrs Burkert, Head of Year 8 – tburkert@hobart.org.uk Mr Setchell, Head of Year 9 – msetchell@hobart.org.uk Miss Field, Head of Year 10 – sfield@hobart.org.uk Dr Wharton, Head of Year 11 – nwharton@hobart.org.uk
Safeguarding	Miss Barker, Assistant Headteacher – abarker@hobart.org.uk
Learning/Progress	Class Teacher/Head of Department
SEN	Mrs Ellison, SENCO – kellison@hobart.org.uk
Exams	Exams Officer, Mrs Bromley – cbromley@hobart.org.uk
Medical	Miss Barker, Assistant Headteacher – abarker@hobart.org.uk

Individual staff email addresses can be found on the website via this link