



The Hinckley
SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

'Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year'

THURSDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2023

#129



Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

During this final week of term we have enjoyed celebrating as a community, marking the Christmas period with an exciting and action packed programme of festivities, including celebration assemblies, trips, reward events, games, pantomimes, Christmas dinners and much more. It has been a wonderful week that I know staff, as well as students, will remember for years to come. This week's newsletter is filled with insights into these end of year events and I hope you enjoy reading about the variety of activities we have enjoyed as a community as much as we have enjoyed taking part.

I would like to wish students and their families a peaceful, restful and happy holiday and I look forward to welcoming all students back to school in the new year on **Monday 8th January 2024**.

Best wishes, Lisa Hickman — Headteacher

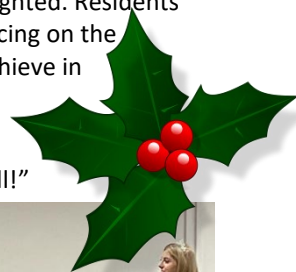
'UNBELIEVABLE' PANTOMIME PERFORMANCE IMPRESSES AUDIENCE



Students took their pantomime on tour this week as they performed for pupils at Hinckley Parks Primary School and residents of Ashton Care Home as well as presenting them with the presents donated as part of our gift appeal. Their performance was enjoyed by everyone and brought festive sparkle and pantomime humor to members of the local community.

"What a success the Performing Arts tour was!" said Mrs Cook, Head of Performing Arts, "The Year 10 Drama students wowed their audiences at Hinckley Parks with fantastic audience participation and the Headteacher was delighted. Residents at the care home loved the performance and enjoyed the musical contributions too. The gift giving was the icing on the cake and a wonderful showcase of community spirit. What great demonstration of what our students can achieve in the community. We are very proud of them all!"

Teachers from Hinckley Parks said, "What an unbelievable performance from The Hinckley School Drama students – it was like watching a professional performance, thank you for sharing with us and well done to all!"



Students First, It's About Learning, No Barriers





YEAR TEAM CHRISTMAS MESSAGES

This week all our year groups enjoyed a Celebration Assembly to mark the end of 2023. Students received awards and certificates and were celebrated for their PRIDE, progress and attendance. As well as our Celebration Assemblies, each year group would also like to share an end of term message with their community:



This week we held our Christmas lunch and our end of term Celebration Assembly in which we celebrated the achievements of all of our students as they begin their seven year journey at The Hinckley School. It has been wonderful to see our students grow in confidence and fully engage with school life since joining The Hinckley School.

We look forward to welcoming our students back to school on Monday 8th January. We have a lot to look forward to next term including our Classics Showcase week and our careers trip to Harry Potter World. On behalf of the Bridge Team we wish you a Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

—Mrs James



As the term comes to a close, we want to express our gratitude for your unwavering support. The Gateway Team wish you all a wonderful Christmas filled with joy, laughter, and precious moments with loved ones. Here's to a fantastic year ahead!

- The Gateway Team



As we approach a very welcome Christmas break may I take this opportunity to add my best wishes for the festive season. It's been wonderful getting to know each and every one of the Year 9 students. Thank you to them for being such a supportive and inspiring group of people. May your Christmas sparkle with moments of love, laughter and goodwill, and may the year ahead be full of contentment and joy. Have a Merry Christmas!

- Mrs Wilson



This term our Year 10s have showed us that they are truly leaders within our community. They have displayed PRIDE in their lessons and throughout the school. It has been wonderful to see them grow into scholars and leaders of their own learning. We look forward to another great term in the new year. The Year 10 Hub would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. —Mr Toor



As we come to the end of the long Autumn term, the Year 11 Hub would like to thank you for your continued support. Year 11 is a challenging time for students and the home-school partnership is pivotal in supporting our students address the challenges they face by providing the safety net they need. Our students have made significant gains in their learning during Year 11 which they should be proud of. As a year group we will come together one more time before the end of term to celebrate successes, in The Year 11 Celebration Assembly, where students achievements and progress will be recognised together. As the final few days of the term come to an end, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of the parents, carers and students a lovely Christmas break and enjoy your quality time together. - Ms Pathan



We would like to congratulate the Year 12's for the positive start to their Level 3 courses and our Year 13's who have shown great resilience having sat their mock exams and completed their UCAS and other applications.

All students have positively engaged in our Community Connection programme, completing sustained voluntary service over the term. As a group our students have completed approximately 4000 hours of service both within the school and the local community. This equates to roughly 160 days! Activities have included being reading mentors in the Bridge, running lunch activities for Year 7 students, organising charity bake sales, coaching football teams outside of school and volunteering in local charity shops.

