As we all hurl towards the Christmas break, I am sure you are all wondering how we all find ourselves within a week from the big day, where I am sure some of our community (myself included) has not yet moved their thoughts to all things Christmas, as we focus on the job in hand.

It has been an incredibly busy half term and I would like to thank you all for your continued support, especially at times when the news regarding our academy and its community, is not always as positive as we would all wish.

Our staff work incredibly hard with all our students and their families for each and every student to have a positive experience and the support we gain from our families, to do exactly that, is exceptional.

Looking back, this term, there are so many positives, about which I wish to share with you.

At the very beginning of term, we received some crockery from The Hastings Sea Cadets, which have been very well used in our increasingly popular breakfast club. In addition, our Aldi Store in Ore Village provided our academy with a trolley full of cereal, which was very well received by our students. We thank our community for their support of our students.

In November we held our Anti-Bullying Week, where our Student Anti-Bullying Ambassadors under the care of Mrs Treloar presented assemblies to the whole school. Students created, between them, some fabulous poetry and posters to celebrate the importance of working together to beat bullying. We even had a fabulous RAP written and sung by Frankie, in Year 9 and his band.

Our Book Club is going really well, with our students receiving book vouchers for the enlightening book reviews they had completed. It was so interesting to hear them talking with such animation about the characters and plots.

Our careers work with our children is always ongoing, in the academy and this term our Year 8s were able to learn about the world of being a make-up artist and how challenging it is to be a beautician. I did notice a lot more overly long and beautifully varnished nails, post that visit!

Our CAP ambassadors nominated the Hastings Academy student representatives for a national CAP Award in ‘Excellence in Education’ due to all of the hard work the children have done and helping the community to reduce underage drinking locally. We received an invitation as we are on the shortlist to attend the annual national prize giving event on the 28th January in the House of Commons. We will let you know how we get on and well done to our students!

Our Year 11 Awards Evening was very well attended by our past students and it was a pleasure to see them again, to listen to our speakers and to be inspired with their stories of success at their college. We look forward to hearing more about their journey to their world of work.

Our current Year 11 Business Students worked hard to raise money, whilst studying with their enterprising ideas to raise funds for Denny’s Charity. We all wish Denny and his family very well and a peaceful Christmas.

I had the pleasure of joining our musicians in Hastings, recently, where they played, rapped and sung their hearts out to a very appreciative audience. The talent within our academy is phenomenal and I pay tribute to our staff and parents who avidly and tirelessly support our students to be the best that they want to be.

The Christmas Showcase, on Wednesday, was another feast for the eyes and ears. Our Cinderella’s and ugly sisters stole the show alongside our choir – who you will hear on Christmas Eve on the local radio.

The above is only the tip of the iceberg. We have fabulous students, supportive parents and carers and staff whose sole purpose is to work hard to help make our students world a happy and successful one. This cannot be achieved without the full support of our community and for that I thank you.

I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a joyful New Year. We want you all to rest and keep safe and we will see our Yrs 9-11s on Monday 6th January and our Yrs 7 & 8s on Thursday 9th January 2020.

Hilary Morawska

Year 11 Trial Exams
Monday 6th January to Wednesday 22nd January 2020

On the above dates, Year 11 students will be taking trial exams in all their subjects. With less than 6 months to go until their public exams start. Year 11s will be using this opportunity to find out how they are doing and what they need to do to improve. We wish them the best of luck for these important exams and ensure they work during the holiday, but also give themselves plenty of rest.

Mr Snelling
**REMEMBRANCE SERVICE**

The Hastings Academy Senior Students were honoured to attend East Sussex College, Hastings’ Remembrance Service in November, with our very own Miss East playing The Last Post.

**BLOOD BROTHERS**

**Blood Brothers - Trip review**

On the 12th of November, the drama department had funded for GCSE drama students to watch Blood Brothers at the White Rock Theatre. This was an amazing opportunity since it allowed us all to gain a better understanding of the play and the characters.

