

# NEWSLETTER

Building Brighter Futures

#185

# Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025



Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

This week, our Year 11 students put their pens down following their final exam and breathed a sigh of relief as they now look ahead to a long summer enjoying time with family and friends before their next adventure begins. To all our Year 11 and 13 students: congratulations on completing this important phase of your education. You have shown tremendous strength, determination, and character throughout your time with us. Whatever path you choose next, we know you will continue to achieve great things, and we can't wait to shake your hand on results day.

Year 10 students also begin their GCSE mock examinations this week. For this year group, who didn't sit SAT tests at primary school, we know this time may be daunting, but the fact that this is their first experience of formal exams makes this experience all the more important. Our Year 10 students will then be able to approach their exams next year with the knowledge of what to expect, allowing them to focus on course

content, revision and their health and wellbeing, without additional and unnecessary nerves. I would like to thank Year 10 for approaching this experience with such maturity so far.

Our Mental Health Offer and Family Support Directory has now been updated by our Safeguarding team. An extensive guide to support services within our local area and to in school contacts, this guide is designed to not only support our students but to bolster our approach to wrap-around care, ensuring whole families feel supported. Click here to read the latest version, or visit our Main Reception to collect a printed copy.

Next week, students will take part in our annual Inspire Week with an action-packed calendar of trips, guest speakers, work experience, and, of course, our annual Sports Day, to give students a unique and unforgettable end-of-term experience. We look forward to sharing more about this series of events in the next newsletter.

Kind regards,

Mrs Groocock— Head of School

# YEAR 8 UNBOX THEIR FUTURE WITH THE NATIONAL TRUST

As part of the amazing careers offer in Year 8, we have been working with local companies on a programme called "Unbox Your Future". Unbox Your Future is an innovative workplace experience spread over multiple weeks. This year, some of our Year 8 students are working with staff from The National Trust's Calke Abbey property, in particular, the members of the Food and Beverage Team. The project was launched in assembly on 17<sup>th</sup> May, followed by 30 students visiting Calke Abbey on 20<sup>th</sup> May, where students were able to have a tour of the house and gardens as well as meet the Food and Beverage Team to find out more information about their roles within the organisation.

Students were given a brief and two hours of preparation to create a group presentation on the issues The National Trust might encounter when trying to recruit younger people to either volunteer or work for the Food and Beverage Team, for example, getting to and from the property and developing job marketing ideas that might appeal to a younger audience.

On 17<sup>th</sup> June, students presented their ideas and research to three staff from The National Trust showing how they worked as part of a



team, their research and presentation skills and their ability to overcome some nerves to stand and talk to a group of employers. The presentations were amazing, with many solutions to the brief that The National Trust team had not thought of, for example, using a minibus to transport staff, advertising volunteer posts and jobs in bus shelters and schools, using their famous scones to engage young people over platforms like TikTok and Instagram.

Julia Southwell from The National Trust wrote: "It's been an honour to work with such a fantastic group of students on the Unbox Your Future project. The students took the time to research the National Trust and produced thoughtful, creative presentations which we'll be sharing with our recruitment team. Standing up in front of peers and adults is daunting but the students did an excellent job, and they should be very proud of themselves!"

Well done to all the Year 8 students involved in the Unbox Your Future project. - Ms Stone and Mrs Thompson, Careers Team





### Celebrating Our Year 11s: The End of an Era





As the final exam papers were handed in, our Year 11 students reached a significant milestone this week – the completion of their GCSE examinations and the end of an incredible five-year journey at The Hinckley School.

To mark this special occasion, we organised a shirt signing celebration on Monday, where staff and students could gather to celebrate this special occasion as a community. Complimentary ice creams for all Year 11 students were the perfect addition to this traditional rite-of-passage in the glorious sunshine and allowed students to cool down after what has undoubtedly been an intense exam period.

Our teaching staff were on hand to personally congratulate each student with handshakes and warm words of encouragement. It was a touching moment to see the genuine pride our teachers felt for their students' achievements and the strong relationships that have been built over the past five years. The year group's sense of community, friendship and positivity was clear to see, and we can't wait to celebrate with them all on results day later in the year.























# YEAR 11 APPLICANTS INVITED TO OFFER HOLDER DAY



Year 11 students who have applied to join The Hinckley Sixth Form this year have now been sent their invitation to attend our upcoming Offer Holder Day on Tuesday 24th June 2025, 8:45am-1:15pm.

Our Offer Holder Day is the first chance for our applicants to experience first-hand what awaits them in Year 12 as part of our welcoming and vibrant student community. During the event, students will have the opportunity to sample their chosen subjects and meet their subject specialists, explore our bespoke sixth form facilities, get

to know their new classmates, and speak to current students. This will give them a real taste of the opportunities, support and independence that awaits them at The Hinckley Sixth Form. Like our current students, our offer holders do not need to wear uniform, just dress appropriately for a work environment.

All students are encouraged to attend Offer Holder Day so that they are able to make the most informed decisions about their post-16 destination and courses when they enrol on GCSE results day. We can't wait to help our young people get one step closer to achieving their ambitions!



To register to attend, please <u>click here</u> and complete the short online form.





### Pre-Loved PE Kit Needed

The PE Department would be very grateful for any donations of unwanted PE kit to be used as spare items for students.

We are currently seeking items such as t-shirts, jumpers, shorts, as well as used trainers and football boots. Donations can be handed in directly to the PE Office or Main Reception.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

#### Thank a teacher day

#### BRONZE DOFE SUCCESS

This week, some of our wonderful students took it upon themselves to express their gratitude to our teachers and support staff on 'Thank a Teacher Day'. Leaving surprise flowers, treats and kind messages on desks all over the school, the student group, led by our resident 'Let's Make a Difference' founder Eve, wanted to recognise the difference staff make in their roles. On behalf of all staff we would like to thank the students involved for their kindness. Eve, had also shared more Thank a Teacher Day content on her BSL social media page, to watch, please click here.



