



NEWSLETTER

30TH OCTOBER 2025



The Hinckley
SCHOOL



I hope all our students, staff and families enjoyed the half-term break and have felt rested and energised for their return to routines this week. It has been a delight to welcome our community back through our gates and students have hit the ground running with their effort in lessons and commitment to high expectations.

Thank you to everyone who has returned their signed Home School Agreement. If you are yet to return this completed document, please do so as soon as possible, as this important partnership agreement not only strengthens our commitment to high expectations but also outlines how together we will build brighter futures for our young people.

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising events for Breast Cancer Now on the final day of half-term. The generosity of students, staff and their families was wonderful and it was a pleasure to witness how our sense of community helped to make the event such a success.

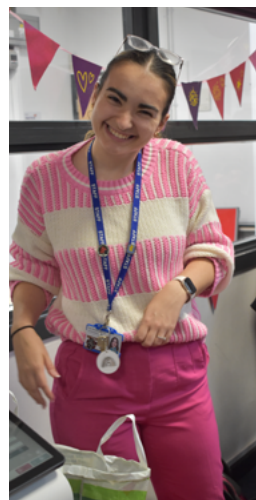
We have a series of important events coming up for our exam year groups. The first of which is our **Year 11 and 13 Results and Revision Evening** on **Tuesday 4th November**, followed by our **Sixth Form Open Evening and Careers Fair for Year 10/11** on **Wednesday 12th November**. I look forward to discussing ambitions, success and support with families at these events.

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

Breast Cancer Awareness

In addition to our recent awareness sessions, on **Friday 17th October**, we held a **'Wear it Pink Day'** in support of the charity Breast Cancer Now. The generosity and community spirit from our students and staff was incredible, with a fantastic show of support at our bake sale, games and quizzes over lunchtime. A big thank you to everyone who made the event such a success, whether that was helping with the event set-up, donating cakes to be sold, buying a sweet treat or having a go at our lunchtime activities - you made a real difference.

We are delighted to announce that your generosity and kindness have raised £382.20 for the charity Breast Cancer Now.





The Hinckley SIXTH FORM



OPEN EVENT

Wednesday 12th November
5:00pm - 8:00pm

THE FUTURE
STARTS WITH US

www.thehinckleysixthform.co.uk



Our Open Event also includes a Year 11 Careers and Destinations Fair in the Main Hall, to help our young people make the best and most informed decision for them.

Supporting Your Child's Future

Talking Careers at Home: The Power of Conversation

One of the most impactful ways parents and carers can support their child's career journey is by simply talking about their own work and experiences. Sharing your career path — including the twists, turns, and lessons learned — helps young people understand that careers evolve over time.

Encourage your child to ask questions like:

- What qualifications did you need for your job?
- What do you enjoy most about your work?
- How has your job changed over the years?
- What opportunities exist in your field nationally and globally?
- What do other family members do, and how did they get there?

These conversations build curiosity, confidence, and awareness of the world of work.

How to Be Career Ready: A Year-by-Year Guide

As the year progresses, the Careers Team will be working on a number of activities and events for students across the seven-year journey.

Being career ready means developing the skills, confidence, and knowledge to make informed decisions about the future. Here's an overview for each year group, including things that you can do with your child at home.

Year 7

- Explore different job roles and industries on the Unifrog platform and by asking family members.
- Practise asking staff, parents and carers about their own careers.
- Encourage your child to join a school club or team to build teamwork skills, these will be the experiences they can write about and draw upon when writing applications in the future.

Year 8

- Start identifying personal strengths and interests through the Unifrog platform to explore careers that may suit them.
- Interview a family member about their job.
- Reflect on what they have learnt through the interview process.

Year 9

- Research qualifications needed for careers of interest through the Unifrog platform to help with GCSE option choices.
- Begin to create a simple profile on Unifrog that will feed into future CV and application writing to include hobbies, achievements, and skills.

Year 10

- Take part in mock interviews.
- Create a covering letter, and curriculum vitae ready for Work Experience.
- Participate in 3 days of work experience. This will be launched to the students and parents in January 2026.

Year 11

- Finalising of a CV and personal statement.
- Explore post-16 options: Sixth Form, college, apprenticeships.
- Practise writing professional emails and applications.

Year 12

- Gain work experience.
- Refine your CV with real-world experience.
- Attend university and apprenticeship fairs.

Year 13

- Apply for university, apprenticeships, or jobs.
- Prepare for interviews and assessment centres.
- Reflect on your journey and set short-term goals.

