



The Hinckley  
SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER

*Building Brighter  
Futures*

#170

THURSDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 2025



**Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),**

Firstly, I would like to congratulate the students who represented The Hinckley School over the weekend at rugby fixtures against Lutterworth and Warwick. It is wonderful to see team spirit so alive within our school community and we look forward to announcing the dates of their next fixture soon.

This week, Year 11 students have been sitting their mock exams and I would like to thank them for their hard work, maturity and dedication. This mock exam window is vital to allow us to support success in summer exams and gives students the chance to experience completing exam papers in exam conditions. This is crucial for them to receive feedback in plenty of time.

We welcomed over 90 external Year 11 students yesterday evening for our first Sixth Form Interview Evening of 2025. It was a delight to meet with our future sixth formers and to discuss not only their sixth form applications, but their dreams, interests and hobbies during the evening. Staff involved have shared how lovely the atmosphere was, as our 2025 student community rubbed shoulders for the first time. Our Sixth Form offers students a fresh start, including many of our own Year 11s who want to continue their seven year journey in surroundings where they feel at home and with staff who know them well. It also allows a vibrant community of young adults to thrive, as they make new friends, grow in confidence with more independence and responsibility and develop as future leaders. We look forward to officially welcoming our new Year 12 community on their first day later this year.

Next week, during our last week in school before the February break, I look forward to discussing KS4 options with our Year 9 community at their Options Evening. This is such an exciting time in their seven year journey and our team are delighted to be able to support their ambitions for the future. In addition to this, we will be supporting our wider community through our 'Tins for Trainers' charity food bank collection on the last day of term, more information about both of these events can be found later in this newsletter.

**Mrs Rooke — Headteacher**

## COMPLEX GYMNASTICS SEQUENCES



During their current gymnastics block in PE, KS3 students have been demonstrating some amazing skills in balance, coordination, and strength through various activities.

They have progressed from basic movements, balances and holds, to more complex sequences. By the end of the block students have been able to showcase their fantastic progress in routines highlighting their individual skills, great teamwork and group creativity.

- Ms C Gillett, Teacher of PE

**The Gateway**  
At The Hinckley School



# SIXTH FORMERS STAGE 'IMPRESSIVE' REINTERPRETATION

Year 12 Drama and Theatre Studies students have been working hard this week rehearsing and performing their examined 'reinterpretation', taking the musical 'Into the Woods' and creating a re-imagined piece in the style of the theatre practitioner, Brecht. After a number of lesson workshops in the techniques of Brecht, they set to work on creating the piece which culminated in the final examined performance. A group of staff came to watch and Mrs Foers, Head of English, sent her review!

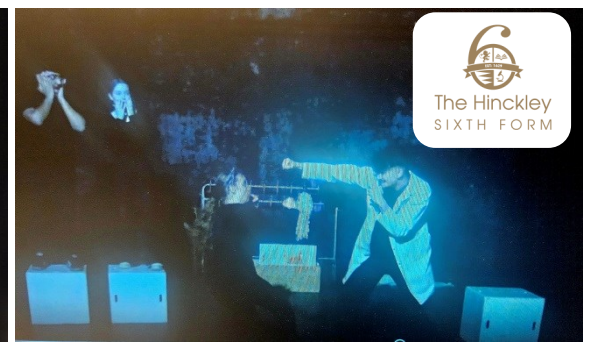


*'An incredible performance from start to finish. It's hard to believe that the students are only a few months into their A Level course – the quality was extremely high. All performers were on stage throughout so the pressure must have been immense, and it was impressive to see how well they worked together to produce something so slick, assured and entertaining.'*

*The technical support from Year 13 was also of a very high standard, with lovely comic touches created through deft uses of music and lighting effects. Well done all!!'*

The students will now produce a 'creative log' where they are marked on their process skills and their selection of dramatic form, convention and techniques as well as the growth of their interpretation of character.

