Sixth Form Weekly News - The Headlines:

- Uniform:
  - It is a requirement to wear a blazer for all students. If you forget a blazer, please go to Mrs Pasa.
  - On consultation, students are now allowed to wear smart quarter-zip jumpers as part of their Sixth Form uniform. Students that choose to do this can do so as long as their tie is visible.

- TSS – to reiterate:

1) TSS is for Silent Study – this means that people in the booths also need to be quiet. If you want to chat, or work on a project together, please use the canteen or the common room.
2) There is a seating plan in place for a reason. By now, you know who you sit with, so please stick to it and don't try to sit with other people. The actual location of the table may change where you sit BUT the people should remain the same.
3) Sit in the seating plan immediately at the beginning of the session – treat this like any other lesson. You should not be socialising in the booths when the session has started.

- If you know you are going to be absent from a lesson for a test, trip or appointment, it is courteous to email the teacher and explain you will be absent. You will be expected to catch up on missed work.

- Please remember to record your absence on Class charts by 8.45am so it can be picked up by attendance

- Microsoft Form for signing in and signing out can be found here - https://forms.office.com/e/rYHXm0Z7pC. Please remember that you must be signed in with your school email address. You also should go to Mrs Pasa to sign in,

- As you may be aware, we have a mentor programme for Year 8s. If there are any Year 12s that are interested in mentoring lower school on a weekly basis on a Monday, please can you e-mail Mrs Kalinowski with an expression of interest.

Upcoming dates:

- Thursday- 7th December- Year 13- Parent and Students Consultation Evening 16.15-19.15
- Wednesday 13th December- Christmas Concert- 7pm-8.30pm
- Friday 15th December – END OF TERM!

PSHE schedule

School week	Date	Period
Term 2, Week 6	5/12/23	P5
Term 2, Week 7	11/12/23	P3 Year 12 careers talk
Term 3, Week 1	04/01/24	P5
Term 3, Week 2	11/01/24	P5
Term 3, Week 3	18/01/24	P2
Term 3, Week 4	23/01/24	P5
Term 3. Week 5	30/01/24	P2
Term 3, Week 6	09/02/24	P2

Year 12 News

Thank you to all those who attended Year 12 Parents Evening. We had outstanding attendance from parents and students, and it was great to meet so many of your parents. Hopefully, the conversations were fruitful, and you left with a clear idea about your progress and where you can improve. It is now how you act on the feedback to drive yourself forwards. To act on these points effectively, it will involve some time and planning to make those changes. Below are some reminders about how you can organise your studies effectively.

Work Log- we introduced these at the start of the year to get organised, we have also used them in form time to plan your studies. Blank copies can be found here: Work Log

Time planner- here is a timetable broken down with the times of the day. This will be useful to plan when you are going to complete, especially if you have a busy week ahead work Timetable planner

Post-its- I love a post-it and I think they are an effective way to plan especially if things change day by day. Here is an article with interesting ways to use post-its in your planning Post-it planning

What should you do if you find yourself with no work to do and free lessons or TSS?

1. Super Curricular- this means going beyond what has been taught in class- reading articles, watching TED talks, completing an extra course on a specific subject or aspect of the subject
2. Revision of past work
3. Acting on feedback from past work
4. Answering an examination question
5. Creating a revision resource
6. Pre-planning for the next unit on the course

Year 13 News

With two week's until the Christmas Break, I'd like to reiterate the messages that we have been sharing with you recently about success in preparation for the PPEs.

Over the course of the next 42 days, it is crucial that you are working hard **and** finding time to recharge as we get to the end of a busy term. To this end, please engage with the assembly slides that were sent around today and consider the marginal gains that you can be working on.

"Success is a few simple disciplines, practiced every day; while failure is simply a few errors in judgement, repeated every day."

There are 42 days of marginal gains that can be made between now and the first day of the PPEs. Where can your gains be made?

- Upping the hours? 9-18hrs per fortnight
- Planning for revision? Planning for relaxation?
- Improving your revision strategies to cement knowledge?
- Practicing past paper questions?
- Seeking feedback on questions?
- Re-doing next steps?
- Asking for help?
- Sticky note questions?

