



**Special
Edition**

Hazelwick School Newsletter

September 2020

Dates for your diary:

Sat 31st Oct 2020:
Deadline for school
place preference
procedure

Mon 1st March 2021:
Offer date

Mon 12th July 2021:
Hazelwick New Intake
Parents'/Carers'
Meeting

Please visit the
"Open Evening"
section of our
website for all the
details that you
need.

Headlines

Mrs A Fearon, Headteacher

Welcome to this special edition of our Hazelwick School Newsletter!



Our newsletter, celebrating the huge number and range of activities that our students are involved in and their many successes, is produced at the end of each month. Past issues can be found on the school website (www.hazelwick.org).

In this special edition, we have put together a selection of articles to illustrate the breadth and variety of opportunities open to our students here at Hazelwick. We have also included some information about various aspects of school life that we hope will be of interest to you and of course there is a great deal more information on our website.



I do hope that you enjoy reading our newsletter and take the opportunity to discover about all the wonderful activities and opportunities that are offered at Hazelwick.



Year 7 students on their first day at Hazelwick:



Year 8 students look back on their first year



"The first year of Hazelwick, I think the most amazing highlight is the Xmas Performance. I really enjoyed working and doing it with the class. That was a memorable highlight in Year 7 which I think I enjoyed the most."

"Calshot was really fun and it helped me get over some of my fears like heights with the rock climbing and being in different classes with different people meant that I met new people, I have so many new friends now!"

"One of the highlights of my first year at Hazelwick was the trip to the art museum because we got to see so many fascinating things! I also enjoyed attending the Choir club, because we got to do a performance at the Christmas Fair and at County Mall!"



"I think my biggest achievement was my exam results because of how well I think I did, and getting a certificate for achievement points because I wasn't expecting myself to get that many points."

"I am proud of becoming a millionaire reader because I enjoy reading."

"One of the best times, was having breakfast with Ms Fearon because it was a time to celebrate our achievement and our hard work with the Headteacher."

"Making it into the football team it made me and my family proud. Also when I got 99% in my Geography exam that made me proud too."

"I have kept 100% attendance and gained the bronze and silver certificates."

Key Stage 3 Curriculum (Years 7 and 8)

All students at Hazelwick follow a broad and balanced curriculum at KS3, studying a wide range of subjects, all taught by specialist teachers.

The aim of the curriculum at KS3 is to excite and engage children, to broaden their experience, open up new areas of knowledge, develop their independent study skills and lay down strong foundations for success in examination work at KS4.

Students are grouped in a variety of ways that we feel are most appropriate to their age and ability.

Full details of the KS3 curriculum can be found on the school website.

Enriching the Curriculum



Chemistry Week

The Chemistry show during Chemistry week was great fun and attended by Year 7 students who observed demonstrations of 'exploding water', a 'thermite sparkler', 'a rainbow of flames' and 'screaming jelly babies'. Students were also able to make their own sparklers and produced fire-writing Christmas cards.

Tomorrow's Engineers EEP Robotics Challenge



Accelerated Reader Students

Year 7 reflecting on their success as part of our Accelerated Reading Programme.



Members of Year 7 and Year 8 competed at the Tomorrow's Engineers EEP Robotics Challenge in Brighton. It was our first visit, and we were pleased to beat some of the established teams in the speed challenge and other activities.



Creative Arts

Art Show

Our annual summer Art Show exhibited the high-quality work of our students across the specialist areas of Fine Art and Photography.

Drama Production

Hazelwick students brought a firm favourite *Oliver!* to the stage. A cast, crew and band of over 100 students delivered a production which audience members claimed was 'better than the West End.'





The sound of (live) Music

The Music department keeps busy with their annual concerts.

The Live Lounge set saw very few microphones and a relaxed, acoustic setting. We had some excellent solo performances ranging from Year 7 up to Year 12, as well as several bands who have formed over the last couple of years. It wasn't all quiet, though. Mr Mapp's Soul Band launched the evening with a fantastic rendition of Michael Jackson's 'Thriller' and a rather lively choir finished the evening with 'Circle of Life'.



Music Summer Concert

We hold an annual Summer concert. At our last concert, musical performances were all inspired from the world of musical theatre.



Battle of the Bands!

Students have the opportunity to perform at Battle of the Bands and take part in a band photoshoot and studio recording session prior to the gig.



The Wonder of Science

STEM — Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths



Students enjoying scientific discovery.



Annual Maths Challenge

Hazelwick competes against teams from across the region. The team entered perform tremendously well, working together to solve some very demanding mathematical challenges.