Beyond School: Building Community Connections

Encourage your child to get involved in activities outside of school and home. Volunteering, joining local clubs, or participating in community events helps them:

- Build confidence and communication skills.
- Understand how the local community operates.
- See how local roles connect to national and global systems.

These experiences also look great on CVs and personal statements, showing initiative and engagement.

Spotlight on Careers Support:

As well as the activities that happen throughout the year in assemblies, in tutor time and through enrichment activities, our Careers Advisor, Mrs Thompson supports students with careers advice. If your child needs careers advice, please encourage them to speak to their Tutor or Mrs Sturgess to arrange a meeting with Mrs Thompson.

Mrs Thompson also carries out home visits for some students, ensuring every young person has a clear goal and destination after their time with us.

Her personalised guidance helps students:

- Discover pathways suited to their strengths.
- Access opportunities they may not have considered.
- Build confidence in their future.

Mrs Sturgess and Mrs Thompson | The Careers Team

Double Welsh National Champions

Celebrating our Judo Stars!

We are incredibly proud of students Katrina and Kayleigh, who both brought home GOLD from the Welsh National Open Championships, earning the well-deserved title of Number One in Wales!

In an extremely tough pool of eight strong fighters, Katrina showed outstanding determination, focus, and skill throughout the day. After an early setback, she fought her way back with sheer grit — winning eight of nine contests by Ippon (the highest score in Judo) and securing victory in a thrilling three-way fight-off for gold. Her powerful uchi-mata throw in the final round was nothing short of spectacular!

Meanwhile, Kayleigh dominated her category from start to finish — showing strength, confidence, and superb technical ability in every match. Her control and commitment on the mat left no doubt who the champion was!

A huge congratulations to both girls on this amazing achievement — representing their club, their school, and their country with pride. Wales' very own double gold champions!



Flu Vaccinations

A reminder that student flu vaccinations will take place on 11th November for students in Year 7-11

The SAIS team will contact you directly to request consent for vaccinations.

This new approach will make it quicker for you to give or refuse consent. If consent is not received the service will allow the young person to self-consent if aged over 13 years and competent.



INSET DAY REMINDER - FRIDAY 28TH NOVEMBER



Investments Over Half-Term

This week, we have been delighted to unveil improvements to our school site, which were completed over the half-term break.

Our Library now has a brand new sign installed behind Ms Crisp's desk to not only welcome students and staff but also help to ignite their imaginations. It features images from a wide variety of different literary genres and an inspirational quote. The opposite wall now also features a similar display, as well as a full slat-wall display to allow Ms Crisp to not only display books, but also to create a curated space to exhibit collections.

Meanwhile, in the Sports Hall, students now benefit from brand new pull-out indoor cricket nets, which replace our previous lanes.

Thank you to all staff who led these investment projects and to our foundation governors for their support.

Christmas Hampers for Families

This year, we are once again being supported by the Lutterworth Hygiene Bank and our local Morrisons to be able to provide families in need with Christmas hampers. Please let us know if your family would like a hamper by emailing kpriestnall@thehinckleyschool.co.uk

Last year, we gave away over 50 hampers to families within our community thanks to our supporting partners.

CREATIVE CURRICULUM

Rising Sun - Clay Sculptures

Year 9 Design and Technology students have been drawing inspiration from Japanese culture in their latest work, incorporating traditional coiling techniques and the symbolic imagery of the rising sun.

The use of animal forms and carefully textured surfaces reflects themes of nature, renewal, and light. Students started by looking at a clay relief tile, which had to incorporate a Japanese pattern, object or something they associate with Japanese culture, all whilst thinking about the 2D and 3D elements they could incorporate. Following that, the students were then tasked with the creation of a Koi fish, which had to be 3D. Their developmental pieces led towards creating individual clay lanterns, demonstrating an engagement with cultural tradition and refined ceramic practice.

Well done, Year 9!

October Creative Challenge

Miss Webster has now launched our next school creative challenge! This month's competition is based around photography and is an opportunity for all students to get creative and have a go! More details below. We can't wait to see your entries!



