

NEWSLETTER

4th June 2026



The Hinckley
SCHOOL



I would like to take this opportunity to extend another sincere thank you to our students for the focus, resilience, and determination they have shown during this week's examinations - with 29 in total this week!

Our focus across the school remains firmly on building brighter futures, not just for Year 11 and 13. This has been evident in our recent Year 7 university assembly, which has helped to prepare students for their upcoming campus visit and to begin thinking ambitiously about their next steps. In addition, we are putting the final plans in place for our Year 10 Sixth Form Taster Days and Sixth Form Futures Conference, which will welcome a range of inspiring guest speakers from the worlds of business and apprenticeships, offering valuable insight and guidance for our students.

I have also been particularly impressed by the work of our Eco Club and our Computer Science students, who are working to help ensure that our school supports not only the development of our students, but also the natural world around us. Their efforts are truly inspiring and reflect the values we strive to promote as a school community. Their work has shown creativity and a deep care for the world around us and I would like to thank them for their contributions to our community.

Kate Grocock | Head of School

Inspiring High Aspirations

On Wednesday morning, our Year 7 students took an exciting first step towards their futures with a special assembly delivered by representatives from De Montfort University. The session was designed to inspire students to think big, aim high, and begin considering the opportunities that education can offer beyond school.

During the assembly, students were introduced to the concept of university life and what it really means to study at this level. The speakers explored key questions such as "What is university?" helping to break down some of the mystery surrounding higher education. Importantly, the assembly encouraged students to start thinking about their own aspirations from an early stage.

This visit marks the beginning of an exciting journey for our Year 7 cohort, who will build on this experience with a campus trip later this month. Visiting a university in person will give students a chance to explore the environment, see facilities first-hand, and imagine themselves as future degree students.

We are proud to support our students in raising their aspirations and exploring the possibilities ahead.





YOUTH WITHOUT LIMITS

Thank you

to
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants

from

The Hinckley School

who spent

936 Hours

**volunteering between
1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026.**

We are immensely proud of the dedication, effort and achievement of young people making an impact in their community.

The social value of these hours is

£7066

Ruth Marvel OBE, Chief Executive

June 2026

Volunteering Success

The Hinckley School have gained recognition for achieving an astonishing 936 Hours of voluntary service. This achievement formed part of the Duke of Edinburgh's award programme; due to a limited number of opportunities, the volunteering section can be one of the hardest to complete - but not for our students!

Amy Fennell, Duke of Edinburgh's Award Co-Ordinator said, "The DofE group have not only gained skills themselves but have also made a significant contribution to our local community, they should be immensely proud."

Well done to all the DofE participants on this fantastic achievement!



Adventure, fun with friends, enjoy the outdoors, personal challenge, learn a new skill, enhance your CV, create memories and much more.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Registration for Bronze and Silver now Open

BRONZE

Volunteering **3 months**

Physical **3 months**

Skills **3 months**

Expedition **2 days 1 night**

PLUS a further 3 months in the Volunteering, Physical or Skills section.

Current Year 9s can enrol onto the Bronze DofE award. (Completing their expedition in Year 10)

*Expedition training will start in September



BECAUSE THERE'S NO BETTER WAY TO...

- Try new things
- Meet new people
- Discover new talents
- Learn new skills
- See what you're made of



BECAUSE THERE'S NO BETTER WAY TO...

- Give back to your community
- Feel more confident
- Make a difference
- Recognise your potential
- Boost your wellbeing

SILVER

Volunteering **6 months**

Physical **one section for 6 months, the other for 3 months**

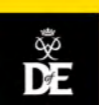
Skills **one section for 6 months, the other for 3 months**

Expedition **3 days 2 nights**

Direct entrants must do a further 6 months in the Volunteering or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections.

Current Year 10s can enrol onto the Silver DofE award. (Completing their expedition in Year 11)

*Expedition training will start in September



YOUTH WITHOUT LIMITS

Pick up a form from Mrs Hall or email afennell@thehinckleyschool.co.uk

Student Successfully Scales Scafell Pike

On Thursday 28th May 2026, Amelia in Year 9 was very proud to reach the summit of Scafell Pike, the highest mountain in England!

Her family shared, "We woke that morning at 2am and set out on a long 4 1/2 hour drive to Cumbria. The sun was shining bright, making it hotter than desired. But despite it all, we made it, we reached the top!"

This is Amelia's second impressive climb, after reaching the summit of Mount Snowdon, the highest mountain in Wales last year.

So what about next year? Well, she has no plans to slow down, as she aims to take on Ben Nevis in 2027!

Well done Amelia! What an impressive display of determination, focus, and resilience.



Deadline for Year 7/8 to Collect Work

Students in Years 7 and 8 are kindly reminded to collect any completed Art, Textiles, or DT work from the Art Department by Monday 15th June.

Due to space limitations, any work that has not been collected by this date will unfortunately need to be disposed of.

We encourage students to check and collect their pieces as soon as possible. Thank you for your support.

- Mrs Bosworth - Head of Art

The Gateway
At The Hinckley School

The Bridge
At The Hinckley School

Eco Club Updates

The Eco Club (who meet every Thursday in the Library from 3pm-4pm) have been hard at work transforming our allotment area into a thriving, wildlife-friendly space and the results are already blooming!