Congratulations to Josh in Year 11, who has now successfully completed his full Bronze award. To do this Josh had to complete over 3 months of volunteering, 3 months of physical activity, 3 months dedicating time to learning and building his skill set and take part in a 2 day overnight expedition.

#### Well done!



#### CHANCES FOR CHILDREN GRANTS

Named after Frank Buttle, a remarkable man whose hard work and personal sacrifice helped to establish grant programmes which have helping children and young people in need across the UK since 1953, Chances for Children from Buttle UK, is dedicated to helping any child who may have experienced trauma or adverse childhood experiences.

The school are able to make a professional referral to Buttle UK for grants to help support certain aspects of education.

We can apply for a grant of up to £2400 to support your child. The grants are targeted at those children who face a range of complex issues and who may fall into crisis without support and can offer support for immediate practical needs, by paying for example, household items desperately needed.

#### Click here to find out more: Home -**Buttle UK**

If you feel your child might qualify, then please get in touch with the safeguarding team to discuss.

kpriestnall@thehinckleyschool.co.uk ipawley@thehinckleyschool.co.uk

- Thank you, The Safeguarding Team





## LOST PROPERTY - DEADLINE 27TH JUNE 2025

Parents and carers are invited to visit reception to check our lost PROPERTY BOX. Any ITEMS NOT CLAIMED BY 27th June 2025 WILL BE DONATED TO A LOCAL CHARITY. THANK YOU.





# Parent/Carer Connect



Learning disability & SEND children and families social prescribing drop-in support sessions:

> The last Thursday of every month 10am -11.30am

**Broughton Astley Family Hub** Station Road, Broughton Astley, LE9 6PT

A welcoming space for connection, peer support & conversation











# Parent/Carer Connect



**Learning disability & SEND children and families** social prescribing drop-in support sessions:

> **Every two weeks on Friday starting:** Friday 4 July 2025 10am -11.30am Earl Shilton Family Hub, **Alexander Avenue**, **Earl Shilton, LE9 7AH**

A welcoming space for connection, peer support & conversation











# Parent/Carer Connect



**Learning disability & SEND children and families** social prescribing drop-in support sessions:

> **Every Tuesday** 10am -11.30am

**Hinckley Children and Family Centre Granville Rd, Hinckley LE10 0PP** 

A welcoming space for connection, peer support & conversation









student bus travel

When you pay monthly by direct debit





#### GOLD DOFE SUCCESS

Congratulations to Oscar in Year 13 who has achieved his full Gold Duke of Edinburgh's award this week!

Oscar volunteered for 12 months at a Mind Charity Shop, giving back to the community and for the physical section of the award, Oscar continued to improve his fitness through karate.

He even took up wood turning for the skill section, joining a local woodwork group and learning to make different types.

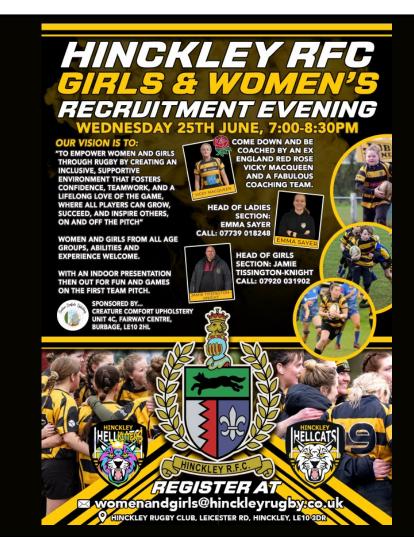
Oscar chose to spend his 4 night, 5-day experience away from home on an adventure week at Blackwell Adventure, staying in a podded village taking part in activities including abseiling, 3G swing, giants ladder, zip wire and much more.

The final section of the award is the expedition, which Oscar's team were well trained and well equipped for. They chose a challenging route which tested their physical skills, and both mental and emotional resilience. Extremes of mixed weather, heat, then rain added to their challenge, which they handled well. Others in his team described Oscar as a 'warrior man' - he was focussed and determined, overcoming each adversity. He was team orientated and regularly came up with good ideas

Well done and congratulations Oscar on becoming a Gold Award Holder. We look forward to hearing all about your trip to the Palace.







#### STEM Inspiration at the Big Bang

On Wednesday 18th June, 94 students from The Gateway attended the Big Bang Young Scientists and Engineers Fair at the NEC. An event centred around hands-on workshops, activities and exciting live shows to inspire students in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. From coding robots and playing drone football, to exploring how AI is used in dementia research and escape room style challenges on energy and food – students got involved with a fantastic range of interactive STEM activities all designed to bring STEM careers to life.



'It was really exciting' - Michaela

'I liked the dry ice and molecular spaghetti '- anonymous

'It was very interesting and fun and I learnt lots of new things '- Emilia

We look forward to seeing where their journey in STEM takes them in the future.

### 'HILARIOUS' AUTHOR TO VISIT THS NEXT WEEK



# Ben Davis Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June

Author Ben Davis is coming to our school!

He will be talking to year 7 and year 8 students.

There is a limited number of Ben's books that are available to buy on parent pay and Ben will be available during the day to sign books and meet students.

"An expert at capturing the awkwardness of adolescence"-LoveReading4kids

"Very funny and deeply moving"-BookTrust

"Hilarious"-The Guardian