—Mr Boast and Ms Sally

CELEBRATING ENRICHMENT

As we approach the end of term we wanted to celebrate our enrichment programme and the incredible levels of engagement across our year groups. It has been wonderful to see students trying new things, finding new hobbies and interests and supporting others by sharing their skills and knowledge.

Music Club with Mr Hoffman :

I'm not sure where to start, as there have been so many students from all year groups involved! Ranging from absolute beginners, to expert levels of performing and composing, student participation has been very impressive. There is always a positive energy in the music room, as students support one another and bounce ideas around to create fantastic work.

Notable students who have shown sustained hard work across the term include:

- Excellent band work from Jack , Liam, Jacob, Jimmy, Oscar, Marcus, Haydn, Harry and Jacob.
- Excellent compositions from Henry, Harry, Alex and Sean.
- Brilliant performing from Brooklyn, Nathan, Alex, Louis, Sophie, Katie, Josh, Payton and Ellis.

With thanks to Mr Hoffman, we can't wait to see where their determination and talents will lead to next!

- Mr Riley, Head of Music



HEALTHY HOLIDAYS



On Tuesday we welcomed representative from Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, Turning Point and Leicestershire Police to The Hinckley Sixth Form as part of our regular 'Healthy Holidays' event. The purpose of the event is to support students to have a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year and to understand how to celebrate safely over the festive period.

The event looked at all areas of safety and health including cyber safety, drugs and alcohol, anti-social behaviour, relationships, diet and exercise and relaxation. Students got involved in activities as well as talking to the organisers and taking information leaflets, these included a highly competitive safety quiz, mock drunk goggles and oxygen level tests to see the impact of rest and relaxation.

Thank you to everyone who took part and we wish all our students a happy, healthy and safe Christmas and New Year!



The Hinckley
SIXTH FORM

ALUMNI PRESENTS ASTON MARTIN APPRENTICESHIPS



Aston Martin apprentices standing next to the King's car!

Once again we would like to showcase the incredible destinations of our sixth form students. The time it is Tilly (second left) who finished Y13 last year and moved on to a Level 5 Degree Apprenticeship at Aston Martin.

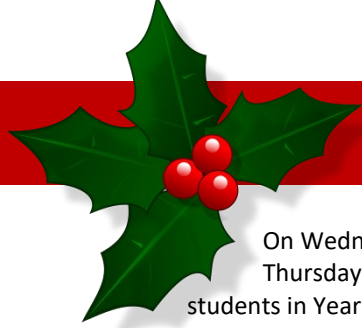
Tilly visited us last week with her colleague Anna and presented to groups of Y12 and Y13 Engineers as well as any other students interested in working for Aston Martin. They have a wide range of amazing apprenticeships across their company at Gaydon, in diverse roles, not just engineering. These include, commercial and marketing, IT operations, maintenance technician, sales

and networking development, commerce and supply chain planning. Tilly wowed us with her confidence and enthusiasm for her new role and technical understanding after just a few months. Yet another of our alumni out in the community demonstrating the true meaning of our PRIDE values. Deadlines for apprenticeships is January 12th, including some advanced apprenticeships for Y11 leavers. [Apprenticeships | Aston Martin Lagonda](#)

'WOMBLES IN LITTER EDUCATION' DONATE EQUIPMENT



Once again we welcomed our friends Geoff and Desne from Wombles in Litter Education (WILE) who did a presentation to Years 7 and 8 earlier in the year. Due to the enthusiastic response from our students who take PRIDE in their environment, Geoff contacted us with the offer of litter picking kit (hoops and pickers) so that we can start our own group who will help keep the site litter free! The kit has kindly been donated by The Central England Co-op! From January we will be starting a litter picking group who will be on rota at lunchtimes and we will also do a monthly community pick in the areas around the school. This activity will be available on our enrichment calendar collecting those valuable PRIDE points.



KS3 CHRISTMAS DINNERS

On Wednesday and Thursday afternoon students in Year 7, 8 and 9 enjoyed a traditional Christmas dinner with all the trimmings in the Main Hall.

Students all sat together to eat, whether they had a hot meal or packed lunch, coming together as a year group community to enjoy Christmas music, pull crackers and soak up the festive atmosphere. It was a delight to see students taking part in this lovely tradition as they enjoyed their meals while chatting and laughing with their friends, teachers and tutors.

We hope everyone enjoyed the event!



NINJA WARRIOR TRIP

Year 9 students headed out to take on the Ninja Warrior UK course on Tuesday. The year group had a great time taking on the challenging obstacles and getting into the competitive spirit, climbing, balancing, jumping their way around the course and taking on the famous Warped Wall!