We have been getting creative and sustainable by recycling items from the greenhouse area. Old Belfast sinks have been given a new lease of life and are now proudly planted with sunflowers and runner beans, all grown from seed by our eco enthusiasts. It's amazing to see something old become something so full of life.

Our allotment has also been designated as a "no mow" area, and nature has wasted no time in moving in. We are already spotting a wonderful variety of insects and pollinators buzzing about, including a particularly bright and eye-catching moth that caused lots of excitement.

A big thank you to Coles Nurseries, who kindly donated three varieties of pumpkin seeds. These have now been planted and we are keeping our fingers crossed for a fantastic pumpkin harvest just in time for October. Other things that are emerging are our potatoes and tomatoes.

Pond Life and Frog Fun

One of our most exciting projects has been creating a small pond area. We carefully transferred water from the existing pond site, and Miss Jenkins has been looking after tadpoles in the Science area. We're delighted to say that some of these tadpoles have now been released into their new home!

We have made sure our pond is frog-friendly, adding wire ramps so that tiny froglets can climb out safely when they are ready, and surrounding the pond with rocks and wood to give them cosy hiding places.

But did you know just how incredible a frog's life journey really is? It all starts with frogspawn, those jelly-like clusters of eggs you might spot floating in ponds in early spring. Each tiny black dot inside will grow into a tadpole. Soon, these hatch into tadpoles, which look more like little fish than frogs, complete with tails and gills for breathing underwater.

As they grow, things get interesting. Tadpoles begin to sprout back legs, followed by front legs, and their tails gradually shrink. At this stage, they are called froglets, mini frogs with just a little bit of tail left. Finally, they absorb the rest of their tail and become fully formed frogs, ready to hop onto land and explore the world. It is like a real-life transformation story happening right before our eyes and now our allotment pond is part of that magical journey.

The Eco Club allotment is becoming a vibrant haven for plants, wildlife, and learning. We're so proud of what's been achieved already and cannot wait to see what grows next—watch this space!

Mrs Sturgess, Ms Crisp and Miss Jenkins



Exploring Technology, Nature and Wellbeing in Computer Science

This term, Year 8 and Year 9 Computer Science students have taken part in an exciting national research project through the National Education Nature Parks which is exploring student wellbeing and connection to nature. We have been proud to collaborate with Dr Ashby Sachs an RHS Research Fellow based at RHS Garden Wisley. This has given our students a unique opportunity to contribute to real-world research project while developing their digital skills.

Over the course of six lessons, students stepped beyond the traditional classroom and explored our school grounds with a new perspective. Equipped with digital cameras, many for the first time, students captured images of the natural and built environment across the site, learning how technology can be used to observe, record and analyse the world around them.

These photographs have contributed to a national mapping project, where schools across the country are sharing their findings. You can explore our students' contributions by [visiting the map](#) and searching for our postcode LE10 1LE.

Beyond data collection, students engaged in thoughtful discussions about how our school environment influences wellbeing. They developed their own vision statements and proposed a wide range of creative and practical improvements to our school grounds. Their ideas included:

- Installing enclosed bins to reduce litter and prevent squirrels accessing waste
- Expanding recycling facilities across the school
- Creating more outdoor seating areas, including shaded spaces for comfort
- Introducing living walls and grass roof areas to increase bio diversity
- Replacing sections of concrete playground with greener spaces
- Even ambitious ideas such as keeping bees and chickens to support wildlife and sustainability

Students then brought their ideas together through collaboration, using publishing software to design and produce their own "zines", mini magazines filled with their research, designs and creative solutions. These showcased not only their technical skills, but also their growing awareness of environmental responsibility and wellbeing.

As part of our involvement in the project, we have also received vouchers for the NHBS (Natural History Book Service). These will be used to purchase wildlife surveying equipment, including cameras and habitat resources such as a hedgehog house, helping us continue to develop our school site as a space that supports both people and nature.

This project has been a fantastic example of how Computer Science can connect with real-world issues, combining technology, creativity and environmental awareness. We are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, curiosity and innovation shown by our students.

Mrs Sturgess, Mr Williams and Mr Chauhan



Cultural Food Fair

On Friday 19th June, we are delighted to be hosting a Cultural Food Fair in the Main Hall, bringing students and staff together to celebrate culture, community, and a shared love of food.

Community lies at the heart of this event, and we warmly invite volunteers to contribute by donating sweet or savoury treats they would like to be sold on the day. These can be either shop-bought or homemade, offering a wonderful opportunity for students and their families to share a taste of their culture with others across our school. To ensure this celebration also supports those beyond our school, all proceeds will be donated to the Hinckley Area Food Bank, helping our wider local community while strengthening our inclusive sense of belonging.

If your child would like to be involved and lead a food stall - whether it's for a treasured family recipe or a favourite food that represents their culture - we would love them to get involved. Please ask students to speak to their Year Team, letting them know the name of their dish and the culture it represents. Further details for students wishing to purchase items will be shared in due course.

