

NEWSLETTER

2nd OCTOBER 2025



The Hinckley
SCHOOL



This week Year 11 and Year 13 students sat their mock exams and their maturity and focus have been impressive. This important practice allows them to experience exam conditions for the first time and to approach their real exams in the summer with more confidence. Mock exams continue next week, and I hope students enjoy a balance of rest and revision over

the weekend.

National Poetry Day saw students compete in our annual Poetry Slam in the Library. Students from all year groups impressed, with not only their creativity and writing skills, but also with their confidence and performance skills. It was wonderful to see such a celebration of our students' sense of belonging as they cheered on their fellow performers. Many of our Year 7 students stood up in front of a large audience for the very first time to share their work, while other students were returning contenders back to show off their spoken word skills once more. I would like to congratulate each and every one of them for their participation.

We are supporting a number of charity initiatives over the coming weeks and it has been great to hear students and staff so excited to support these events. We are inviting families to support The Hygiene Bank during National Hygiene Week, holding a 'Wear it Pink' fundraising day for Coopafeel! on Friday 17th October and our sixth formers are planning a Halloween bake sale to raise money for a local hospice where they volunteer. Our community's generosity and kindness are astounding and I would like to thank students and staff for giving their time to organise these events.

Thank you for your continued support.
Kate Grocock | Head of School

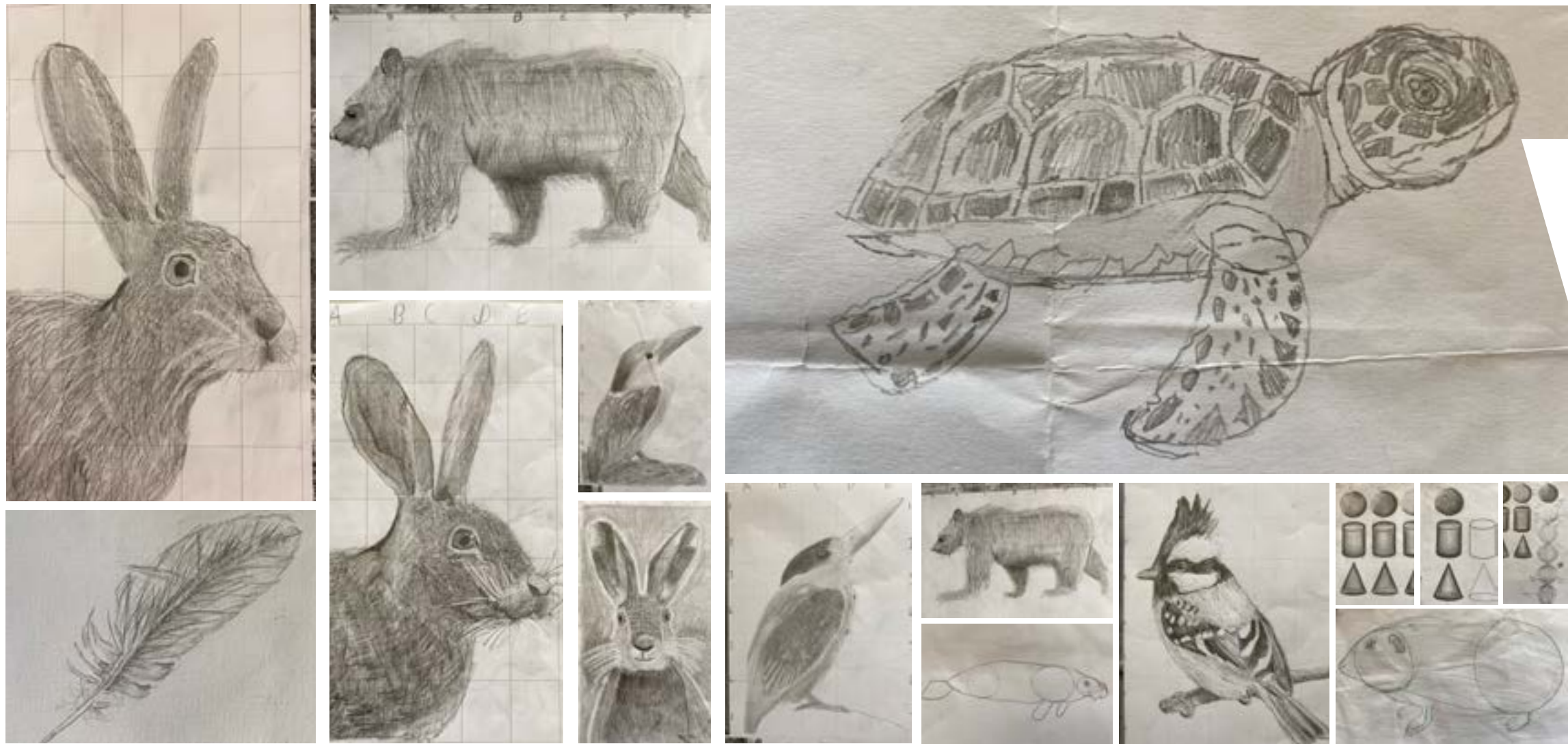
POETRY SLAM

A celebration of spoken word

An annual calendar highlight is our Library Poetry Slam, where students from all year groups come together to celebrate each other's work, perform spoken word and aim to impress our esteemed panel of staff judges. This year's event was a true celebration of creativity within our community and the confidence of our students was truly impressive to witness. Poems included those set around themes of mystery, love and loss and made the audience laugh and cry with the levels of emotion conveyed.

Year 8 student Laura was crowned this year's winner after a close final, receiving the 'Golden Mic' award which will be engraved with her name. All contestants received a certificate and a well deserved treat for taking part. Congratulations to everyone, you did yourselves proud!





Tonal Drawings

Impressive pencil sketching by Year 7