**- Mrs Cook, Head of Drama**



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2025-26 TERM DATES ARE NOW ONLINE

**Our 2025-26 term dates are now available on our website.**

**[Click here](#) to view them online.**

We would like to remind parents, carers and students that the last day of the summer term is Friday 11th July 2025.



# DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD - LATEST NEWS

## GOLD AWARD!

Congratulations to Isla in Year 13, for achieving her full Gold Duke of Edinburgh's award this week!

Isla volunteered for 12 months with a local Rainbow group, supporting them with weekly meetings, badge work and programme planning as well as giving back to the community.

For the physical section of the award, Isla continued to play Netball for her team, Hinckley Ladies Netball Club.

Isla continued to improve her baking for the Skill section, learning to make different types of bread and pastries and the techniques needed including kneading, proving, temperature control, and timing.

Isla chose to spend her 4 night, 5-day experience away from home on a cooking course with 'Season It Cookery', in the French Alps. This involved learning new skills, meeting new people for the first time and working with others. During the week, she communicated well with both the tutors and her peers and showed a genuine team spirit. She enjoyed preparing a variety of dishes with delicious results including a delicious and beautifully presented Potage St Germain and a perfectly cooked pan fried duck breast.

The final section of the award is the expedition, where Isla was in a team of 5 who took on Snowdonia for their walking adventure, they set themselves a challenging route which tested their physical and mental stamina. They coped with and overcame all the challenges to complete a very successful expedition. Others in her team described her as focussed and determined - fighting her way through adversity. She had a great sense of humour too!

Well done and congratulations Isla on becoming a Gold award holder. We look forward to hearing all about your trip to the Palace.



GOLD		Plus an extra 6 months in the Volunteering, or longer of the Skills or Physical sections, if you haven't got Silver.
Volunteering	12 months	
Physical	one section for 12 months, the other for 6 months	
Skills		
Expedition	4 days 3 nights	
Residential	5 days 4 nights	



## FIRST AID TRAINING

Our DofE participants completed a one day First Aid training course in preparation for their Duke of Edinburgh's award expeditions.

The course covered a variety of topics including primary and secondary survey, CPR and the use of an AED, recovery position, the effects of heat and cold, choking, burns and bleeds, strains and sprains, bites and stings and much more.

The practical course was hands on, encouraging our young people to get fully involved. The afternoon saw them looking for casualties outside and treating them as if it was a live situation.

*(Please don't worry, the photos above feature prosthetics to help students visualise the scenarios when practicing to treat these injuries. No actual injuries were caused or treated during the training!)*



# LET'S WORK TOGETHER FOR BETTER ATTENDANCE: WE'RE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU

At **The Hinckley School**, we believe that every child deserves the best start in life, and regular school attendance plays a huge part in that. We understand that life can sometimes get in the way, and that's why we are here to help you and your child overcome any challenges you may face when it comes to getting to school. At the heart of everything we do is a focus on putting students first. It's about learning and removing barriers to ensure every child has the opportunity to succeed. Our goal is simple: we want every student to thrive, and we're here to support families in ensuring their children attend school every day.

## What You Can Do:

- **Call the school** before 8.30am if your child is going to be absent. This helps us ensure your child's safety and keeps us informed.
- **Let us know about any medical appointments** in advance and bring in appointment cards or letters to keep us updated.
- **Send your child to school**, even if you're unsure if they are well enough. Sometimes, children perk up when they get to school and are surrounded by their friends and teachers.
- **Have a backup plan** for when transport issues arise. Call on a friend, neighbour, or family member to help.
- **Talk to us** if your child is having trouble with attendance. We're here to listen and support you in any way we can.

## What We Will Do:

- **Track your child's attendance** every day to monitor their progress.
- **Reach out to you** if we notice any attendance concerns so we can work together to resolve them.
- **Invite you for meetings** to discuss any ongoing attendance issues and to find solutions that work for everyone.
- If necessary, **arrange a welfare visit** to ensure that everything is okay and to offer further support.
- **Reward and celebrate** students who have excellent attendance and/or have improved.