STEMfest!

Ex Year 13 students Shivam Patel, Duvarakan Gunaratnam and Krishen Mistry took their ideas for using drones to monitor pollution to the Big Bang, National Science and Engineering Competition at the NEC. They were awarded a runners-up slot in the main competition but did walk away with a special award, The Air Products Protecting the Environment Prize.



South of England Show 2019 - 'Young Artisan of the Year Awards'



Sanjeeve Gunaratnam, in Year 13, won 'First Prize' in the category of Design & Technology. Sanjeeve was congratulated by the judges and received £300 towards his prototype. Sanjeeve's design is for a client who has issues with shortened tendons in his heels and calves as a result of stunted growth through suffering with hydrocephalus.

Charities and Community



Year 7 Fun Run raising money for St Catherine's Hospice



Sixth Form Festive Friday



St Catherine's Hospice Youth Enterprise Challenge

Led by six of our Year 12 students, the team organised a wide range of fund-raising activities, including cake sales, a fun run, a hot chocolate stand, pie the teacher and non-uniform days, to raise money for St Catherine's Hospice. The school raised a phenomenal £6,368.18 and would have raised considerably more had the country not gone into national lockdown. We are confident that, as for the last 9 years, Hazelwick will have raised a winning amount.

House System

The Hazelwick House System runs in addition to the well-established and highly effective Year Team pastoral system, to increase students' leadership opportunities and encourage further participation between different year groups. All students belong to one of 6 Houses, which are named after great British achievers - Duleep Singh, Equiano, Fry, Seacole, Turing and Winton. All students earn points for their House across all aspects of school life. There are regular events that take place throughout the school year, giving students the opportunity to compete together, often with other year groups, to earn points for their House. Events in the last year have included: Halloween Treasure Hunt, Table Tennis Tournament, Hazelwick School does Taskmaster, Great House Bake Off, Boys and Girls Football Tournaments, Year 7 Hoop Hop, Sixth Form Table Football, Limerick Challenge and a Hairdressing competition. Each House also has a nominated House Charity for which they raise money throughout the year.



As well as taking part in events, students are key to the leadership of the House system with Charity, Sport and Student Voice representatives in every form, led by House Leaders and House Captains from the 6th form. It is excellent to see students from across the age range of the school working together to organise, deliver and enjoy events for other students.

Results

A-Level

At A-level this summer, in spite of the uncertainty and changes in the awarding of Centre Assessed Grades, Hazelwick students achieved outstanding results. Over 30% of all A-level grades were A* or A, with 51% of all grades between A* and B, which is testament to students' hard work and determination.



Amongst these fantastic results was our highest attainer; Sulayman Awan with an immensely impressive A*, A*, A*, A* and Danyal Durrani with A*, A*, A*, A.

One of our high-achieving students, Louis Brett Kelly, gained a place at Cambridge to read Modern and Medieval Languages. Two students have been accepted to study medicine: Fagan Jacques (Imperial College, London) and Khadijah Khan (Brighton and Sussex Medical School). Other high-flyers have gone on to study a wide range of subjects, including Sulayman Awan (Physics with Theoretical Physics at Imperial College, London).

80% of our students this year moved on to university, with a fifth gaining places at Russell group universities and 43% studying at those listed in the "top 40". We are immensely proud of all of our Sixth Form students and, most importantly, we are thrilled that every one of them were able to progress to their university of choice.



GCSE

Impressive results

Once again, we were thrilled that our students were able to achieve another set of excellent GCSE results. An incredible 81% of all GCSE grades, were 9-4 (or equivalent) and almost 30% were "top" grades 9-7 (or equivalent).

Outstanding progress

Here at Hazelwick, we are committed to enabling each and every student to make excellent progress regardless of their prior attainment. A huge number of our students achieve a progress score of +1 or higher, showing that on average in each of their subjects they achieve a whole grade higher than national expectations. Many of last year's cohort achieved a score of +2 and five students even gained a progress score of higher than +3, with one student hitting a score which showed that on average he achieved almost 4 grades higher than national expectations in every subject that he took. There are no performance tables this year, but last year the Department for Education placed us as the 6th top performing school in the whole of West Sussex according to Progress8, the usual measure by which all schools are judged nationally.

First Class Facilities for your Child

Hazelwick School as an Academy

- Increased funding and greater autonomy
- Improved services for our students
- Site and facilities upgrades and developments
- Enhanced curriculum flexibility
- No change to our admissions criteria
- No change to our ethos

All student toilets across the whole site are individual cubicles, equipped with high-quality modern fittings.