During their first Art and Design lesson at The Hinckley School, 7 Birmingham were asked to produce a timed drawing of a bird as a baseline activity. All students were asked to demonstrate progress from their starting point, regardless of their ability. Throughout a series of lessons, students were introduced to technical drawing processes such as using basic shapes, guidelines and grids to accurately sketch their subject matter, before moving on to the application of tone and mark making to enhance 3D form. This practice was implemented in their first Art Assessment in which they were challenged to produce a tonal drawing of their chosen animal. It is evident that all students strived to improve from their starting point and have responded proactively to feedback in order to produce some high-quality outcomes. A special mention goes out to Henne who has produced an expert level submission which has captured such fine details and markings within the bird's feathers and wings, exceeding the expected level of a Year 7 student.

Mr Pallett Competes in the Cornhole World Cup

Representing the UK on the world stage

Congratulations to our very own Mr Pallett, who has just returned from Poreč, Croatia, where he has been representing the UK in the World Cornhole Organisation World Cup.

It is an incredible achievement to be selected to represent your country on the world stage, and we couldn't be prouder of what he has achieved. Being crowned runner-up in his singles category and competing against players from over 14 different countries - he is a real inspiration to our community.

Well done Mr Pallett! We can't wait for our very own school cornhole equipment to arrive and for him to inspire even more players.

More cornhole news coming soon - watch this space!



Breast Cancer Awareness

CoppaFeel! Awareness Lessons

As part of our commitment to supporting student well-being and health education, we will be running Breast Cancer Awareness lessons with students.

It will be delivered by their teacher using resources provided by CoppaFeel! who are the UK's first breast cancer awareness charity.

Although breast cancer is a serious topic, CoppaFeel! approaches it in an age-appropriate way. They aim to encourage young people to check monthly, educate them to know the signs of breast cancer and empower them to contact their GP if they notice any unusual changes to their chest. When breast cancer is diagnosed early, treatments are more effective and survival rates are higher.

We hope these lessons encourage students to be attuned to their own bodies and helps to break the

stigma around this topic and chest-checking.

Wear it Pink Day - 17th October

In addition to our awareness sessions, on **Friday 17th October**, we will be holding a **'Wear it Pink Day'** where students will be able to wear a pink adornment (shoe laces, earrings, headband, gloves, socks etc) alongside their normal uniform for the **suggested donation of £1** - available on Parent Pay. There will also be a bake sale, games and quizzes for students to get involved with during lunchtime; these fundraising activities will be cash only.

Thank you in advance for supporting this charity fundraising event.

CoppaFeel!
breast cancer awareness

CONSIDERATE PARKING

Help us keep our community safe.