Being a year 11 student myself, seeing the play in action enabled me to further connect with the characters. As part of our GCSE in drama, we have to put ourselves in the shoes of the characters, meaning that it is important we understand their intentions and objectives as actors.

**SHAKESPEARE DAY**

A fantastic day of Shakespeare was spent with over 90 drama students at The Hastings Academy.

We watched the live streaming production of The Taming of The Shrew from the RSC and broke down the three acts, considering the character’s journey.

Although the students struggled with the wordy elements of Shakespeare, the acting was strong and physical enough so as they could understand how the character was feeling in each act.

The students from Y9-Y11 then worked in joint groups to create their own write ups for the theory paper.  

Mrs Bowers
On 22nd November we held a “mufti” day wearing anything blue and/or odd socks. Our students wanted to support a local charity and decided on Dom’s Food Mission.

Dom’s Food Mission was founded on May 13th 2015 by husband and wife Dominic and Alexandria Warren, aiming to help feed less fortunate people and to make an impact on food waste. The students raised £639.61 which was gratefully received by Dom and he later sent an email of thanks.

“Firstly we would like to thank you all at the Hastings academy and we’re so grateful of you all. Brilliant work. Was a pleasure to have met you and a real honour to see children so engaged in our charity and helping others.

This is vital work and we hope to work with your school on many levels to improve the lives of others.” Our students certainly intend to do so.

Thanks to the kindness and generosity of the students, parents/ carers and staff at The Hastings Academy, we were able to provide beautifully presented donation boxes, containing much needed resources for our local area, which the ‘Surviving Christmas’ Team were so grateful to receive on 17.12.19.

Thank you to our Anti Bullying Student Ambassadors who presented assemblies to all Hills throughout November, as part of our work on Anti Bullying.
Congratulations to the winners of this term’s Book Review Competition.

£15 awarded to Yasmin—for her book review on Private Peaceful by Michael Morpurgo. The review was very detailed and looked at the strengths and weaknesses from the writer. £10 awarded to Bethany—Hunger by Michael Grant.

The review was good because Bethany talked about the rating for the book as well as some good recommendations.


Mrs Bowers

MEDIA - FILM PRODUCTION PROJECT

The year 9 GCSE Media students have been learning about Film Production and the Film Industry this term. They have produced some fantastic homework based on genre and are now planning their first piece of mock coursework on creating a Film poster of a new and exciting film of their creation—the hard work and creativity shown is so exciting to see and I look forward to their final products!

Mrs Parks

ENGLISH LITERACY CAFE

Earlier this term we had a literacy cafe for 60 year 9 students. We had visitors from a variety of jobs, from graphic novelists to lawyers, come to talk to the students about how literacy is important in their career. They worked with the students in various activities and it was a very enjoyable day for all.

Miss Jewiss
It was that time of the year again where our talented Hastings Academy musicians took over The Brass Monkey for a festive Hastings Live event. Our students worked hard on a great set of music which included lots of original music and Christmas covers. Their hard work certainly paid off because they put on an amazing show. For many it was their first time performing on stage but they were all fearless and it was so lovely to see how supportive they were of each other. As always I am very proud of them all and I can’t wait to see where music takes them next.

Miss East
HASTINGS CONTEMPORARY – VICTOR WILLINGS – VISIONS

A group of our year 8 students had the opportunity to view the Victor Willings exhibition; Visions, at the Hastings Contemporary

Students thoroughly enjoyed the exhibition which is currently showing until the 5th January and enjoyed producing Willings inspired sketches after their viewing as well as enjoying a hot chocolate in the gallery restaurant.

NATIONAL GALLERY - GAUGUIN WORKSHOP

A selection of year 7 and 8 students had the opportunity to take part in a Gauguin workshop run by the National Gallery in London.

The photographer Maria Alejandra Huicho worked with the students to produce self-portraits in the style of Gauguin using mixed media.

Students used digital cameras with pinhole lenses to take photos. They used acrylic paint to work into their prints to create their own Gauguin inspired self-portrait.