NORTH HALL

Mezzanine floor housing a fully-equipped multi-gym fitness suite



GROUNDS

Extensive, high quality sports pitches

More Able, Gifted and Talented

Hazelwick is fully committed to ensuring that all students make the best possible progress, tailored to their individual needs. Within this is the wealth of opportunities that we offer to our able, gifted and talented students.

More Able Linguists Teaching Primary School Pupils



Talented Athlete Programme

Students on our Talented Athlete Programme attended a fitness workshop K2.



Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) Silver Award

Year 11 Silver DofE students took part in their final expedition to the New Forest. The weather conditions were particularly challenging with continuous rain for two of the three days and strong winds. Students braved their way through these conditions with everyone completing two nights of camping, completely self-sufficiently, along with three full days of walking.

Sport

Athletics - Track and Field Cup

Our fantastic athletics team competed in the annual Super Six Athletics competition.

The event requires each team member to complete one track event, one field event and a relay. After a tough afternoon of competition, the Hazelwick team, made up of boys and girls were runaway winners.



KS3 Badminton Tournament



The KS3 badminton tournament was held at St Wilfrid's Catholic School.

Hazelwick entered two teams. Both teams played well but the A team just narrowly missed out on the final.

The A team had convincing wins over The Gatwick School and Oriel High School but lost 3-2 to St Wilfrid's Catholic School.

Town Sports Triumph!

In July 2019, the 63rd Crawley Secondary Schools' athletics competition took place at K2. Hazelwick has been the holder of the trophy since 2009. Students spend many hours in training prior to Town Sports and for the 9th year running Hazelwick retained the trophy!



Sussex Schools

Amelia Cox, Nicholas Hollan-Ellidge and Thomas James competed for the Sussex Schools team at the National Championships in Leeds.

Sport

U14 Girls Football Team

The under U14 girls football team made an excellent start to the season this year in the County Cup after an 18-0 win over Steyning Grammar School which put them through to the second round where they beat Millais School.



English Schools Cross Country Cup



Eighteen Hazelwick students travelled to Hurstpierpoint to compete in the English Schools Cross Country Cup. The Inter Boys qualified for the South East regional round.

Year 7 Football Team

The Year 7 boys Football Team have worked really hard training this year. We look forward to their matches in the future.



Year 9 Netball Team

In 2019 the Year 9 Netball Team became Crawley Schools Netball Champions after a convincing display against other local schools. Their success is testament to their great teamwork and dedication to training.

Educational Visits



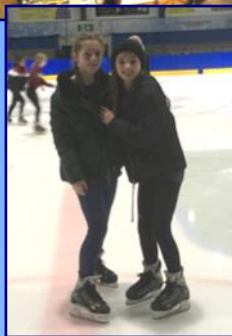
Calshot

Year 7 students thoroughly enjoyed their two day residential trip to Calshot Activity Centre in their first term at Hazelwick. They developed new skills, formed new friendships and had lots of fun.



Paris

Year 8 French students practise their language skills on the annual summer term trip to Paris.



Aachen

The Year 9 trip to Aachen is a great opportunity for the students to experience a taste of German school life and discover the magic of the German Christmas Market.

Italy

Bi-annually, students (from Years 10-12) take part in the Latin Department's 10-day grand tour of Italy, visiting Florence, Pompeii, Mount Vesuvius, Rome, Assisi and Venice!



Exeter

Year 12 enjoy their annual sixth form trip to Exeter University. The students experience life in a university for a week and adrenalin-inducing activities such as coasteering and gorge scrambling.

Transition at Hazelwick

Helping everyone to find their way at secondary school

Transition to secondary school is an exciting process with a great deal to look forward to. It can also feel daunting to Year 6 pupils with lots to learn about moving to “big school”. At Hazelwick, a huge amount of care, consideration, preparation and communication with primary schools goes into supporting our 300 Year 7s make the move up to secondary school each year. This excellent practice was identified by the national educational magazine ‘Teach Secondary’, whose editor contacted Hazelwick in order to showcase our transitional work. They commented on the experience and expertise that Hazelwick staff have in supporting students into Year 7, along with the care, compassion and commitment they show to them. All staff at Hazelwick are focussed on ensuring the move is successful, beneficial and positive.