The Hinckley
SIXTH FORM

Year 12 Rise to the Challenge

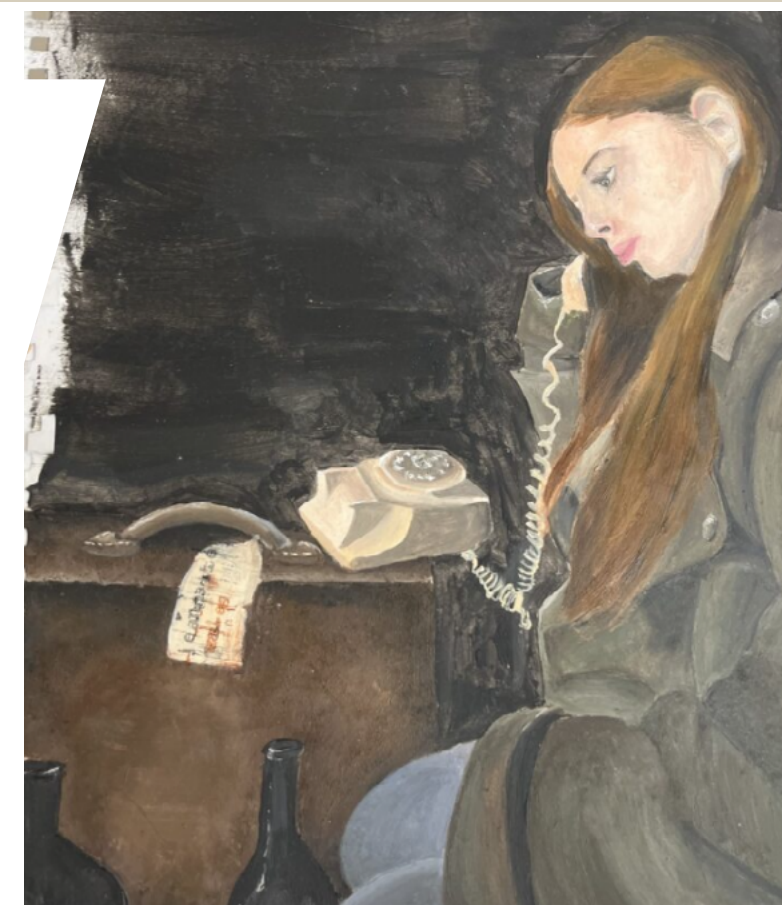
Last half-term, our Year 12 students were tasked with creating an observational body of artwork that demonstrated their technical skills and creative vision. We were truly impressed by the quality of their submissions, with a diverse range of themes explored through their unique perspectives. It's been inspiring to witness their dedication to refining their work, actively engaging in feedback sessions with their teacher to make thoughtful improvements.

We can't wait to see how their practice continues to evolve and look forward to what they will produce next!

Where will your journey take you?

- Have you ever heard of a **Sustainability Consultant**? Are you passionate about sustainability and want a career which allows you to harness your creativity? Learn more about this job role by [clicking here](#).
- Want to work in the fashion industry and shape the ranges you see in stores? Why not consider studying **BA (Hons) Fashion Buying and Merchandising** at the **London College of Fashion** after your seven-year journey? [Click here to hear more from the course leader](#).

CAREERS CORNER



Global Canvas 2026: The Book of Life

Enter Global Canvas 2026 and be part of the world's greatest children's wildlife art competition.

Create, Imagine, Protect. Show us your vision for how we can preserve our living world before pages are lost forever.

Key Dates

- Entry opens: September 30, 2025
- Entry closes: February 18, 2026
- Winners announced: Live final May 1, 2026



The Book of Life Competition

Global Canvas is an annual international art competition run by the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation for children and young people up to 16. Each year, they choose a theme that challenges young artists to think deeply about wildlife, conservation, and the environment.

The Book of Life holds as many as ten million species – from tiny plankton to towering elephants. Every time we discover a new animal, like the vegetarian piranha, the book gets bigger. But when a species goes extinct – like the Pinta Island tortoise – a page is lost forever. We already know how to protect the Book of Life. We can create wild protected areas, restore damaged habitats, rescue endangered species, and stop the illegal trade in wildlife. For Global Canvas 2026, show us how we can save the Book of Life forever. [Find out more here](#).

COMPETITION CORNER

October Creative Challenge:

Forced Perspective and Unusual Viewpoint Photography

Launch: Monday 6th October

Deadline: Friday 31st October

Forced perspective photography manipulates human perception with the use of optical illusions to make objects appear larger, smaller, further in the distance etc.

Forced perspective photography explores the scale of objects and the correlation between them

Challenge:

Use the camera on your mobile phone to capture a creative forced perspective photograph (that requires no post-editing to create an optical illusion)

Entries can be printed and handed to Miss Webster in D7, or emailed to kwebster@thehinckleyschool.co.uk

