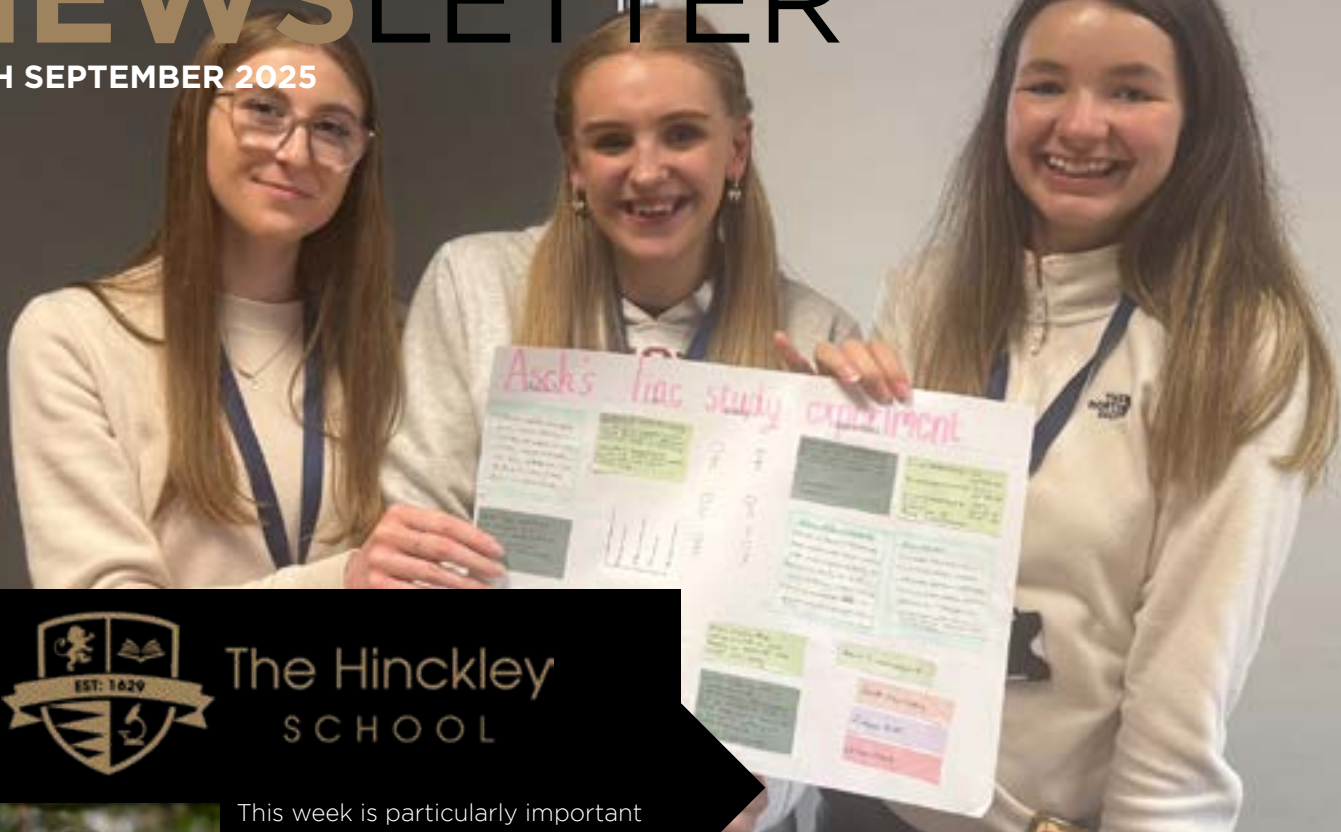


NEWSLETTER

30TH SEPTEMBER 2025



The Hinckley
SCHOOL



This week is particularly important for Year 11 and Year 13 students who are sitting mock exams which provide vital practice required for building the stamina for the real exam season. These trial exams also give students, teachers and parents a 'line in the sand' view of where current achievement stands, revealing the areas of success to take confidence from and where

and where students need to improve to reach their full potential. Please ensure your son or daughter eats well, gets plenty of sleep and is developing good study habits to give themselves every chance of success.

