

HENDON NEWS

20TH SEPTEMBER 2018

From the Headmaster:

Dear Parents,

One of the key pillars of a Hendon Prep education is the value we place on ‘Character Education’.

For the School, this continues to be an important area in the holistic development of every pupil, albeit, that there is a still a great deal of debate in educational circles concerning the merits of what constitutes *character education*. Some have even questioned whether schools can actually teach those qualities that may be associated with character education in any meaningful way?

One of the key exponents of character (grit) education is Angela Duckworth¹ Professor of Psychology at the University of Pennsylvania. Duckworth argues that ‘Grit is the combination of passion and perseverance for long-term goals’; she also acknowledges that ‘grit’ is also a ‘common denominator among high achievers’.

For Duckworth, she recognises that having ‘grit’ as a student is but one trait amongst other qualities that can benefit a pupil. She claims, that when put together with other traits, this adds-up to what we might call ‘character’. Duckworth qualifies her understanding of what character is as follows: ‘...character includes strengths like grit and self-control ...but also extends to empathy and compassion, kindness, generosity and gratitude’. These qualities she

calls: ‘strengths of the heart’ because they relate positively to other people as well.

In addition to the above, Duckworth also speaks about two other associated groups: ‘Strength of will’ (grit and self-control) and ‘strength of mind’ (curiosity, creativity, intellectual humility). All three groups in her view are key to our character and are critical to child development.

Obviously, many of the traits associated with an individual’s character development cannot be formally taught like say, mathematics or art but rather are acquired (‘caught’) and in time reflected in our emotional and even social intelligence, which are equally key areas for all children to develop.

At Hendon, we believe that both the curricular and co-curricular programmes, complemented by well-being lessons, LAMDA, music, drama and sport, school trips and visits, House and philanthropic events all combine to support the development of a child’s character in a meaningful way, which is why character education remains a key component of School life!

1. Duckworth, Angela; *The Power of Passion and Perseverance*, 2016

School News:

- **Y6, 7 & 8 Tea Time Concert, Tuesday 9th October.**
Places are still available to take part in this first concert of the year. Any instrument, any ability. The school choir will also be taking part at this concert. Ms Dawson will need to know names of pupils and titles of pieces via email, by the end of school on Tuesday of next week, please.
- **Genes for Jeans Day:**
Once again, the School will be supporting this national event and the work of the charity who work to support children with genetic disorders. The children are encouraged to show their support by wearing an item of denim clothing or 'non-uniform' clothing for the day. Pupils are also encouraged to bring a £1.00 coin, to be collected by their Tutor in the morning, if they wish to support this charity. There will be no change to the scheduled time-table.
- **Parking:**
Please could I encourage all parents to be more mindful with regard to parking near to Hendon Prep. I have already received complaints from our neighbours concerning the poor

driving behaviours of some of our parents, in particular, parking on double yellow lines, blocking private driveways and road junctions. I recognise that such behaviour poses a serious safe-guarding risk to our children who also need to cross junctions and walk on pavements to arrive safely at school. Please can I appeal, once again, to all parents who travel by car to be more mindful of where they are parking in the vicinity of the School. Parents are strongly encouraged to park a little further away and walk their child to school. That said, we do have a 'drive-thru' facility for Years 3 – 8, these children are more capable of exiting a vehicle independently, which allows for the free-flow of traffic on our drive-way in the mornings. For families, we also allow use of the drive-way, but only if there are two adults in the vehicle, one to assist with exiting the children and the driver to remain at the wheel to move the car off the drive-way.

- **A message from, Chris Jansen, Cognita Group Chief Executive is attached to this newsletter.**

REMINDER DATES:

- Friday 21st : **Jeans for Genes Day**
 Y7 & 8: Back to School Meeting: 4.15pm
- Tuesday 25th : **Y3 visit the Unicorn Theatre**
- Wednesday 26th : **European Day of Languages**
- Thursday 27th : **School Open Day : 9.30am to 11.30am**
 Headmaster's Tea with School council: 3pm
- Friday 28th : **Macmillan Big Coffee Morning: 8.45am to 9.45am**
- Monday 1st : **Harvest Festival**
- Tuesday 2nd: **Shakespeare Workshop**
- Wednesday 3rd : **No Pens Day Wednesday**
 New Parents' Evening: 6.30pm to 8pm
- Thursday 4th : **School Photographs**
- Friday 5th : **Travelling Book Fair: 3.30pm to 4.30pm**

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHT:

Our pupils (and Mr Chapman!) were thrilled to take delivery this week of their Premier League Stars equipment pack; a great new resource which will aid teacher delivery of active lessons across the curriculum. *"Having this new equipment will help us improve as a football team!"* said Alim, Hendon Prep's Sports Captain.



Next Week's Lunch Menu:



THIS WEEK'S MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Dish of the Day Piri-Piri Chicken	Dish of the Day Baked Chicken Sausages With a Red Onion Gravy	Dish of the Day Lamb Bolognaise Lasagne	Dish of the Day Roasted Chicken With Gravy	Dish of the Day Pizza (Spicy Chicken and Sweetcorn Sauce)
Vegetarian Option Stuffed Pepper with Savoury Rice	Vegetarian Option Quorn Sausages with Red Onion Sauce	Vegetarian Option Three Cheese Macaroni Bake	Vegetarian Option Roasted Vegetable Filo Pie	Vegetarian Option Pizza (Vegetable and Margherita)
Side Dish Boiled Rice Garden Peas Coleslaw	Side Dish Mash Potatoes Green Beans Carrots	Side Dish Garlic Bread Sweetcorn Steamed Courgettes	Side Dish Roast Potatoes Medley Vegetables	Side Dish Chunky Chips Garden Salad Peas
Jacket Potato BBQ Boston Beans filling	Pasta Bar Tomato & Basil Sauce	Jacket Potato Tuna & Sweetcorn filling	Pasta Bar Cream of Chestnut Mushroom Sauce	Jacket Potato Baked Beans and Cheese
Salad Bar A range of composite & basic salads	Salad Bar A range of composite & basic salads	Salad Bar A range of composite & basic salads	Salad Bar A range of composite & basic salads	Salad Bar A range of composite & basic salads
Pudding Banana & Berry Smoothie Yoghurt Fresh cut fruit	Pudding Yoghurt Fresh cut fruit	Pudding Sticky Toffee Pudding served with Custard Yoghurt Fresh cut Fruit	Pudding Yoghurt Fresh Cut Fruit	Pudding Chocolate Krispies Cake Yoghurt Fresh cut Fruit
Daily Salad Bar With a selection of home cooked meats and freshly prepared salads				

COGNITA
TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Week commencing: 04/09, 24/09, 15/10,
05/11, 26/11

