

# NEWSLETTER

16th April 2026



The Hinckley  
SCHOOL



I hope all students, parents, carers and staff had an enjoyable and restful Easter break.

It has been a joy to welcome our community back this week. Students returning from our multi-sports tour to the Netherlands, Germany and Belgium have shared how amazing their experience was and I would like to congratulate them for not only their sporting performances, but also for representing the school with such pride internationally.

Before the Easter break, we contacted all parents/carers and our closest neighbours to share an important update in the progress of our STEM new build. Work began at the start of the Easter break and we are delighted that after much planning, consultation, and collaboration, this multi-million-pound project has now officially begun. I look forward to sharing further updates in due course.

We have had a busy first week of the summer term. With Year 12 mock exams, our Year 7 ambassadors leading a Year 5 Maths event, the launch of summer enrichment, as well as a visit from The Globe Players - which we can't wait to share more details about next week - we have felt a real buzz around the school, and I would like to thank students for making such a positive start.

Kate Grocock | Head of School

## An Unforgettable Sports Tour

Our students enjoyed an incredible Easter break on an international multi-sports tour across The Netherlands, Germany and Belgium. Competing in girls' football and boys' rugby, every team delivered fantastic performances and proudly returned home with at least one win each – a remarkable achievement.

We extend our thanks to the teams we played along the way, including Rugby Coq Mosan, Maastricht Rugby and Wallaby's Venlo as well as our staff who worked so hard to make this trip memorable. Beyond the competition, students embraced new cultures, built lasting friendships and created memories to treasure. Away from the sports pitch, students had the chance to explore the local area, visit a water park and play laser tag.

All students represented the school with pride throughout the trip and were incredible ambassadors for The Hinckley School.

A truly inspiring sporting adventure from start to finish!





### Year 5 Maths Business Challenge

We were delighted to host Year 5 pupils from Hinckley Parks on Thursday morning for our annual exciting Shape Business Challenge event. The day was full of teamwork, creativity and enthusiasm as pupils worked together to create the most profitable 'Shape Business'.

Students showed fantastic communication skills and confidence throughout the challenge, making it an inspiring and enjoyable experience for everyone involved, highlighting the power of collaboration and young enterprise.

We look forward to hosting St Mary's Church of England Primary School on Tuesday 21st April.



### Work Begins for Multi-Million-Pound STEM New Build

We were delighted to update our community on the progress of our STEM new build before the Easter break, as initial work began on 30th March, after extensive planning, consultation, and collaboration.

This multi-million-pound investment project represents a significant step forward for our school community. The new facilities will enhance our learning environment, support our long-term vision for educational excellence, and provide modern, inspiring spaces that meet the needs of current and future students.

Over the coming months, we will continue to work closely with the Department for Education, architects, contractors, and the local authority to ensure the project progresses smoothly. We are committed to keeping you informed throughout each stage of the development. Regular updates will be shared via our website, and in school newsletters. Community forum events will also allow us to involve you in this exciting new chapter.

To read more about our mutli-million-pound new build, please visit our website by [clicking here.](#)

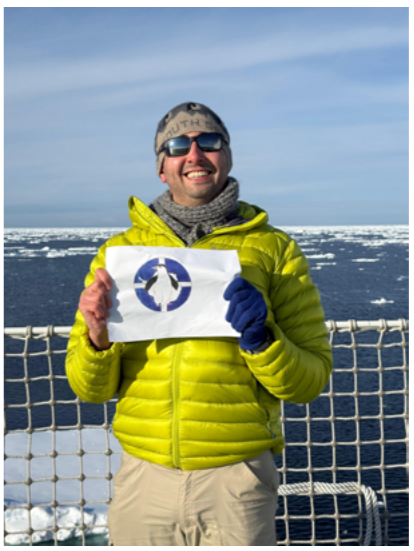
### Winning Flags Aboard RRS Sir David Attenborough

We have exciting news to share about the Antarctica flag competition that took place in October, in which several of our Year 7 students participated. Our competition winners, Miya and Katie, have had their flags taken on-board the RSS Sir David Attenborough and we have received photos that were taken of their submissions on the Weddell Sea.