We have been inundated with tour requests following our Open Evening and it has been a pleasure to show families of prospective Year 7 students around the school. Their feedback has been wonderful and we are so proud to be able to show off the learning taking place to so many members of our local community. If you, or anyone you know, have a child in Year 6 and are considering joining us for a tour, please urge them to contact us as soon as possible on: 01455 632183, so we can schedule a visit before 31st October.

Finally, I would like to congratulate all students who represented the school with pride last week in the multitude of THS sporting fixtures, which have seen players from all seven year groups compete. From National Cup Rugby and Y9 Football, to Country Cup Netball and Football, there have been countless opportunities for our budding athletes to shine. Tomorrow, to round off an action-packed week of sport, our students have another National Cup Girls Football fixture and travel to HRFC to participate in the Tigers Girls Rugby event - I know they will all do us proud.

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

PSYCHOLOGY BEHIND GROUP NORMS



The Hinckley
SIXTH FORM

Year 12 Psychology students have all been learning about how we change our attitudes, beliefs and behaviours in order to fit in with the majority who set group norms. They have creatively explored Asch's line study to illustrate his experiment and variations of conformity. Some cleverly made it come to life in 3D style, others made informative posters and some even willingly practised exam questions. I'm impressed with their dedication and learning so far - it'll be fun to see what else they can come up with as they become more familiar with the course!



Library Events

Poetry Slam - 2nd October, Library at Lunchtime.

Do you like to write poetry? Sign up in the library for our annual big poetry event. See Mrs Crisp for more information.

7 for 7 Book Club

Do you love reading and discussing books? This group will be challenged to read 7 books throughout the year and will enjoy meeting once a week during tutor time, taking part in competitions, writing reviews, becoming 'reading ambassadors' and meeting authors online. Please see Mrs Crisp if you are interested.

The Monthly Silent Book Club

All students and staff are invited to come to the library to read in companionable silence on the last Thursday of the month in the library from 3pm to 4pm. You bring the book, and the library will provide cushions, blankets, beanbags, biscuits and drinks.

Scholastic Book Fair

We are delighted to host a Scholastic Book Fair! The book cases will land in our Library on **24th September** and stay with us for two weeks. The fair will include hundreds of titles, genres and authors perfect for teenage readers. Prices start from £2.99 and every one purchased helps us fundraise for new school books. Students can pay by cash, card and prepaid gift vouchers.

Gothic Literature Studies

Students cast their votes

Mr Smith's English students have recently completed a homework project to design a new book cover for 'The Picture of Dorian Gray', as part of their Gothic Literature studies. The students then voted for their favourites and the class selected their favourite four.

This piece of work is part of their larger studies of Gothic Fiction throughout the years. Currently, the class is looking at short extracts from various Gothic stories in order to lay the foundations of Gothic tropes and traditions - eventually feeding into their primary novel focus of Coraline later this term. Well done!



Converse Drawings

Exploring shoe functionality

After investigating the history of the shoe (starting with the first leather shoe from 5,500 years ago), Year 8 DT students are now beginning to explore a shoe's functionality and how it is adapted for purpose. Most recently we have focussed on the origins of the Converse trainer and how its key features made it a high performance shoe in the sport of basketball. In response, students have been using biro and coffee or hand sanitiser to record the shoe whilst also representing its longevity - their mark making such as hatching has really helped to represent the texture of the canvas of the shoe as well as its softness and flexibility. In more recent years, Converse has been customised by its wearers and the Year 8s spent time dyeing laces to capture a little more character and personality through their designs. The patience taken to lace through their paper drawings was phenomenal and it was so nice to see students helping one another to achieve this effect. Logan even managed to get creative with this (rather fiddly) lace technique!

Well done to Logan, Jasmine, Ava, Archie, Ellie G, Oakleigh, Catalina and all of Miss Webster's Year 8 Designers.



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



A New Era of Sport

‘Sic parvis magna’ - Greatness from small beginnings

Dear Parents and Carers,
It has been a truly exciting return for sport at The Hinckley School, and we are delighted to share with you the progress, successes, and opportunities that have already taken place this term.