Mrs Collins

Knife Crime—Assemblies

The Hastings Academy is working with the 'Campaign Company' along with other schools and Academies in the County of Sussex. Students in Year 9, 10 and 11 have provided responses through questionnaires and received presentations.

Sussex Police's Department of Communications is currently undertaking a critical piece of insight on perceptions of knife crime and will be providing valuable education to the young people at The Hastings Academy.

Mr Sadler

Army Cadets

The Hastings Academy promotes new opportunities for all its students. We have recently welcomed Colour Sergeant Tim Scargill from Sussex Army Cadets to introduce our students to The Army Cadets Force. The Academy is providing sponsorship for students joining the Sussex Army Cadets. Please follow the link for further information.

Application forms are available from the Academy Admin office. Please return any completed applications to the Admin office.

https://armycadets.com/county/sussex-acf/  

Mr Sadler
The Hastings Academy held their annual winter showcase on 158th December, which demonstrated amazing dance, drama and music. We had performances such as Cold Hearted, Glee choir, Captivated, Science band Year 9 drama and dance, Year 10 dance, Year 7 Panto....oh no we didn’t...oh yes we did!

The evening was heart-warming and a spectacle of the amazing talent we have here at the Academy. A massive thank you and well done to all that performed and took part.

Miss McDonald

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Well done to Year 7, 9 & 10 students, for the wonderful work produced in their pre-Christmas workshop skills project.

Mrs Andrews
Year 11 Business and Enterprise Project—by Luke (Yr11)

Hello, I’m here to tell you how I and many other Year 11’s underwent a project to create a profitable business enterprise to raise money for Charity, which as a class, we decided to donate to a local charity known as the ‘Dig Deep for Denny fund’. To succeed in our Enterprise, us learners had to meet many success criteria to make our projects work. Firstly we had to determine an appropriate project. For my group’s project we decided to make a sweet store but other groups decided to do a bake sale or donut stands for example. These were realistic ideas which we were able to carry out. The next criteria was to establish goals for our business. The main goal of a business it to earn profit so that was the main goal. Others had side goals such as reaching a certain amount of profit. The main goal was to raise as much as we could for charity.

The next criteria that students had to undertake was their market research. Each group would need to know what they needed to sell and the type of people to buy this. Each group handed out a minimum of 10 questionnaires and got results to make a choice on what to sell. Then my fellow year 11’s would research to find the products and calculate what they would need to make profit. The final plan was now to create a plan to put make the business a reality. Many students booked classrooms and honeycombs to set-up their business in. Some students even did their businesses outside of school to maximize the amount of time they had. After gathering the supplies for their business, it was time for me and my fellow years 11’s to roll their business into action. The businesses have been carried out throughout the whole of December and all groups have completed their business. Through the countless cake sales and hard work of my fellow year 11’s, we have managed to raise an OUTSTANDING £147.13 profit for charity.

For me and my fellow year 11’s to raise this much money for a small finance project is great. I think it was especially great as a large majority of our year 11’s stepped outside our comfort zone. After all, “All progress takes place outside the comfort zone”
It has been a busy term for Silverhill with Charity works at the top of the agenda. We have had a hugely successful bake sale, staff and students baked a huge array of cakes and buns for Children in Need which raised £100. SH6 with Ms Crane at the helm have led the way in fundraising activities with a chocolate tombola in support of the local women and children’s refuge and students have also been selling Cancer research wrist bands. Each year we create Christmas hampers for Surviving Christmas and I have to thank students and parents for their generosity. Students have created some fabulous hampers – this reindeer being amongst the most fabulous!

**Recipients of Tutor Awards**

On Monday we held our Term 2 celebration assembly to reward students who have made a positive contribution to Silverhill over the course of the term.