The RRS Sir David Attenborough provides access to remote and challenging marine environments across the Antarctic and Arctic regions. The RRS Sir David Attenborough provides a floating laboratory for science at sea, allowing researchers to collect data and conduct experiments in situ. This direct access to the polar environment is essential for understanding complex processes and the impacts of environmental change.

Congratulations again to our competition winners Miya and Katie, for designing some inspirational flags "in the interests of all mankind" and representing The Hinckley School onboard the RSS Sir David Attenborough in Antarctica!

- Miss Quinn, Teacher of Geography



## Masked Teacher Returns

The Masked Teacher returned to the stage before Easter - and what a show it was! Our audience enjoyed four fantastic performances, filled with mystery, music and plenty of laughs.

With Mr Wood leading the show, the grand finale, saw Bear and Brown Owl go head-to-head for the crown of Masked Teacher 2026. Mrs Sturgess and Ms Burton impressed

throughout with Ms Burton ultimately taking the title.

A huge well done to everyone involved including Miss Willis - Orange Owl and Mr Williams - Frog. And of course, a massive thank you to our brilliant student audience for supporting our student led fundraising events for the Year 11 Prom.



## Fundraising Fun

The Year 11 fundraising events before half term were an absolute hit, packed with laughter, energy, and just a little bit of soggy chaos!

On the last day our teachers put themselves forward for a sponge throwing stall! Brave members of staff stepped up to the challenge, while students queued eagerly for their chance to land the perfect splash. Although the weather was definitely on the chilly side (brrr!), spirits were high, and the sound of laughter echoed across the school. It's safe to say a few teachers may have needed a warm drink afterwards!

A huge shout-out goes to the Year 11 Prom Committee, who brought enthusiasm, determination, and plenty of charm to the fundraising efforts. They did a fantastic job convincing everyone to dig deep and donate - proving that a good cause (and maybe a soggy teacher or two!) can really bring people together.



Thanks to everyone's incredible support, a brilliant total of **£1,515.67** was raised for the Year 11 prom. What an achievement!

This will help make the big night even more special and memorable for all involved. Well done to our amazing students, staff, and supporters for making it such a fun and successful event – and for showing that

fundraising can be just as entertaining as it is worthwhile!

**- Mrs Whittingham, Year 11 Pastoral Leader**

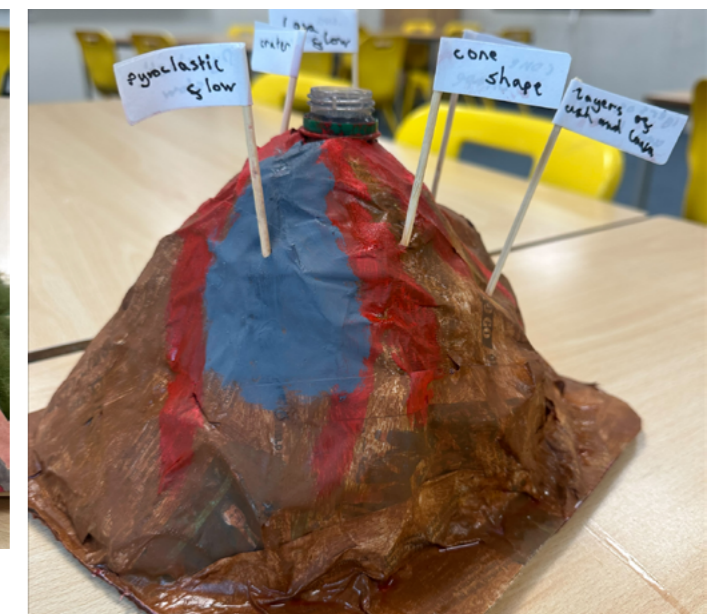


## 7 Manchester Erupt with Creativity in Geography!

Mrs Malin's 7 Manchester class have showcased their impressive creativity with a brilliant collection of volcano projects. Students brought their learning to life through colourful posters, detailed 3D models, and even dramatic volcanic "eruptions" that added excitement to the classroom.

