

HGSF Weekly Newsletter

Monday 8th December 2025



HAZEL
GROVE
SIXTH FORM

PT Time

PT Time	
Monday	Key Messages
Monday Launchpad	Year 12 & 13 (Atrium) : What is the history of black contributors to my subject areas?
Tuesday	Notices & Week Ahead
Wednesday	Year 12 : The Big Conversation Year 13 : The Big Think
Thursday	Week Ahead
Friday Extended PT	Year 12 (SF7/8) : How does rhetoric influence reporting of sexual assault? Year 13 (Atrium) : Career briefing by Dave Wilkinson on Cybersecurity

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What's on this week

**Tuesday 9th
December**

Exam Workshops (P1&2) in SF5: Managing exam stress, coping strategies, building resilience and everything in between - run by Daisy who is our mental health in school practitioner

**Tuesday 9th
December**

Star of Bethlehem and The Science of Santa - The physics of Christmas brought to you by Dr Steve Barrett

IoP Physics Lecture at Didsbury High School, 6:00pm - 7:30pm - family and friends welcome. (See the poster later in the newsletter for further details)



**Thursday 11th
December**

Voice Coaching with Tom Morrison - *students involved have been advised*

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Upcoming

Tuesday 16th December	Exam Workshops (P1&2) in SF5: Managing exam stress, coping strategies, building resilience and everything in between - run by Daisy who is our mental health in school practitioner
Tuesday 16th December	A Level Certificate Evening for our previous Year 13 cohort - sixth form will close at 5.15pm
Thursday 18th December	Festive Bake Off Judging at breaktime Festive Bake Sale at lunchtime
Thursday 18th December	Sixth Form closes for Christmas 
Friday 19th December	School closes for Christmas
Monday 5th January	Return to Sixth Form
Monday 28th January	Deadline for Y12 Work Experience Placement Form to be completed
Monday 2nd February	Oxbridge Entry Session with Jonathan Padley - <i>more details to follow</i>

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Student Notices:

Student Cabinet Message:

Charity gifts due in before 12th of December and we hope all students/teachers will be able to participate even if its small!

The wish list of gifts MCR has asked for is below, however everything donated must be new, unopened, and unwrapped for hygiene purposes:

- colouring books
- colouring pencils
- backpacks for girls/boys
- cosmetic sets for young teens
- arts and crafts products/sets
- fluffy socks
- stationary
- blankets
- any other donations would be great! Any other gifts or things such as bags for life or wrapping paper will be greatly appreciated.

Interviews and Entrance Exams: Year 13, please make sure you are completing an Absence Request Form for all Interviews and Entrance Exams taking place off site. If your interview is online and taking place while you are in Sixth Form, please inform Mrs Gill and Mrs Roberts so we can ensure you are supported.

The 16-19 Bursary: The 16-19 Bursary Fund is a scheme to help students facing financial hardship to continue in full time education after Year 11. We would encourage all students to read the information [here](#), or to see Mrs Gill for further advice. The bursary is discretionary and you do not always need to meet the criteria outlined.

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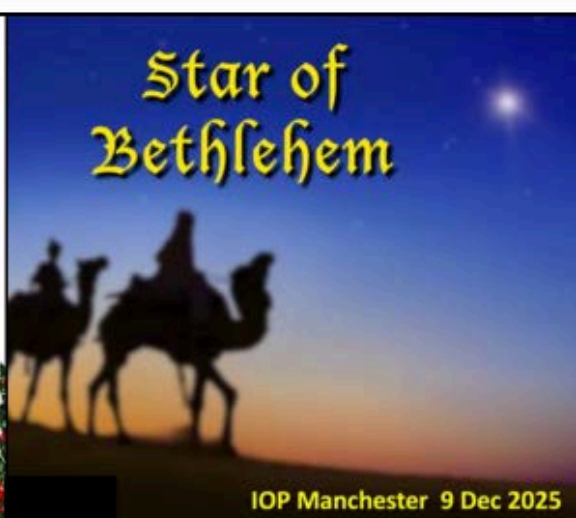


Star of Bethlehem and The Science of Santa

Dr Steve Barrett

Tuesday 9 December 2025

18.30-19.30



The physics of Christmas brought to you by Dr Steve Barrett in this riveting talk. How many laws of physics does Santa break every year and how might astronomy help explain the story of the star of Bethlehem? Dr Barrett will bring you on an incredible journey which brings physics to this important time of year. Form an orderly queue. Not to be missed.