## Why Regular Attendance Matters

Did you know that research shows children who miss 10% or more of school days – just one day every two weeks – are significantly more likely to struggle academically? Poor attendance can affect students' ability to keep up with lessons, leading to gaps in their learning that can be hard to catch up on. Over time, this can have a big impact on their future opportunities. According to a study by the Department for Education, students who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve higher GCSE results and are better prepared for their next steps in education or work, as well as having better health and improved self-esteem and confidence.

## How We Can Help

We're here to help your child succeed, and that starts with being at school as much as possible. Together, we can work to remove any barriers to attendance and make sure your child gets the full benefit of their education. We understand that there may be challenges along the way, but please know that we are always ready to support you and your child. Thank you for working with us to ensure your child's success. We look forward to partnering with you to achieve the best possible outcomes for your child.

Kind regards,

*Alfred Fawcner*

**Assistant Headteacher, Strategic Lead of Attendance and Behaviour**

## TINS FOR TRAINERS EVENT

On Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February, we will be hosting a competition between Year Hubs to win the "Hinckley Community Cup". This trophy is given to the Year Hub that makes the greatest difference and impact to our community.



The competition is "Tins for Trainers" where students donate tinned/ non-perishable items to school and in return attend school in non-school uniform shoes.

All donated items will be transported to the Hinckley Foodbank by our Year 10 Community Ambassadors. Boxes containing goods will also be decorated by each Tutor Group.

This is an important community project as 1 in 5 families in Hinckley live in Food Poverty. At The Hinckley School, we have an obligation to support our students, families and community and hope this event can go some small way in giving back to the community we proudly serve.

Pupils who donate will receive a donation card that they will place in their lanyard card holders for the day.

Please note that there is no obligation for students to take part and student may donate 1 or more items in exchange for wearing non-school uniform shoes.



# YEAR 9 Hub

*At The Hinckley School*

**SAVE THE DATE**

**TUESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 2025**

This week, all parents and carers of Year 9 students received an email inviting them to attend our upcoming **KS4 Options Evening** on **Tuesday 11th February 2025**.

To read and download this letter, please [click here](#).



## TEENAGE VACCINATIONS

The School Immunisation Service is coming to school to offer young people in **Year 9** the free, safe and effective teenage booster and MenACWY vaccines on **28th February 2025**. The teenage booster protects against tetanus, diphtheria and polio. MenACWY protects against meningitis and meningococcal septicaemia. Both are given as a quick injection into the upper arm.

**Parents and carers:** please register your consent decision online: [www.leicsandrutlandimms.co.uk](http://www.leicsandrutlandimms.co.uk) - our school code is **LE141682**

or call the service on: 0300 3000 007.

### Teenage Vaccinations

Boost your protection against serious diseases with the

- ★ 3-in-1 teenage booster
- ★ MenACWY

**LEVEL UP**

Contact the School Aged Immunisation Service

- ✦ [lpLsaIs@nhs.net](mailto:lpLsaIs@nhs.net)
- ✦ 0300 3000 007



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## Summer Coursework Collection

**Students who certified in Summer 2024 can now collect their GCSE/A-Level Art/Photography coursework.**

To collect, please contact Miss Webster (24-48 hours' notice is required) Please collect from reception between 8am-4pm Mon-Thursday and 8am-3:30pm Friday.