The range of designs and ideas on display was fantastic, with each student bringing their own flair to the task. From carefully crafted structures to eye-catching artwork, the quality of work was outstanding.

Well done to all of 7 Manchester for your hard work and imagination—you've truly erupted with talent!



## Eco Club Launches New Allotment Area

The Eco Club are excited to share some brilliant news. We have officially been allocated our very own strip of land at the back of the Cube! We've proudly named this space our "allotment area", and it marks the beginning of a fantastic new chapter for our club.

Our vision is to transform this area into a vibrant, wildlife friendly outdoor space that supports nature, encourages biodiversity, and gives students the opportunity to learn new skills through hands on eco projects.

We've already made a great start:

- Wild flower Meadow Beginnings:

We've prepared and seeded an area with wild flower mix. Once it starts to grow, it will become an important food source for pollinators such as bees and butterflies.

- Insect Hotel Under Construction:

Using old bits of wood and natural materials that we've been gathering; we've started building our own insect hotel. This will provide a safe habitat for beetles, solitary bees, and other helpful mini beasts.

- Welcoming the Birds:

Thanks to a generous donation from a member of staff, we've purchased a new bird bath and bird feeder, along with some bird food to get us started. We're looking forward to seeing which species decide to stop by.



We have also been reaching out to local garden centres and nurseries for support, and we are absolutely delighted to share that Cole's Nurseries (James Coles & Sons), located in Thurnby, Leicester have kindly donated a range of items to help our allotment get off to a fantastic start. Their generous donation includes two fruit trees, one apple tree and one delightful "mystery tree" whose label had blown away, along with a large bag of compost, a selection of seeds, and several herb plants that we will be planting when we return after Easter. We look forward to keeping them updated as our mystery tree grows and reveals its identity! We would like to express our sincere thanks to the team at Cole's for their generosity and for supporting our Eco Club's aims. We are also reaching out further into the community by posting a fundraising request on Neighbourly, <https://www.neighbourly.com/project/69b02b7b9733fda458c15bfb> as we hope to raise enough money to build a selection of raised beds where our students can grow vegetables throughout the year, including pumpkins for Halloween and Brussel sprouts for Christmas.



As part of developing our new allotment area, we have also decided to designate it as a No Mow Zone, supporting wildlife by allowing grasses and wild plants to grow naturally. This ties in perfectly with the national No Mow May initiative, which encourages people to put their lawnmowers away for the month of May to help boost biodiversity.

When grass is left to grow, even for just a few weeks, it gives wild flowers like daisies, clover, buttercups and dandelions the chance to bloom. These flowers provide essential nectar and pollen for bees, butterflies and other pollinators, creatures that play a vital role in supporting our ecosystems and future food supplies.



No Mow May has been shown to:

- Increase the number of pollinators visiting gardens and green spaces
- Allow wild flowers to flourish naturally
- Improve soil health and moisture retention
- Create small, safe habitats for insects and mini beasts

We hope our No Mow Zone will become a buzzing mini meadow over the spring and summer months, supporting the wildlife already beginning to appear around our allotment area.

Parents and carers might also like to get involved at home, even leaving just a small patch of lawn unmown during May can make a huge difference for local pollinators.

Watch this space for more updates as our allotment area continues to develop into a thriving green haven for wildlife and well-being!

- Mrs Sturgess, Ms Crisp and Miss Jenkins





## Mock Interviews

Before Easter, our Year 10 students took an important step towards their future, as they participated in a full morning of mock interviews held in our Sixth Form Café 6.

With the support of 17 employers and employee representatives, students experienced a realistic taste of the professional world—complete with handshakes, confidence-building conversations, and the challenge of answering interview questions.