Register here  <https://www.iop.org/events/star-bethlehem-and-science-santa>

This will be a face-to-face talk so **please note the venue**. Refreshments are available prior to the talk and all are welcome. **Free prize draw!**

Venue: Didsbury High School, 4 The Avenue, Didsbury, Manchester, M20 2ET

IOP

Institute of Physics

For further information email
manchesteranddistrict@physics.org

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Futures in STEM programme

Durham University's **Futures in STEM** programme (part of the National Leveling Up: STEM initiative) offers two years of free online academic tutoring and pastoral support for Year 12 students interested in Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, Maths, or Physics.

Why apply?

- Guaranteed conditional offer to study one of these subjects at Durham (conditions apply).
- Academic tuition, mentoring, and skill development.
- Guest lectures from world-leading academics.
- Become part of the Durham community and prepare for university life.

Applications close:

Saturday 31 January 2026 at 11:59 pm (GMT)

How to apply:

Complete the application form, including a short statement (max 250 words) explaining why you want to join the programme.

More information and apply for Futures in STEM



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School of Arts, Languages and Cultures

Discover History and Related Subjects & Discover English and Related Subjects

Date: Friday 30 January 2026

Venue: The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL

Explore History, English and related subjects. These events give you the opportunity to meet academics and students from these disciplines:

- Discover History includes: American Studies, Archaeology, Art History, Classics & Ancient History, History, Liberal Arts and Religions & Theology.
- Discover English includes: American Studies, Art History, Drama, English Language & Linguistics, English Literature & Creative Writing, Film Studies and Liberal Arts.

How to book:

For full details and how to book, please see our [SALC Discover Days page](#). Students have to register their own place and may attend without their teachers, but teachers are warmly invited to come along if they wish.



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SoSS Outreach: Discover Manchester - A Sociology and Anthropology Showcase 28/01/26

Discover Manchester: A Sociology and Anthropology Showcase

Date: Wednesday 28th January

Venue: Nancy Rothwell Building, University of Manchester, Oxford Road Campus

Come along to Discover Manchester: A Sociology and Anthropology Showcase to experience a battle of the social sciences! This day will give you an insight into the similarities and differences between Sociology and Social Anthropology and give you a taste of what they are like to study at University.

Learn from leading academics; engage in meaningful discussions and debates; explore our campus; chat to current students and hear from past students about where their degrees have taken them. Please note that you do not have to be currently studying Sociology or related subjects to attend – we welcome all students who have an interest in Social Sciences to attend.

How to book:

The event is free of charge. Booking is on a first-come, first served basis and places are limited. Y12 students should book their individual place via this form: <https://gck.fm/irmht> and can attend without a teacher. Teachers will receive an automated email alert when a student books.

Booking deadline: Tue 27th Jan, 12 noon

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HIGHERiN

What's Higherin all about?

JOBS. BUT BETTER.

From apprenticeships to grad jobs, get honest reviews, insider advice and roles that actually fit you.

Higherin is the next level careers platform with you at the heart. Supporting students to get higher in their careers, and employers hiring exceptional talent.

We partner with hundreds of top employers in the UK to bring you the most rewarding work experience schemes, proven by our annual rankings. You could work for the likes of: BMW Group, Deloitte, KPMG, EY, PWC, Vodafone, Disney, L'Oreal, HSBC (the list goes on).



Channel 4

CONNECT WITH THIS COMPANY



Channel 4's apprenticeship programme offers people with no prior experience the opportunity to come and work for them, and they are taking applications now.

Their purpose is to create change through entertainment. They do this by representing unheard voices, challenging with purpose and reinventing entertainment, be apart of that change.