As members of a school community nestled within a beautiful neighbourhood in the centre of Hinckley, it is important that we do all we can to keep the disruption to local residents to a minimum and to keep everyone safe. We kindly ask that families take care when driving through our surrounding roads and act with courtesy to not block driveways or access routes when parking.

We understand that our driveway gets incredibly busy during drop-off and pick-up, so we request that parents and carers park further away from our entrance where possible to ensure the safety of all road users, pedestrians, and residents.



Competing with PRIDE

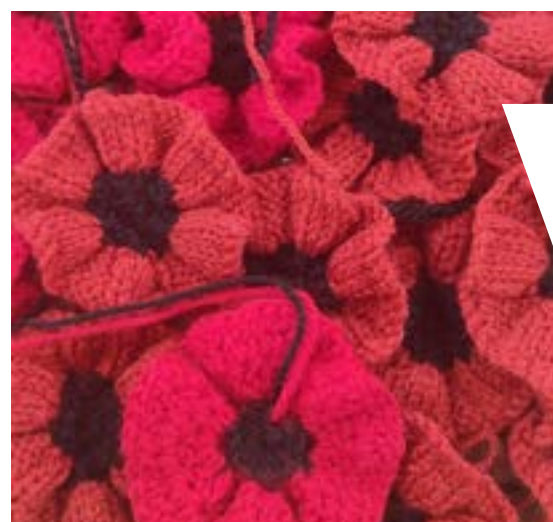
'Sic parvis magna' - Greatness from small beginnings

Already this term, our students have proudly represented the school in netball, football (boys and girls), rugby, and cross-country fixtures.

What has been most inspiring is the way our students have embodied our core value of PRIDE in every performance.

The Hinckley School is a place where sporting achievement, teamwork, and school spirit truly shine and we are incredibly proud of all students who proudly compete wearing our school crest.

Mr Stocks | Director of Sport



Poppy Cascade Donations

Our Community crochet contribution is growing!

Our contributions to Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre & Country Park's Poppy Cascade are looking wonderful! We currently have 31 poppies which have either been carefully crocheted or knitted by our community. There is a craft table in the Library every lunchtime for staff and students who want to make a poppy, so if you haven't had a chance to get involved yet, there is still time! Please see Mrs Crisp for more details.



THE SIXTH FORM AMBASSADORS HAVE STARTED HELPING IN OUR 'READING EGGS' INTERVENTION WITH MRS MELLOR THIS WEEK AND THERE WAS A REAL 'HIVE OF LEARNING' HAPPENING. WELL DONE EVERYONE!

MRS CRISP | LIBRARIAN



NATIONAL HYGIENE WEEK

A reminder that this year we will be supporting **National Hygiene Week** - a chance to support our families and the wider community with access to essentials such as toiletries and cleaning products for the home. Every month, the Hygiene Bank supplies a careful of donations to members of our local community, and this is our chance to give something back.

Hygiene poverty isn't just about cleanliness - it blocks opportunities and impacts the mental health of people every day.

With your support, the Lutterworth Hygiene Bank can continue to provide shampoo, laundry detergent, or toothpaste to someone who is struggling with hygiene poverty in the Leicester area.

If you can help us to support this initiative, then please donate using the donation point information listed on the poster to the right.

6TH-12TH OCTOBER 2025

SAVE THE DATE ...

... and change lives!

Your donation is more than just a bar of soap or a bottle of shampoo; it is dignity and confidence to those of us in our community who need it most.

How You Can Help:

Donate Today

Scan the QR code below to donate whatever you can!

Support Us With a Bring a Bottle Event

At your next gathering—be it at work, a village event, or with friends—encourage everyone to bring a bottle of shampoo, body wash or anything hygiene related.

Then, drop off your donations at any of our donation points!

Our Hygiene Product Donation Points

LUTTERWORTH: Mornings, Hinckley & Rugby Building Society, Life Church, St Mary's Church, Kilworth Springs Golf Club

RUGBY: Boots and Tesco at Junction 1, Aida

HINCKLEY AREA: Tesco, Aida, Boots in Hinckley, Living Rock Church in Stony Stanton

LEICESTER: Boots in Fosse Park, Thurmaton, Codby & Wigton, Sainsbury's Fosse Park, Aida Thurmaton, Tesco Syston

CREATIVE CURRICULUM

Here you will find weekly insights into our creative curriculum, competitions, careers, and more. We hope you enjoy exploring our student work and getting involved in new opportunities!

