

# NEWSLETTER

Friday 14th January 2022

#### A New Term -



Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been wonderful to see our students engaged in lessons during their first full week back in the classroom. Our focus this week has been on kick starting 2022 as we mean to go on, with high quality teaching and learning that makes a difference. Whether providing lessons which are inspirational and engaging,

allowing opportunities for additional stretch and challenge or supporting students to develop independent revision techniques ahead of the important exam period, every lesson counts and our staff are committed to supporting our students as they build their brighter future. Our young people have made a positive start to the new term and should be very proud of themselves, especially those who have used the new year as a point of self-reflection and a catalyst for a focused start. We can't wait to see the achievements that 2022 will bring.

This week we welcomed local MP, Dr Luke Evans, who spent time discussing his Body Image Bill with students, who were able to put their thoughtful and sometimes challenging questions to him during a Q and A session. We are delighted to offer our students unique opportunities such as this, allowing them to engage with important social topics and discuss subjects and issues which they are passionate about. Helping them to develop as individuals with strong morals, opinions and a passion for healthy, respectful debate. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr Evans MP for joining us.

Best wishes, Lisa Hickman, Head of School

# University Quiz Supports Post-18 Decision Making



Regular sessions with top universities and employers support our sixth form students to make informed decisions about their future.

Members of the Aberystwyth University team joined Year 12 students on Wednesday to support their post-18 destination research.

The session, which took place in the main hall, saw students buddy up into pairs to take part in a music quiz with a difference. Students had to guess the title and artist of 13 songs from across a multitude of decades and genres, each with a link to an important factor to take into consideration when deciding which universities to apply to.

From location and commuting, to societies and support, the session explained how each university is different and even courses with the same name may be slightly different at each provider, so research is key!

Deciding on the right university is an important step for those considering further education after sixth form and sessions like this allow our students to hear first hand from university staff how to approach this process and empowers them to make the best decisions for them as individuals. Students will now be supported by the JC6 team to conduct their own research, in order to find the right university to help them continue to build their brighter future.

The Futures Trust
Building Brighter Futures

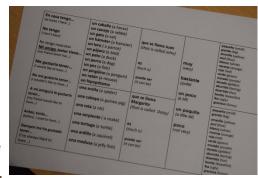
#### DICE GAME BUILDS KNOWLEDGE IN SPANISH

On Thursday, during their MFL lesson with Mrs White, Head of Modern Foreign Languages, Year 7 students enjoyed being back in the classroom with a dice game to help embed their knowledge.

Working in small groups the students used dice to select an animal and then a colour, with a wide variety of possible combinations from white and grey cats, to pink fish! Students then had to describe the pet and colour to each other in Spanish, using a hand out for support.

Following the game, students then moved on to plurals to describe more than one animal and their colour, as well as building their knowledge of grammar.







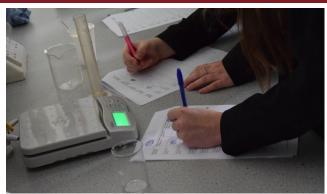
#### CONDUCTING A ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY EXPERIMENT

At Hinckley Academy we go beyond the GCSE specification to ensure that our students have the opportunity to engage in unique experiences and build skills and knowledge to support their future career aspirations.

With this in mind Ms Pathan, Vice Principal and Teacher of Science, led her Year 10 class on Thursday as they conducted a Royal Society of Chemistry experiment into the mass, density and temperature of water.

The lesson encouraged students to think and act like a scientist, not a Science student and to use techniques and equipment used in the scientific sector. Sessions such as this help to inspire our students to investigate emerging careers within STEM industries and to understand how the skills they have learnt are applied within real life roles.

Students enhanced their numerical skills during the lesson too, by finding the percentage difference between mass measured and the theoretical mass they worked out. The group had to focus on accuracy when reading measurements and recording results, as well as working well in a pair or small group to record results.





Students had to focus on accuracy when reading equipment and recording results

### STUDENT REVIEW - BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY LECTURES

Just before the Christmas break a group of Year 7 and 8 students visited Birmingham University to enjoy the Birmingham Christmas Science Lectures. The students involved were nominated by staff in the Science department for showing PRIDE and the lectures offered students an inspiring opportunity to broaden their understanding of Science and associated careers.

Zuzanna in Year 8 who attended the lectures has written a wonderful student review where she shares how inspiring she find the visit and that she now aspires to study at Birmingham University in the future.

We hope you enjoy reading her review below:

The first time I saw the University of Birmingham, I was overwhelmed by the utter size of the towering clock tower and the amount of vast buildings. Gazing at all of the buildings made me imagine I was in a dream. The staff was overly friendly and respectful, something that you also see commonly around The Hinckley Academy.

The first lecture was about 'History; Pandemics in the past, present and future'. The lecture was fascinating as I learnt new, useful information and the professor (DR Steve Hewitt) made the lesson engaging by asking questions and by allowing students to question the subject. Did you know that in the main hall of the university there was a vast hospital room for the infected like it was used for the covid injections?