A crucial part of working hard **and** enjoying your holidays is going to be planning both your work **and** time for relaxing. Make use of the resources on the TSS area to help you be in control of your time – this will enable you to enjoy yourself whilst being confident that you have prepared yourself for the PPEs more thoroughly.

The Study Room

Knowledge Security

Exam Success is a 3 Step Process

STEP 1

Gaining Knowledge

Tools to securing knowledge:
Make notes in your own words
Visual reminders
Flashcards
Mind maps
Listening to a recording of yourself explaining it

STEP 2

Application of Knowledge

Learning steps to:
Follow essay structure
Use analysis & evaluation
Use formula

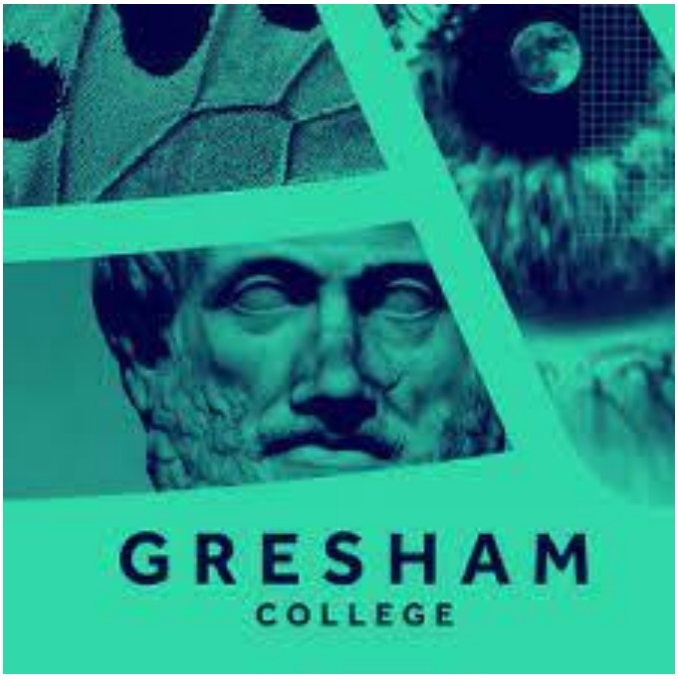
STEP 3

Practice

Past Papers
Knowledge quizzes
Mixed exercises
On line tests
Practice questions

The process is in this order because Security of Knowledge is the most important step, without it you cannot apply or practice

Public speaking



What?

- Public speaking competition to help students develop oracy skills.
- Broad range of topics.
- Students record a presentation of no more than 5 minutes long.
- Shortlisted candidates will present in person at Barnard's Inn Hall in London.
- Find out more - gres.hm/competition

Deadline?

- 8th December 2023 @ 6pm

Prizes:

- A year's university fees paid.
- Money towards devices
- Personal mentoring to help you develop
- In-house presentation and oracy skills training

Careers

Personal statements

If you would like some help writing your personal statement, you can join free webinars with The University of Greenwich. Sign up here: https://www.gre.ac.uk/events/prospective-students

Parents' Guide to University

UniTasterDays

I have downloaded the handy Parents' Guide to University and each week will share some useful information I have learned. This week's is about a guide to **Degree Apprenticeships**. Please see the next page.

University Masterclasses

Several universities are currently offering free virtual online sessions so that you can have a taste of a particular subject. It can be great to mention on your personal statements too.

University of Greenwich Twilight Classes from now till March. There is a large range of subjects including Business, English Literature and Climate Change.

University of East London Psychology Masterclasses on 7th and 14th Dec 4-5pm, sign up here:

https://uel.ac.uk/about-uel/events/2023/november/2023-psychology-masterclasses

University of Success Information Evening

Wednesday 13 December, 5pm - 8pm

Get a feel for Sussex through online sessions including:

- **Advice on your application** – tips on choosing the right course, writing your personal statement and understanding the UCAS process.
- **Understanding student finance** – fees and cost of living advice.
- **Explore your housing options** – accommodation information and virtual tours.
- **Student life** – find out about living on campus and in Brighton.
- **Careers and study programmes** – explore options provided by Sussex: Career Lab, entrepreneurship programmes, study abroad, internship and placement years.
- **Meet our students** – ask our current students any questions about life at Sussex.
- **A parent's perspective** – advice for parents on how to support your child through the application process.
- **Meet the International Team** – find out more about life and coming to study as an international student at Sussex.