Alongside the Cultural Food Fair, students will also have the opportunity to take part in a range of activities and events in the library, celebrating the richness and diversity of our wonderful school community.

INSET DAY

A reminder that there will be an INSET Day on **Monday 29th June 2026**.

The school will be closed to all students (Year 7-13) on this day for staff training. Thank you.

SPORTS DAY

We are pleased to announce that our annual Sports Day will take place on **Thursday 25th June 2026**.

On this day, students in Years 7, 8, 9, and 10 should arrive at school wearing their full PE kit, ready to participate in the day's activities. They will wear their PE kit for the full day.

As events will be held outdoors, please ensure your child wears suitable footwear, and brings a water bottle, sun cream, and a hat.

Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council

CHILDREN'S STORY WRITING COMPETITION

Have your winning story read out by a storyteller and author at Snap dragon festival!

Write your best story the top 7 stories will be read out by a story teller and author at Snap Dragon Festival on Wednesday 5 August.

Winners will also receive a book voucher and have their stories will be showcased in Hinckley Library.

How to enter
Email: Story.Competition@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk to receive the brief

GOOD LUCK!

SUMMER ENRICHMENT

MONDAY

LUNCHTIME

- **Craft Club** - Y7-13, R Crisp, Library
- **Open Studio** - Y7-13, A Bennett, Dance
- **Y7,8,11 Astro** - I.Ratheram
- **Board Games** - Y7, Heartspace
- **Cornhole Club** - Y7, 8 and 9, boys and girls, M.Pallet, Gym
- **The Bridge Drama Society** - Y7, K Cook / N Smith, Drama Studio

AFTER SCHOOL

- **Astronomy** - Y8/9, Dr Raj/Dr Newbold, S2, Summer Half Term 1 only
- **Robot Wars** - Y7 & 10, P.Harrison / P.Williams, D1

TUESDAY

LUNCHTIME

- **Jewellery Making** - Y7, Wk 1 Only, Mrs Wilson, D15
- **Girls Basketball** - Y7/8, C.Gillett
- **Y8,9,10 Astro** - I.Ratheram
- **Choir** - P.Wright, MU1
- **LGBTQIA** - Y7-13, R.Byrne, MPR
- **Board Games** - Y7, Heartspace
- **Cornhole Club** - Y7, 8 and 9, boys and girls, M.Pallet, Gym

AFTER SCHOOL

- **Robot Wars** - Y8 & 9, P.Harrison / P.Williams, D1
- **Carnegie Book Awards Shadowing Group** - Y7-13, R Crisp, Library

WEDNESDAY

Lunchtime

- **Dance Team** - Y9-13, A.Bennett, Dance
- **Y7,9,11 Astro** - I.Ratheram
- **Chess Club** - Y7-13, R.Crisp, Library
- **Board Games** - Y7, Heartspace
- **Cornhole Club** - Y7, 8 and 9, boys and girls, M.Pallet, Gym
- **The Gateway Drama Club** - Y8, N Smith, Drama Studio

AFTER SCHOOL

- **Warhammer Club** - Y9-13, D11 C.Hoffman & B.J.Britchford, 3-4:30pm
- **Debate Club** - Y7-13, H8, R Byrne
- **Electronics Club** - Y7-13, P.Harrison / P.Williams, D1
- **Rugby** (boys)- Y7-13, M Stocks, J Elvidge, M Swann, S Randle, M Tallis, Outside
- **Girls Football** - Y7-11, I Pawley / E Jones
- **Silent Book Club** - Last Wednesday of the month, Y7-13, R Crisp, Library

THURSDAY

LUNCHTIME

- **Dance Team** - Y7/8, A.Bennett, Dance
- **Geology & Palaeontology** - Y7-13, A.Gadsby, L1
- **Y7-11 Girls & Y10&11 Astro** - I.Ratheram
- **Girls Basketball** - Y9-11, C.Gillett
- **Scrabble Club** - Y7-13, R.Crisp, Library
- **Cornhole Club** - Y7, 8 and 9, boys and girls, M.Pallet, Gym
- **Board Games** - Y7, Heartspace

AFTER SCHOOL

- **Eco Club** - Y7-13, L.Sturgess, D14
- **Girls Badminton** - Y7-13, C.Gillett, Sportshall
- **Music Club** - Y7-13, P.Wright, MU1
- **Science Buskers** - Y9&10, Dr Smith, S11
- **Cinema Club** - Y11-13, Once a month, Z.Owen, (Days confirmed by teacher)
- **Cricket** - Y7-11, M Stocks, 3:15-4:30pm

FRIDAY

LUNCHTIME

- **Open Studio** - Y7-13 Dance Studio, A.Bennett
- **Disco Club** - Year 8 H.Bailey, Y8 | G2
- **Y8,9,10 Astro** - Mr Ratheram
- **Choir** - P.Wright, MU1
- **Xbox Club** - Year 11 R.Byrne, Y11, H9
- **Board Games** - Year 7 Bridge Heartspace
- **Cross Country** - M.Stocks Outside, (Wk 2) Starts after May half term
- **Cornhole Club** - Y7, 8 and 9, boys and girls, M.Pallet, Gym



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.