**Any work not collected by Friday 14th February will be disposed off.  
Don't loose your masterpieces!**

**\*NEW\***

# Enrichment Lunchtime

**\*NEW\***

## Spring Term 2025



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## Engage with Enrichment

Monday				
Football	Lunchtime	Years 7, 8 & 11	I. Ratheram	Astro
Music Club	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Bridge Lunch Clubs	Lunchtime	Year 7	L. Clarke	Bridge
Badminton (Wk1 Boys Wk2 Girls)	Lunchtime	Year 7	M. Pallett	PE
Tuesday				
Football	Lunchtime	Years 8, 9 & 10	I. Ratheram	Astro
Bridge Lunch Clubs	Lunchtime	Year 7	L. Clarke	Bridge
Read and Relax	Lunchtime	Year 7-13	G. Mathieson	H2
LGBTQI+	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	R. Byrne	MPR
Strategy Boardgames	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	R. Crisp	Library
Wednesday				
Football	Lunchtime	Years 7, 9 & 11	I. Ratheram	Astro
Bridge Music Club	Lunchtime	Year 7	D. Riley	MU1
Badminton (Wk1 Boys Wk2 Girls)	Lunchtime	Year 8	M. Pallett	PE
Bridge Drama Society	Lunchtime	Year 7	K. Cook	Drama
Bridge Lunch Clubs	Lunchtime	Year 7	L. Clarke	Bridge
Library Chess	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	R. Crisp	Library
Thursday				
Football	Lunchtime	Years 10 & 11	I. Ratheram	Astro
Girls Football	Lunchtime	Years 7 & 8	I. Ratheram	Astro
Music Club	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Scrapbooking	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	A. Garcia	L3
Bridge Lunch Clubs	Lunchtime	Year 7	L. Clarke	Bridge
Badminton (Wk1 Boys Wk2 Girls)	Lunchtime	Year 9	M. Pallett	PE
Geology & Palaeontology	Lunchtime	Year 7-13	A. Gadsby	L1
Scrabble	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	R. Crisp	Library
Friday				
Football	Lunchtime	Years 8, 9 & 10	I. Ratheram	Astro
Bridge Lunch Clubs	Lunchtime	Year 7	L. Clarke	Bridge
THS Dance Company (Wk 1)	Lunchtime	Years 7 & 8	A. Bennett	Dance Studio
THS Dance Company (Wk 2)	Lunchtime	Years 9,10,11	A. Bennett	Dance Studio
X-Box Club	Lunchtime	Year 10	R. Byrne	H9



**\*NEW\***

# Enrichment After School

**\*NEW\***

## Spring Term 2025

Monday				
Mixed Dodgeball	3:15-4:15pm	Years 7	M. Pallett	PE
Music Club	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Robot Wars	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-9	P. Williams	D14
Tuesday				
Rock School	3:00-4:15pm	Invite only	D. Riley	MU1
Girls Rugby – Hinckley Rugby Club	3:15-4:15pm	Years 7-13	M. Tallis	PE
Table Top Role Play Games	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	J. Hunter	Library
DofE Bronze	5:30-7:00pm	Year 10	A. Fennell	Cube
DofE Silver	5:15-7:30pm	Year 11	A. Fennell	A9
Wednesday				
Girls Basket Ball	3:15-4:15pm	Years 7-9	F. Godfrey	PE
Boys Rugby (split age groups)	3:15-4:30pm	Years 7-13	M. Stocks	PE
Choir	3:00-4:15pm	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
War Hammer	3:00-4:00pm	Year 9-13 Invite	C. Hoffman	D11
Electronics Club	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	P. Harrison	D1
DofE Gold	5:15-7:30pm	Year 12 & 13	A. Fennell	A9
Thursday				
Boys Football	3:15-4:15pm	Year 9&10	C. Froome	PE
KS3 Girls Indoor Futsal	3:15-4:15pm	Years 7, 8 & 9	C. Gillett	PE
Music Tech	3:00-4:00pm	Year 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Sixth Form Biologists	3:00-4:00pm	Year 13	T. Pratt	S5
Maths Club	3:00-4:00pm	Year 10	E. Jones	Gateway
Friday				
Music Club	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1

## Enrichment Awards

To celebrate your engagement with enrichment you will be presented with a Ruby, Sapphire and Diamond award in your termly celebration assemblies. Challenge yourself to try something new!

Ruby 30-49 sessions

Sapphire 50-69 sessions

Diamond 70+ sessions



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