Book here:
https://www.sussex.ac.uk/study/visit-us/undergraduate/online-sessions

A guide to degree apprenticeships

By Carol Rogers, Degree Apprenticeships Manager at Harper Adams University

Following the completion of their A levels (or equivalent), there are various options available for your young person to gain a start in their chosen career. For some professions, the only route to them previously was through a university degree. But now, degree apprenticeships might be an option as well.

There are currently 123 Level 6 undergraduate apprenticeships available at higher or degree level, including occupations such as a Chartered Surveyor, Youth Worker, Building Control Surveyor, Food Industry Technical Professional and many more.

What is a degree apprenticeship and what are the benefits of completing one?

A degree apprenticeship offers an alternative route to gaining a higher-level qualification and opens possibilities for many more students where university is not the right choice.

Benefits include funding; the apprenticeship is funded by the apprenticeship levy, so students do not need to apply for a student loan.

Apprenticeship standards are set by employers within industry and outline key knowledge, skills and behaviours for a particular role. These standards are mapped to apprenticeship programmes, with the intention that apprentices work towards gaining relevant work experience through a structured programme.

Degree apprenticeships offer students the opportunity to gain work experience while completing their degree. Many of the Harper Adams current Chartered Surveyor apprentices say they benefit from building networks and work experience early in their careers – where going to university would not give them the same opportunity.

The structure

Apprenticeships follow a similar structure regardless of level:

- an application process that includes assessments to make sure the chosen course is appropriate and at the right level
- a structured programme of learning while working and earning a wage, supported by the employer and the training provider
- an independent assessment at the end of the programme to confirm competence of knowledge, skills and behaviours within the apprenticeship standard.

It can be difficult for a student to balance work, study and life but the apprenticeship regulations require that an apprentice has protected time within their contracted hours for study and training – currently six hours per week. This includes attending university tutorials, work shadowing and other learning activities relevant to the apprenticeship standards.

The structure of training will differ for each apprenticeship. At Harper Adams University, we have block weeks of teaching throughout the year, where apprentices join us on campus for their lectures and tutorials. Other universities or training providers will have day release programmes and some may be remote.

Entry requirements

Entry requirements are typically the same as universities, although relevant work experience is also considered.

The application process itself differs from university and isn't operated through UCAS. The employer contacts the university to confirm they've employed an apprentice and we then go through the application process.