After the lecture was over, we were offered a tour of the university and where subjects were taught. The university consisted of famous cafeterias such as Starbuck and Costa, every subject had its own building and 'sections'. I could commonly spot that the university has a modernised style in buildings and the places were hygienic. As we were strolling around the campus, we reached the vast clock tower called by the name 'Big Joe' (named after the biggest funder of the university) which is the biggest clock tower in England that does not contain any extra support. It was said that whoever decides to go underneath the 'Big Joe' would fail their degree and it was taken seriously as none of the students have gone through the clock tower. I spotted many marvellous looking structures which have a meaningful meaning behind them. The university has dotted around floors at which where you step on, they generate energy for the outlets in the benches (genius idea!).

The second (and last) lecture was about how everyday items that are used by humans are engineered by engineers. It was fascinating as we learnt about how engineers add extra ingredients and chemicals to products to make them last longer. Did you know that everything in a Christmas pudding was engineered?

Overall, the main ideas are that The University of Birmingham is a great place to expand your knowledge on anything you could think of. The university teaches about different cultures, history and nativities, as well as a wide variety of activities such as sport and music. The lectures were joyful and the teachers of Hinckley Academy exclaimed that the lectures were fantastic and fascinating. The place is a great university, I recommend to attend or visit the place, I will be surely attending the university in the future. Thank you for your time and I wish a good day.

Yours Sincerely, Zuzanna



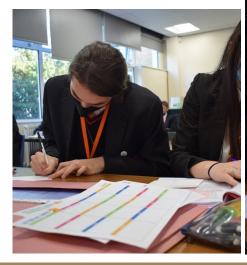
#### DEVELOPING REVISION TECHNIQUES

We offer support in and out of lessons for our Year 11 students in the run up to their GCSE exams, helping them to develop independent study skills and knowledge retrieval practices to aid revision. A recent lesson with Ms Yates and her GCSE Business class, aimed to empower students to take control of their revision and to give them the confidence to analysis their knowledge.

Students spent the lesson exploring a variety of different techniques to find the most suitable one for them, from mind maps and practice

questions to flash cards. The students discussed how each person may prefer a different revision style and that they are developing an understanding of which techniques work best for them, even sharing how sometimes they prefer using different techniques for different subjects.

If students would like additional support with revision, please contact Subject Leaders and our Pastoral Team.







Join Ms Paterson, Head of JC6 as she shares an insight into the environment, atmosphere, opportunities and support students can enjoy as part of our Sixth Form community.

CLICK THE VIDEO SCREEN ABOVE

### STUDENTS PUT THEIR QUESTIONS TO LOCAL MP



MP for Bosworth, Dr Luke Evans, joined students in Year 7, 12 and 13 this week to discuss his Body Image Bill.

Dr Evans began by sharing an insight into his journey into politics, which started after he finished medical school by writing to his local MP, who, three months later, he was then able to shadow in Westminster. He also talked to students about the application and skills assessment process. During the talk, Dr Evans gave students an interesting and aspirational insight into his role as a back bench MP and how it allows him to be an agent of change, just as we encourage our young people to be.

Dr Evans has now introduced his Body Image Bill in Parliament, which calls for images which feature digitally altered body proportions to be labelled in advertising. He shared that 1 in 5 adults and 1 in 3 teenagers feel shame about their bodies and discussed how social media algorithms can negatively perpetuate images of unhealthy diets, eating disorders, steroid use and

self harm as users interact with the platforms, alongside displaying photoshopped unhealthy and 'perfect' ideals. The #bodyimagebill hopes to change this by asking that body image is recognised for the first time in UK law through the Online Harms Bill, with photoshopped content labelled accordingly online. Internet companies and advertisers would also have to put a risk framework in place and report to Ofcom by showing their algorithms.

Students prepared their own questions in advance, as well as posing additional queries after the talk. Questions included asking about his stand point on mental health support for young people, why Leicestershire is under funded, his environmental position following COP26 and his opinion on the Downing Street parties which have recently come to light in the press.

Students enjoyed meeting Dr Evans and hearing more about the Body Image Bill. Our students conducted themselves impeccable throughout the session, posing well considered and mature questions which showed their social conscious, knowledge of current affairs and enquiring minds.



# Modern Foreign Languages December Stars



The following students have demonstrated PRIDE values in lessons and in their work throughout December. Well Done!

#### Miss Melody, MFL Teacher

Spanish	Dec
7ASP1	Ollie
7ASP2	Layla
7BSP1	Rosa
7BSP2	Норе
8ASP1	Nathan
8BSP1	Joe
8BSP2	Oliver
9ASP1	Faye
9BSP1	Tammy
9BSP2	Alfie
102SP1	Holly
11DSP1	Trescha

French	Dec
7AFR1	Mina
7BFR1	Rosie
7BFR2	Tom
8A1FR1	George
8A2FR2	Samuel
8BFR1	Niamh
9AFR1	Bradley
9AFR2	Jacob
9BFR1	Jess
102FR1	Jinal
11DFR1	Seth