Celebrating Creativity

Assemblies and Enrichment

Our relaunch of enrichment saw Miss Webster talk to all year groups about creativity in assemblies this week. She explained how creativity runs through all subjects, not just art and design, and how freedom of expression and creative thinking are so important in all areas. To ensure we continue to emphasise the importance of creativity to our students, we have launched a new button on our Classcharts system which will allow staff to recognise and reward creativity in any subject.

Look out for new creative enrichment opportunities on our new enrichment calendar - which you can find on the next page!

CAREERS CORNER

Ever considered a career as an Ergonomist?

[Click here to watch](#) a video about careers within this creative industry.



Sony World Photography Awards

Youth competition

Open to photographers aged 19 and under. Entry is free and you could win top Sony Digital Imaging equipment, inclusion in the London exhibition and the annual book - plus more! Enter your favourite photographs taken in 2025. Submit up to three of your striking single images and share them with the judges. All photographic styles, genres and approaches are welcome - enter your top stand out images you think will catch the judge's eye and imagination.

- Competition runs from 1 June 2025 to 6 January 2026
- Photographers can enter up to three images relating to a theme
- Judges will select a shortlist of up to 10 photographers
- Shortlist compete for Youth Photographer of the Year title
- Overall winner receives Youth Photographer of the Year title and Sony Digital Imaging kit
- Please see 'Rules' online for full image eligibility criteria
- Deadline for entries is 6 January 2026 at 13:00 (GMT)
- [Click here for more information.](#)

CAREERS CORNER

Ever considered a career as an Architect?

[Click here to watch](#) a video about careers within this creative industry.



AUTUMN ENRICHMENT

MONDAY

Lunchtime

- **Art & Crafts** - Year 7
Y12/13 | TBC | Starts in Oct
- **Open Studio** - Y7-13
A.Bennett | Dance Studio
- **Y7,8,11 Astro** | I.Ratheram
- **Knit & Craft Club** - Y7-13
R.Crisp | Library
- **Board Games** - Year 7
Bridge Heartspace

After School

- **V&A STEM** - Year 8
K.Webster | D7
- **Astronomy** - Y8 & 9
Dr Raj & Dr Newbold | Science
- **Choir** - Y7-13 | P.Wright | MU1
- **Cheerleading** - Y7-13
R.Radford | Gym
- **Robot Wars** - Y7-9
P.Harrison & P.Williams | D1 |
Starting on 27th Oct

THURSDAY

Lunchtime

- **Art** - Year 11 | K.Webster | D7
- **Geology & Palaeontology**
Y7-13 | A.Gadsby | L1
- **Y7-11 Girls & Y10&11 Astro**
I.Ratheram
- **Spanish Club** - Y7-13 | A.Garcia | L3
- **Writers Workshop** - Y7-13
G.Mathieson | Wk 2 only | H4
- **Scrabble Club** - Y7-13
R.Crisp | Library

After School

- **Eco Club** - Y7-13 | L.Sturgess | D14
- **Boys & Girls Football** - Y7-13
I. Wincote, M. Pallett, C. Gillett,
I. Pawley, E Jones | Outside
- **Music Technology Club** - Y7-13
P.Wright | MU1
- **Music Club** - Y7-13
P.Wright | MU1
- **Science Buskers** - Y9&10
Dr Smith | S11
- **Cinema Club** - Y11-13
Once a month | Z.Owen | TBC
- **Board Games** - Year 7
Bridge Heartspace

TUESDAY

Lunchtime

- **Jewellery Making** - Year 7
Wk 1 Only | Mrs Wilson | D15
- **Y8,9,10 Astro** | Mr Ratheram
- **LGBTQIA** - Y7-13
R.Bryne | MPR
- **Board Games** - Year 7
Bridge Heartspace