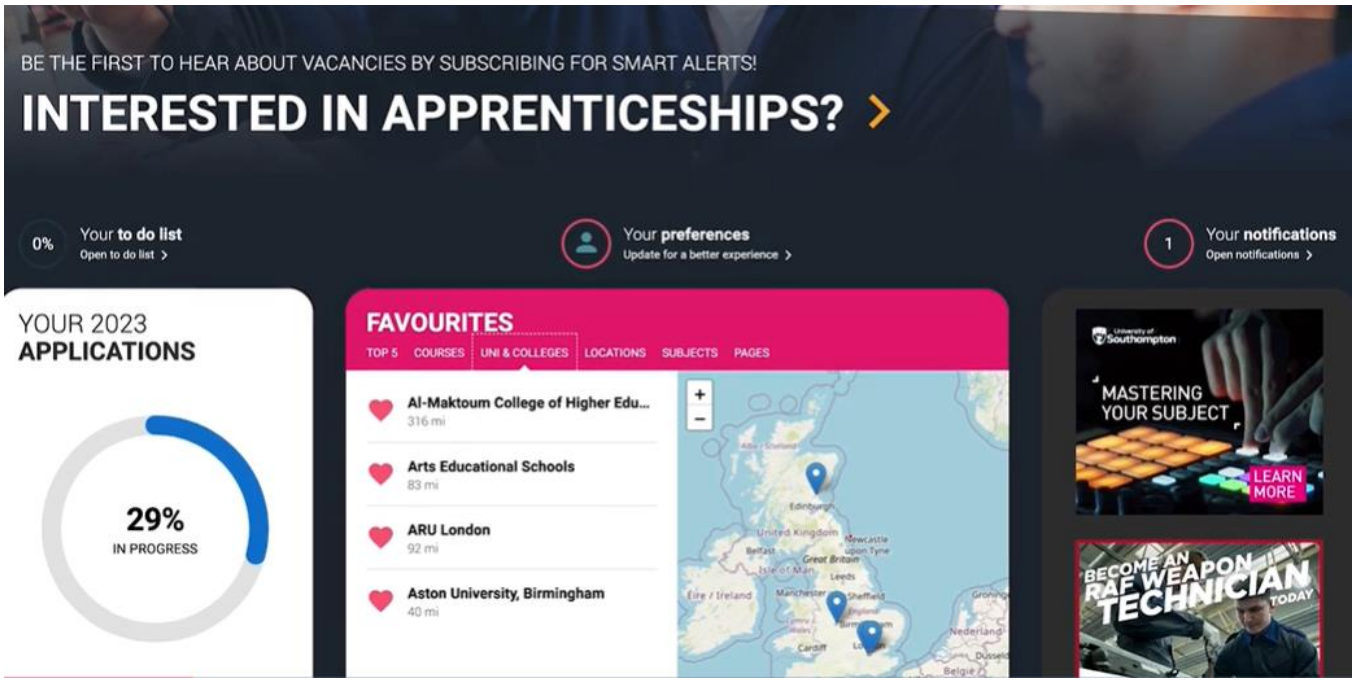
An apprenticeship is a job first – the employer chooses a university to work with for the degree element of the programme, so the first step is to find an employer that is willing to support the apprenticeship programme. The Find an apprenticeship website is useful for finding vacancies across England. Students can see what's available in their area for a particular career. We also encourage students to approach companies as well, to see if they would support an apprenticeship – this is something that many current apprentices have done.

UCAS deadlines for the 2024 cycle

2024 ENTRY KEY DATES

2 May 2023	UCAS' search tool displays 2024 courses.
9 May 2023	The adviser portal opens for 2024 entry. From this date, you can set up your adviser portal ready for your students to link to your centre.
16 May 2023	Undergraduate applications open for 2024 entry. From this date, applicants can start their applications and send them to you for references and approval.
12 July 2023	Conservatoire applications open for 2024 entry. From this date, applicants can register, pay, and send their applications.
5 September 2023	Completed undergraduate applications can be submitted to UCAS.
2 October 2023 18:00 (UK time)	Application deadline for conservatoire music applications. Applications for dance, drama, and musical theatre courses may have a different deadline – check conservatoires' websites for information.
16 October 2023 18:00 (UK time)	Deadline for applications to the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and for most courses in medicine, dentistry, and veterinary medicine / science. The reference must be completed before the application can be sent to us.
31 January 2024 18:00 (UK time)	Equal consideration date for applications for most undergraduate courses. The reference must be completed before the application can be sent to us. Deadline for most conservatoire undergraduate dance, drama or musical theatre courses. Check on the specific course to be sure.
28 February 2024	Extra opens – applicants who have used all five choices and are not holding any offers may be able to add another choice in their application.

Everything you need is on your UCAS HUB



Opportunities to engage with

- The 2023 Gresham College public speaking competition will be launched soon. Keep an eye on the following page for updates - https://www.gresham.ac.uk/schools-and-colleges/gresham-competition