We were proud to welcome an exceptional range of organisations, including representatives from:

- Hinckley & Rugby Building Society
- Polytec Ltd (Managing Director)
- G Sellers
- IMT/NHS
- Winvic Construction
- The National Space Centre
- Pegasus Mechanical Lifting
- HORIBA/MIRA Ltd
- Loughborough and Brooksby College



Their collective experience and professional insight offered students invaluable guidance, helping them understand not only what employers look for, but also how to communicate confidently, make a strong first impression, and reflect positively on their own strengths.

Many of our visiting employers commented on the maturity and potential of our Year 10s, with our Careers Team praising their willingness to step outside their comfort zone. Events like this play a vital part in preparing young people for life beyond school, and we are incredibly grateful to all of our visiting employers for giving up their time to support our students. A huge well done to Year 10 for embracing the experience with confidence, and curiosity.

**YEAR 9 Hub**  
At The Hinckley School

**2026/27**  
**YOUR GUIDE TO**  
**KS4 OPTIONS**

BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES



## Year 9 Options Guides

We were delighted to be able to welcome families to our Year 9 Options Evening before the Easter break. The event saw a high attendance from students and their families and we would like to thank everyone who joined us to find out more about the Options process.

All guests received a printed copy of our [Year 9 Options Booklet](#) and as well as exploring our subject stalls and speaking to staff and students, could join an 'Options Talk' to hear more about the process from Mr Wood and Miss Godfrey.

The deadline for Option Forms to be submitted is 20th April 2026.

## Geography Fieldwork on Hunstanton Beach

Our Year 11 Geography students embarked on their Geography fieldwork on Thursday 19th March. We introduced the students to the Hunstanton beach, identifying the key coastal management techniques and the main industries the town had to offer. As part of the physical enquiry, the students measured out the beach profile, allowing us to determine whether the beach was helpful towards preventing coastal erosion. The other physical techniques saw us drawing out field sketches and conducting an evaluation of the sea wall, groynes and rock armour effectiveness with some drawings being better than others! In the afternoon, the students observed the importance of tourism by asking the locals questions, identifying key features on a land use map, and counting the number of cars and pedestrians. All the students conducted themselves in the best way with the sunny weather making the experience even better. The next step is to transform the data collected and create a summary to help answer questions in Paper 3.

- Mr Hillier, Head of Geography



## Drama Students Take Centre Stage

The Drama studio was alight with live theatre the week before Easter as GCSE and A Level Drama practical examinations reached peak performance levels after months of dedicated preparation and rehearsal. The externally assessed pieces provided students with the opportunity to demonstrate the full range of skills they have developed throughout the course. From insightful character interpretation to confident use of voice and physicality, the performances reflected the demands of the spec whilst the technical candidates wowed with their set, make up and costume designs. At GCSE level, students presented a varied programme of work including monologues and duologues from the play DNA, showcasing their ability to perform both independently and collaboratively. In addition, our design candidates demonstrated impressive creativity and technical skill in the areas of make-up, costume, and set design, contributing thoughtfully to the overall realisation and semiotics of the performance. Students showed creativity, focus, and commitment, with many performances displaying a strong sense of style, intention and panache.

A Level students demonstrated sophisticated and confident performances, engaging with complex material using 'Frantic Assembly' as their theatre practitioner and the exploration of a challenging scene in Shakespeare's The Tempest. One of the staff members who came to watch commented, 'I thought it was AMAZING. What an achievement to fit in a piece of thought-provoking dialogue and complex relationships in such a short space of time. I felt the portrayal of someone who couldn't have a child fabulous, especially from someone so young who would not necessarily understand those complexities. Pass on my congratulations to all the students, I hope they get the grades they want for their next chapter.' These assessments mark an important milestone in our students' academic journeys and complete 60% of their Drama GCSE. They rose to the occasion with professionalism and determination. Congratulations to all our performers and designers on delivering such imaginative, polished, and engaging work—an outstanding accomplishment.