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<tr>
<th>SH1</th>
<th>Cameron D</th>
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<tr>
<td>SH2</td>
<td>Arthur B</td>
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<td>SH3</td>
<td>Paige H</td>
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<td>SH4</td>
<td>Kieran F</td>
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<td>SH5</td>
<td>Tyler M</td>
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<td>SH6</td>
<td>Megan B</td>
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<tr>
<td>SH7</td>
<td>Nicole C</td>
</tr>
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<td>SH8</td>
<td>Emily S</td>
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<td>SH9</td>
<td>Taya O</td>
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**Hero awards** – chosen randomly from all students with 100% attendance and 0 behaviour points:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Best Attendance</th>
<th>Buster B</th>
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<tr>
<td>Best Behaviour</td>
<td>Holly P</td>
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**Student Support Manager Award**

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<th>Frank F</th>
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<td>Tiana T</td>
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**Head of School Award**

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<th>Marie J</th>
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<td>Peter N</td>
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All these students are fabulous role models for their peers and I would like to once again thank them for all that they do in making Silverhill great.

Mrs McCallum
FOND FAREWELLS

We would like to say farewell and best wishes to the following members of staff who will be leaving the academy at the end of this term:

Rachael Taylor Wade
Sharon Fielder
Chris Honey
Katharine Bounsall
Ellen Critchley
Sophie Treloar

WARM WELCOME

We would like to give a very warm welcome to the following new members of staff who will be joining the academy in January:

Madeline Crowhurst – English Teacher
Chenaye Burke – Maths Teacher
Richard Grant – Maths Teacher
Trichana Smith-Roye – Science Teacher
Amber Stokes—English department

PRIDE THROUGH SUCCESS
PARENT VIEW
As recipients of our provision, we would ask you to take part in a confidential online survey to check how you feel we are meeting the needs of your child at The Hastings Academy.

We are constantly striving to improve and would really welcome your participation in this important exercise. Parent View asks for your opinion on 12 things about the academy, which is designed to help us improve your child’s overall experience with us.

Log onto: www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk or follow our link www.thehastingsacademy.org.uk/parents/links

Thank you

Hilary Morawska

BREAKFAST CLUB
We are pleased to announce we have started up our Breakfast Club. This is open to all students and is free. Come along and enjoy some cereal or porridge and a cup of tea. Open from 7:45am until 8:30am in the PRIDE Centre. Breakfast and the free bagels are still available from the canteen from 8:00am.

We are also in need of your help, if you have any bowls/plates/cutlery or cups you no longer need we would welcome these for our Breakfast Club.
Contact Pete Avery.

Free Food, FREE ‘Magic Breakfast’ for ALL Children!

We are very happy to invite your child to our fantastic free breakfast provision! A delicious, healthy breakfast is available every day, offering every child great fuel for learning from 8am.

Research has shown that children who have a healthy breakfast achieve more at school – make sure your child doesn’t miss out!

It is open to all children, and it’s totally free!
You don’t need to register your child, they can just turn up on the day. Do encourage your child to participate in this great opportunity to help fuel their day.

Hilary Morawska

Parent forum meetings
We would like to welcome you to our Parent Forum Meetings. These are held once a term from 6pm until 7pm.

This is an informal meeting, over a cup of tea and biscuit, for parents to hear what is happening in the school and also a chance to bring their thoughts and ideas to the Forum.

If you would like to attend please email t.hows@hasla.org.uk.

Thank you.

Phil Snelling

Parent pay
Trips and Food

ParentPay has been a great success and we are now using it more and more! Not only do we use it for payment of trips but also for free trips, after school activities, leavers’ hoodies, dance hoodies, surveys, prom tickets and school dinners.

If you have still not logged in to your account, it is a really simple process. Please email j.ryder@hasla.org.uk for your log in details.

You do not need to add your bank details if this is a concern to you. If you have an item to pay for, you can contact me on the above email address and I will issue you with a PayPoint bar code that you can use in local shops that display the PayPoint sign.

Can I remind parents that you will not receive confirmation of a free trip. This is only available on payable items where you will receive a receipt of payment.

If you have any queries regarding your child’s lunch account please contact j.comer@hasla.org.uk

Julie Ryder