Hazelwick can look like a big school on paper and it can seem like a very big site when you visit. The school does everything it can to benefit from its size - the large spacious leafy site ensures there is always a calm feel and there is plenty of space for all year groups to have their own distinct areas for socialising, eating and playing. However, in spite of its size, every student is known and the school does not feel very large to our students. New Year 7s are supported by Sixth Form students as they settle in. The Sixth Formers escort groups to and from their lessons and support them at social time as well. Our large and diverse student body enables the school to offer a broad and engaging range of subjects. The transitions between lessons are very smooth and visitors always comment on how they cannot believe that there are 1800 students on the site.



In September 2020, the 300 Year 7 students arrived from 25 different primary schools. To coordinate their successful arrival, and ensure that all students are well understood, Hazelwick creates a partnership with primary schools. ‘Teach Secondary’ commented on this, stating that Hazelwick staff “work very closely with local primary schools, meeting both teachers and pupils. Through these conversations, they understand the friendship groups that already exist and are able to understand the needs of each child to create well balanced form groups that are paired with the right form tutors.” Armed with knowledge of every child, socially and academically, students are placed into 11 tutor groups. The information from their primary school ensures the best combinations of classes to enable

students to feel settled and comfortable in their new learning environment.

In July 2021, all students will be invited to attend an Induction Day at Hazelwick. They are welcomed on this day by the Headteacher before going through an engaging and carefully tailored programme of lessons, tours and team building induction activities with their new tutor group. This day gives the soon-to-be new Year 7s a range of experiences and they leave with new friends, an understanding of the school and an exciting and high quality shared experience with their new form teacher that stands them in excellent stead for their arrival in September.

Hazelwick staff seek feedback from students and primary schools every year to continually tailor the transition processes to the needs of the cohort. The involvement of our Sixth Form students epitomises the diligence and care shown in the transition process at Hazelwick. We believe that the whole school community has a role in welcoming Year 7 students into the school. This approach, alongside the very careful grouping and understanding of the children that are joining us, enables all students to quickly and happily find their way at Hazelwick and enjoy the start of their secondary school experience.

‘Your child – your choice’

Secondary School Admissions in Crawley

Does my child’s primary school affect his/her eligibility for any secondary school?

NO – for any of the non-church maintained secondary schools in Crawley (Hazelwick, Ifield, Oriel, Thomas Bennett, The Gatwick School), your primary school does NOT make any difference to your chances of gaining admission.

I hear parents talking about ‘Feeder Schools’ having priority admissions. Is this true?

NO – in Crawley there is no such thing as a ‘Feeder School’. Your child has the same opportunity to come to Hazelwick as any other primary school child.

As an Academy, does Hazelwick have completely different admissions rules?

NO – they are broadly the same as for the other (Local Authority) secondary schools in Crawley and they have not changed drastically since Hazelwick became an Academy. Hazelwick’s admissions are still administered for us by the Local Authority’s Pupil Admissions Office.

Is there any selection at Hazelwick, either by academic ability or by ‘aptitude’?

NO – Hazelwick remains a fully comprehensive, non-selective, inclusive school.

What are the main factors that determine admission to Hazelwick?

- Living within the defined ‘catchment’ area.
- Having an older brother or sister already attending the school.
- How close you live to the school.
- Having an ‘EHCP’ or other specific exceptional need.
- Being in care.

The letter that came with my application form named a secondary school as the ‘catchment school’ for my address. Does this mean that my child has to go there?

*NO – this simply reflects where your home is located. It is **your** decision as to which secondary school you want your child to go to. It is only when a school is oversubscribed that living inside the school’s catchment area gives you an advantage over those living outside it.*

What is the size of Hazelwick’s annual intake into Year 7?

Hazelwick’s PAN (‘Published Admission Number’) is 300 – the largest in Crawley.

How many of Hazelwick’s intake come from within its catchment area?

Just over two thirds. Hazelwick has quite a small catchment area for a school of its size, which means that 83 children that started in Year 7 in September 2020 live outside our designated catchment area.

How many different primary schools did Hazelwick’s current Year 7 students come from?

217 of the children who joined Year 7 this year live inside our catchment area. These children attended 18 different primary schools. The remainder of the intake were children who live outside our catchment area. In total, Year 7 is therefore made up of children from 25 different primary schools.

If I want my child to come to Hazelwick, do I need to put Hazelwick as my first choice?

YES – definitely. If you believe Hazelwick is the best choice for your child, name Hazelwick as your first choice as this gives you the best chance of getting a place.

**If you have any further questions about admissions to Hazelwick, contact Mrs Bending
mbending@hazelwick.org.uk, 01293 403344**