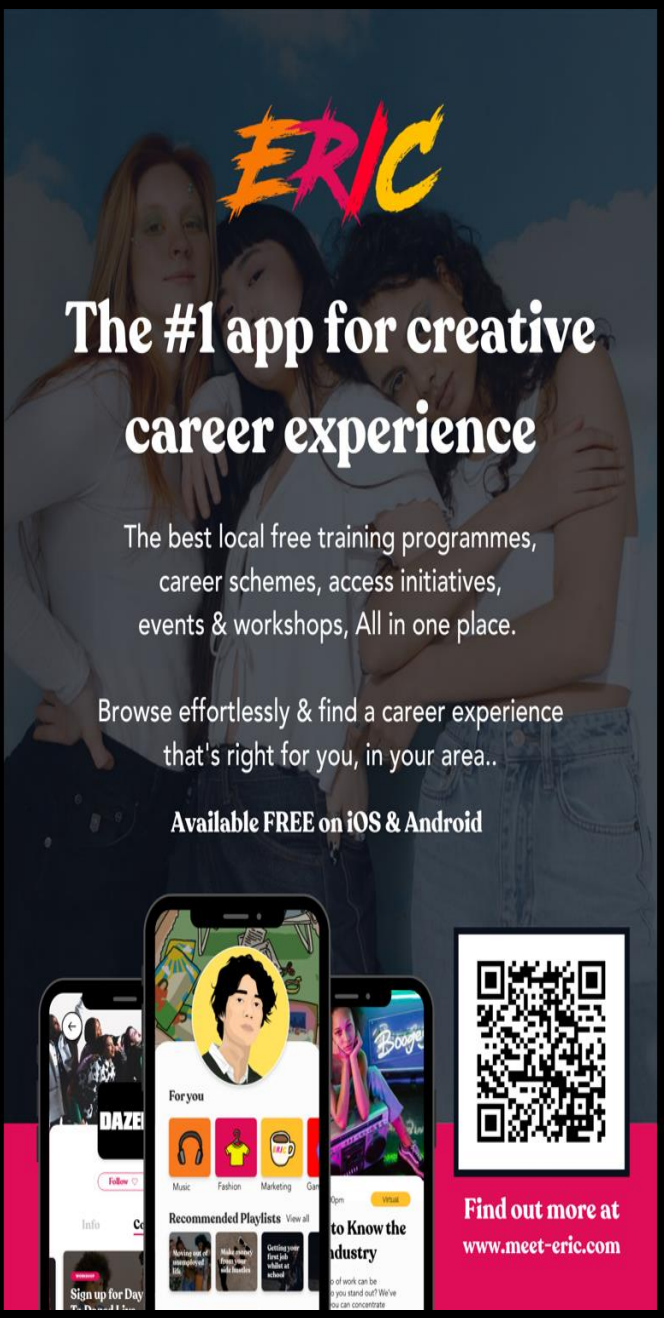
- Upcoming talks from Speakers4Schools can be found here - https://www.speakersforschools.org/upcoming-broadcasts/

- Upcoming careers and employment opportunities through Speakers4Schools can be found here - https://www.canva.com/design/DAFgXaCPtDs/pnRPUb84yhbZYuq85lM4fg/view#1

- Work experience opportunities over half-term can be found here - https://www.canva.com/design/DAFt31HgCco/1d5hlm6y_XFLXmAvroSYKg/view#1

- Sign up to https://pathwayctm.com/student-register/ for free to engage with opportunities from the UK's top employers.

App to explore for the creative industries



What are the 16 Creative Industries?

1. Advertising, Marketing & PR
2. Architecture
3. Art & Crafts
4. Design
5. Digital Media
6. Fashion
7. Film & TV
8. Gaming
9. Media
10. Music
11. Podcasts, Radio & Audio
12. Photography & Videography
13. Publishing
14. Theatre & Performing Arts
15. Writing & Journalism
16. VFX & Animation

Isn't the Creative Industries just for music, drama & art students?

No, not at all! All subjects & skills feed into the Creative Industries. E.g.:

- Historical Film & TV productions often employ historians as script fact-checkers
- The heritage & museums sector requires chemists to help restore artefacts
- VFX & Gaming require mathematical skills to code & create special effects & games

These are just a few examples of the thousands of jobs people don't know exist in the creative industries

Are there lots of creative jobs available?

Yes, literally millions!

3.3 million people work in creative jobs in the UK

There will be 1 million additional creative jobs by 2030

Find out more at
www.meet-eric.com

Our school communication systems within the Sixth Form

The following platforms and systems are used across the school. Please get in touch (sixthform.admin@furzeplatt.net) if you have any issues with these systems.

- Parentmail – this is how information about the school will be communicated home and acts as a payment platform for trips etc.
- Classcharts – this is an attendance and behaviour monitoring tool and the only way to report absences. This must be done by 8.45am daily.
- Go4Schools – this is how reports will get home about working at grades, attitude to learning and predicted grades.
- Parents' Evening booking system – this will go live nearer the time of parents' evening and we will be in contact with regards to this.