Rugby Returns to the National Stage
This term has marked a truly historic moment for our school—the long-awaited return of rugby to the national stage. After ten years without a national cup fixture, our Colts (U18s) proudly pulled on the Hinckley shirt once again, stepping out against Loughborough Grammar School in a fiercely physical contest. Although the result was not in our favour, the performance was filled with spirit, determination, and pride, reminding everyone of what rugby at Hinckley stands for.

On top of this, our U15 National Cup Rugby Team also travelled to Uppingham School for a hard-fought encounter, showing the same resilience and passion. Most importantly, these matches were about far more than the final score. They represented the rebirth of rugby at The Hinckley School.

It was an emotional sight to see parents, current students, and former students lining the touchline together—cheering, celebrating, and sharing in this special

moment, Rugby is not just back at Hinckley; it is back with energy, ambition, and the belief that once again we belong alongside the very best schools in the country.

Sport for All
A key priority for us is ensuring that all students, regardless of ability, have the chance to take part in sport. Whether competing at a national level, trying something new, or simply enjoying activity with friends, there is a place for everyone at The Hinckley School.

This commitment has already been reflected in our recent achievements. We proudly celebrated the success of our first two cross-country champions, and participation levels are continuing to rise rapidly. At a single after-school enrichment session, we recorded over 150 students taking part in rugby and more than 100 girls participating in netball.



We are also pleased to announce the launch of tutor group competitions at lunchtimes, designed to promote participation, enjoyment, and community spirit. We would very much appreciate your encouragement in supporting your child to get involved in these activities.

Enrichment, Football, and Leadership
In the coming weeks, our Sporting Enrichment Programme will launch, offering students opportunities to take part in rugby, football, dance, netball, basketball, and cricket.

Alongside rugby, we have also held national cup fixtures in football for both boys and girls, with our teams facing schools including Grace Academy, Thomas Estley, The Market Bosworth School, and Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School. These matches have provided valuable experience and shown the growing

depth of football at Hinckley.

Looking ahead, our fixture list is filled with further national cup matches and county competitions across all age groups, and we are excited to see our students continue to develop, compete, and represent the school with pride.

Leadership development remains a core part of our programme. This term, 32 Year 9 students successfully completed their Sports Leadership Award, delivered in partnership with HBSSPAN—an excellent achievement which underlines our commitment to nurturing both athletes and leaders.

Community Support
If you are interested in supporting the continued growth of sport at The Hinckley School—whether through donations, sponsorship, coaching, or other forms of partnership—please do not hesitate to contact me directly. Your contribution will play an important role in helping us to build upon our sporting legacy.

Finally, we warmly invite parents, carers, and members of our wider community to attend fixtures and events wherever possible. Your presence and encouragement make a significant difference as we work together to strengthen and celebrate the proud tradition of sport at The Hinckley School.

RUGBY IS NOT JUST BACK AT HINCKLEY; IT IS BACK WITH ENERGY, AMBITION, AND THE BELIEF THAT ONCE AGAIN WE BELONG

Fixture Consent
To ensure the smooth and safe running of all fixtures, it is essential that consent letters are completed and returned by the deadline stated. Unfortunately, if a consent form has not been received by the date given, students will not be permitted to compete in the fixture. We kindly ask for your support in meeting these deadlines so that all students can fully enjoy the opportunities available to them.

Yours sincerely,
Mr M Stocks | Director of Sport
The Hinckley School

Celebrating our West End Stars

Extra curricular opportunity sees students shine
A group of our incredibly talented students, including Year 8 student Evie, travelled to the capital last weekend to tread the boards in the West End.

This incredible opportunity is thanks to their involvement in the Pauline Quirke Academy and saw students gain an RSL certificate for their participation. We would like to congratulate all students who took part for their dedication to extra curricular opportunities and passion for the arts. We can't wait to see what you achieve next!

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!



V&A STEM COMPETITION

This year, our Art Department has entered the V&A STEM Innovate Competition, a National Schools Challenge in which students work in teams to design a solution to a real-world problem.