- Mrs Cook, Head of Drama

# 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.

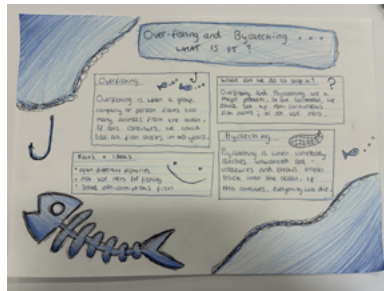
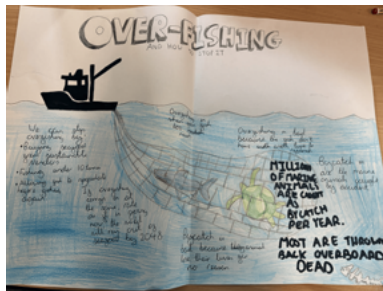
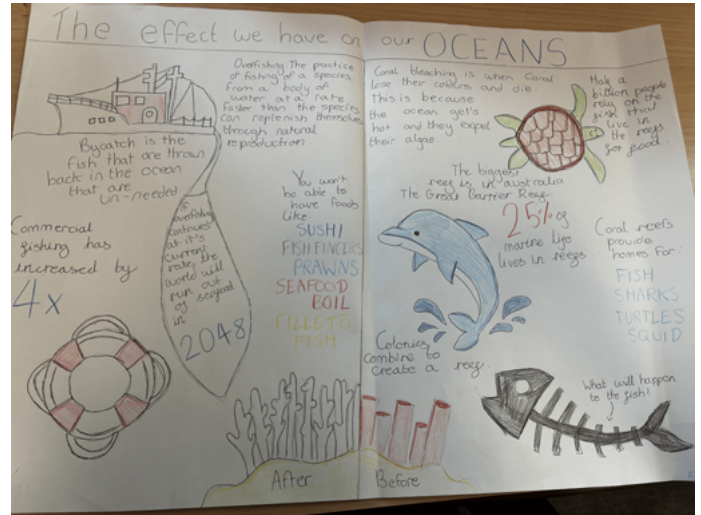
# Impressive Information Posters

Year 8 have been learning about sustainable fishing and coral bleaching in the Caribbean over the last couple of lessons.

They have learnt about the causes, impacts and responses to these issues and were tasked with designing an information poster. PRIDE was shown in their work and these are just some of the excellent creative posters students completed!

Well done Year 8, excellent work!

- Miss Quinn, Teacher of Geography



## April Creative Challenge: Leftover Easter Egg Challenge

Launch: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April

Deadline: Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March

### Challenge (Part 1):

Use your leftover Easter eggs to design and create a brand-new, imaginative food creation! This could be: A dessert 🍰 A snack 🍪 A drink 🥤 Or something completely original! 🌈

Use BOTH Sides of Your Brain...

### Creative (Right Brain):

- Think of unusual flavour combinations
- Make it look visually exciting when presented
  - Give your creation a fun name

### Logical (Left Brain):

- Plan your ingredients and method
  - Measure carefully
- Think about timing and presentation

What You Need to Do: Design your creation (draw or describe it), list your ingredients, Write a simple method, Create your final dish at home, Take a photo or bring in your design

Bonus Points For: Creativity 🌈 Presentation 🍷 Taste 🍴 Original name 🌈 Clear instructions 📝

Entries can be emailed to Miss Webster [kwebster@thehinckleyschool.co.uk](mailto:kwebster@thehinckleyschool.co.uk)

## April Creative Challenge: The Prize...

### Mini Baking Utensils and Seasonal Cookie Cutters



**Mini Baking Set:**  
Get ready to mix, whisk, and roll with the Tala Mini Baking Set. A fun 4-piece silicone tool kit for bakers of all levels.

- ✓ Durable
- ✓ Compact Design
- ✓ Comfortable Grip
- ✓ Easy to Clean