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STUDENT CABINET - Christmas Charity Drive 🎄

Hello everybody!

As we enter the festive season, our sixth form will be supporting a Christmas charity (Manchester Christmas Relief) to help bring joy to families in need. We kindly ask each student to consider bringing in a small gift to donate. Every contribution, big or small, will have a meaningful impact.

To make things fun, we will be awarding a prize to the form group that collects the most gifts and they will be officially crowned the 'Winning Form'. Let's work together, spread kindness, and show the true spirit of giving.

The wish list of gifts MCR has asked for is below, however everything donated must be new, unopened, and unwrapped for hygiene purposes:

- colouring books
- colouring pencils
- backpacks for girls/boys
- cosmetic sets for young teens
- arts and crafts products/sets
- fluffy socks
- stationary
- blankets

Any other donations would be great! Any other gifts or things such as bags for life or wrapping paper will be greatly appreciated.

Charity gifts due in before 12th of December.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.



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HAZEL GROVE
SIXTH FORM

Christmas Bake Off

GET READY TO WHISK, MIX AND SPRINKLE
SOME FESTIVE MAGIC...
THIS CHRISTMAS, THE CHRISTMAS BAKE-OFF
IS COMING TO HGSF!

ALL STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN
A SEASONAL BAKING CHARITY EVENT. THIS WILL
CONCLUDE WITH A FESTIVE BAKE SALE ON THE
18TH OF DECEMBER 2025. ALL MONEY RAISED WILL GO
TO CHARITY, SO YOUR BAKING WILL SPREAD JOY
IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE.

HGSF STAFF WILL BE JUDGING YOUR CREATIONS
AT BREAKTIME OF THE 18TH. THE SALE
ITSELF WILL KICK-OFF AT THE LUNCHTIME!

REQUIREMENTS:
CHRISTMAS THEMED
MUST BE 1 CAKE OR 6 CUPCAKES MINIMUM
MUST BE HOME-MADE!

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOMES EVEN IF
YOU'RE NOT COMPETING! WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT
YOU COME UP WITH AND GOOD LUCK!

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUERIES PLEASE SPEAK TO
JACK WALKER & HGSF CABINET

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Child Trust Fund

Background

In 2000 Gordon Brown's government created Child Trust Funds – every child born between 1 Sept 2002 and 2 Jan 2011 received a £250 voucher (it did reduce to £50 in 2010) that parents could invest. Many have morphed into a Junior ISA. At 18, the child gets access to it. The £250 could now be worth £1900 so can pay for driving lessons, university support etc. When parents had done nothing with the £250 by the child's 1st birthday it was invested by HMRC. It is estimated that there are 2 million young adults who this applied to resulting in £2bn of "disconnected accounts" – the children or young adults do not realise they have one. Equally even if parents did invest in something, they may have forgotten about it.

Action for YOU!

Please ask your parents/carers if they know where your CTF is.

If they don't remember, or never invested it, or if you want to find out yourself: visit <https://findctf.sharefound.org/> or <https://www.gov.uk/child-trust-funds/find-a-child-trust-fund> to find the money – they will do a check against the CTF Register.

You will need your National Insurance number. Always seek appropriate financial advice if you are unsure about the best option for your situation.

CTF Maturity

18

Before reaching age 18 the individual will be informed of their options and outline next steps



Instruction Received

TRANSFER INTO AN ISA

And/or

TAKE CASH

No Instruction Received

MONEY PLACED IN A PROTECTED ACCOUNT
(maybe called either a Matured CTF or Protected ISA)

NOTES:

1. Will not use up ISA allowance. Will use up LISA allowance
2. Normal proof of identity will be required

NOTES:

1. Can be full or partial Withdrawal
2. Only an instruction covering the full proceeds will be accepted
3. Normal proof of identity will be required

NOTES:

1. Held in the account until Instruction received and then as above
2. No further payments allowed
3. No significant change to investments, charges or other terms and conditions
4. If it remains unclaimed could be paid to charity as a dormant account, although could still be reclaimed later.