FRIDAY

Lunchtime

- **Dance Team** - Y7/8
Dance Studio | Miss Bennett
- **Disco Club** - Year 8
H.Bailey | Y8 | G2
- **Y8,9,10 Astro** | Mr Ratheram
- **Xbox Club** - Year 11
R.Bryne | Y11 | H9
- **Rugby Girls Catch Up** -
Y7-13 | M.Stocks | Outside
- **Board Games** - Year 7
Bridge Heartspace

WEDNESDAY

Lunchtime

- **Dance Team** - Y9-13
A.Bennett | Dance Studio
- **Y7,9,11 Astro** | Mr Ratheram
- **Drama Society** - Y7&8
K.Cook | Drama Studio
- **Film Club** - Y7-13
R.James | G5
- **Chess Club** - Y7-13
R.Crisp | Library
- **Board Games** - Year 7
Bridge Heartspace

After School

- **Y11 Art** | Miss Webster | D7
- **Y11 Art** | Miss Johnson | D12
- **Warhammer Club** -Y9-13
C.Hoffman & B.J.Britchford | D11
- **Netball** - Y7-13
C.Gillett, F.Godfrey, E.Rayson |
Outside
- **Electronics Club** -Y7-13
P.Harrison & P.Williams | D1 |
Starting on 27th Oct | (Wk 1)
- **Rugby** - Y7-13
M.Stocks, J.Elvidge, H.Toor,
S.Randle, M.Tallis | Outside



The Hinckley
SCHOOL

**Don't be afraid to try
new things!**

Students receive enrichment points for participating in activities. Ruby, Sapphire and Diamond Enrichment Awards are then awarded in Celebration Assemblies.

UCAS & Apprenticeship Webinar



Assemblies and Enrichment

We are excited to be holding our first ever UCAS and Apprenticeship Webinar, on Tuesday 28th October, 5:00pm to 6:00pm via Microsoft Teams. The event is designed to support Year 12/13 students and families as they begin exploring post-18 pathways, providing guidance on:

- University choices and timelines
- The UCAS application process
- Apprenticeship opportunities
- The apprenticeship application process
- How parents and carers can support

If you are able to join us for this event, [please register on Eventbrite](#) by midday on Monday 27th October.

Attendance Matters

Our Journey

This time last year, our attendance figures told a story we were determined to change. Too many students were missing out on valuable learning, and the effect could be seen in outcomes, confidence, and culture.

Since then, we have placed 'Attendance Matters!' at the heart of our work. Over the last twelve months we have:

- Introduced daily first-period calls so every absence is followed up immediately.
- Ensured pastoral leaders and tutors speak directly with any student whose attendance falls below 93%.
- Launched Attendance Improvement Meetings (AIMs) to support families and break down barriers for our most vulnerable students.
- Developed a range of celebrations and rewards, from postcards home to certificates, raffles, and the popular attendance wheels.

The impact has been clear: our attendance has improved significantly compared with the same point last year. This represents thousands of additional lessons attended and a stronger sense of belonging across the school. It is proof that when we all work together, attendance really does make a difference.

Assemblies and Enrichment

Why Attendance Matters!

Attendance is not just a number on a register — it is the foundation for achievement and wellbeing.

- **Academically:** Students with high attendance achieve better grades. Missing just one day a fortnight adds up to weeks of lost learning.
- **Socially:** Regular attendance helps students maintain

friendships and feel part of their tutor group and year team.

• **For the future:** Employers and colleges look at attendance as a sign of reliability and commitment.

That is why we say again and again: 'Attendance Matters!' It is the golden thread that links belonging, learning, and opportunity.

Launching Attendance Ambassadors

This term, we are proud to launch an exciting new initiative: Attendance Ambassadors. This programme brings students into the centre of our strategy, because who better to promote attendance than the young people it affects most?

What Will Ambassadors Do?

- **Mentor peers:** Support classmates whose attendance has dipped, offering encouragement and practical advice.
- **Promote campaigns:** Share attendance messages in assemblies, create posters, and contribute ideas to tutor time activities.
- **Co-design rewards:** Help staff develop prizes and celebrations that feel meaningful for students.
- **Celebrate success:** Take a leading role in recognition during assemblies.

Students will be receiving information about the initiative this coming week where we will be opening applications for students to apply.

I encourage parents and carers to discuss attendance at home with students and to think carefully if they would like to take on a position of leadership in becoming an attendance ambassador.

- Mr Fawkner