On Monday of this week, Year 8's Evie-Lou and Persephonie joined Miss Webster and Miss Johnson to begin mind mapping their ideas in response to the starting point of 'Rest'. Both students discussed when and how we rest, focussing on children and considering how sensory environments can impact on their rest and relaxation. Throughout the programme, the students will produce a series of design sheets that:

1. Investigate their theme and requirements of their target market group
2. Record their ideas
3. Model their design in a 3D form
4. Evaluate the efficacy of their design and respond with solutions

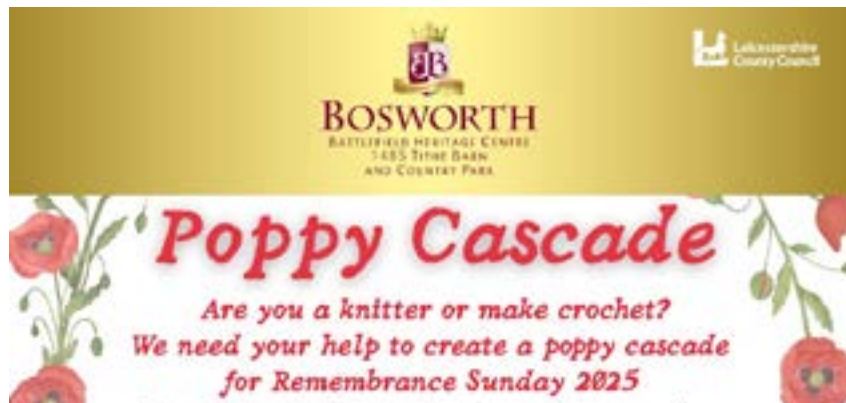
Once the programme concludes, the project will be submitted on 6th March to be judged by an expert panel. If shortlisted, our team will have the opportunity to visit the V&A museum in London (June/July TBC) and pitch their ideas to the panel and audience, with the potential to be named this year's national winners. **We wish the students the very best of luck as they continue with their submission and of course will keep you updated with their progress.**

500 WORDS IS OPEN!

The BBC 500 Words Competition is now open for entries! Make sure you submit your stories before 9pm, Friday 7th November.

Are you a budding author? Have you got a story to tell? Share your 500 word story with the BBC!

There are two age categories: 5-7 and 8-11 year-olds, and spelling, punctuation and grammar are not marked - it's all about our writers' brilliant creativity! There are prizes to be won and 50 finalists will be invited to a star-studded grand final at Windsor Castle in February 2026! [Click here to find out more!](#)



CRAFT CORNER

Our student knitters and crocheters are busy making poppies to donate to the Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre & Country Park's, Poppy Cascade, ready for Remembrance Sunday 2025. **All students are welcome to come along to the Library at lunchtime** to take part.



CAREERS CORNER

Ever considered a career as a Youtuber?

[Click here to watch](#) a video about careers within this creative industry. **Want to find out more?** More insights into studying for a BA (Hons) Filmmaking degree at Nottingham Trent University can be found by clicking [here](#).



Spoken Word Poetry Lessons

Preparing for our annual Poetry Slam!

All of our Year 7 students took part in spoken word poetry lessons in The Bridge on Wednesday, led by Marissa and Alyssia from Creative Learning Services.

The students practised writing kenning poems, a riddle-like form of poetry where the subject is not named directly but is described using a series of two-word, hyphenated phrases called kennings, which are often metaphorical. Our budding Bridge poets are learning the art of poetry performance in preparation for our annual Poetry Slam event in the Library next week! They have shown wonderful focus, teamwork and creativity in the sessions so far and we can't wait to see students put their new skills into practice.



**CALM CUDDLERS
BIRD EATERS
TREAT SMUGGLERS
CLAW CATCHERS
PILLOW HOGGERS
ATTENTION SEEKERS
FISH EATERS
WIRE CHEWERS**

MY CATS - GIZMO AND WILLOW

Go for Reading

Thank you to our Library volunteers

We have welcomed back our volunteers from 'Leicestershire Cares' again this term to continue with our 'Go for Reading' programme, which helps students to improve their reading skills. Our students from Years 8, 9 and 10 are matched with a volunteer from local industries, or with one of our trained sixth formers for this successful mentoring programme that's held once a week for a year. This year we have more than five new volunteers joining us and would like to say a huge thank you from the school and the students for the work that they do.



Volunteers from Hinckley and Bosworth Building Society even gave our students stress balls and chargers as well done for their hard work - thank you for this thoughtful gesture.