Well done Year 9!

YEAR 9 Hub
At The Hinckley School





LAWRENCE HOUSE COLLECTION

The Hinckley SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form students have once again shown their charitable nature and generosity by making gift bags for local young people affected by homelessness this festive season.

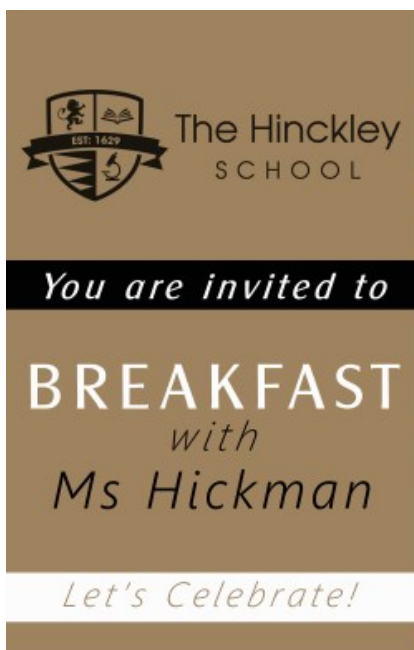
Lawrence House, a centre that supports local young people and the sixth form have built a wonderful relationship over the years, as students create gift bags and hampers for their residents annually.

It was lovely to take a moment to think of others and great to see our students putting such thought into what each resident might like to receive in their bag of presents. We would like to wish all Lawrence House residents and staff a very merry Christmas!



IMPECCABLE CONDUCT CELEBRATED AT HEADTEACHER BREAKFAST

On Thursday a group of 11 students across Years 7, 8 and 9, chosen for their impeccable conduct and PRIDE, were invited to enjoy a celebratory breakfast with Ms Hickman. She said, "It was a pleasure to spend Thursday morning eating breakfast and chatting with these students. It was a lovely celebration to recognise their consistent efforts and the PRIDE values they demonstrate day in day out. Well done all!"



CELEBRATING OUR STUDENT'S CONDITIONAL OFFERS

Last Friday we enjoyed welcoming our Conditional Offer recipients to our first ever Offer Breakfast event. We have received an amazing amount of applications from our own Year 11 students and it was wonderful to mark them receiving their conditional offers in this special way.

Students joined our KS5 specialists, sixth form tutors, Leadership Team and their future classmates in Café6 during registration where they enjoyed a complimentary breakfast of pastries, fruit and yoghurt, hot chocolates and teas and coffees. After enjoying a brief welcome presentation led by our Headteacher Ms Hickman and Ms Bull, who will become our new Director of Post-16 in January, the group received a copy of their application to run through with our team and their Official Offer Pack, containing a welcome letter from Ms Hickman, subject preparation information, a reminder of our entry requirements and how to register early interest in our extra curricular opportunities.

The event was a great success and had a fantastic atmosphere as students began to get excited about starting their sixth form journey. Thank you to everyone who attended and we look forward to sharing more information to support your journey and key dates in 2024. Applications are still open and we encourage our Year 11 students to apply to join our sixth form as soon as possible so that we can review your application in January 2024.



The Hinckley
SIXTH FORM



APPLY NOW

Applications to join The Hinckley Sixth Form in 2024 are now open. Apply via our website or PS16 today!

www.thehinckleysixthform.co.uk

Email: sixthform@thehinckleyschool.co.uk

Call: 01455 632183





JANUARY RETURN

To read our recent letter to parents and carers, which details information about our return to school in January 2024, please click the link below.

[Click here to read our end of term arrangements letter on the school website](#)



The Hinckley
SCHOOL

A reminder that following the Christmas break, all students will start back at 8:20am on:

Monday 8th January 2024

We look forward to welcoming you back!

TOMORROW!

The Hinckley
SCHOOL

Christmas Bazaar 2023

Friday 22 December

There will be a variety of activities in the Hall for you to have a go at, as well as food and drink to purchase.

£1=5 raffle tickets to spend at the stalls. These can be purchased in form time during the last week of term.

Don't forget your Christmas jumpers!

TOMORROW!

NEW - GIRLS FOOTBALL - LUNCHTIME ASTRO PITCH

Starting in January, there will be an AstroTurf pitch open for Girls football, every Tuesday lunchtime. The girls only pitch will be open for students in all year groups to enjoy and play together. Students who would like to take part should bring/wear suitable and safe footwear (not slip on shoes). We can't wait to see students enjoying this new lunchtime activity and developing their skills!

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR - SUPPORTING PLACE2Be



This year our Christmas Bazaar on Friday 22nd December 2023, will once again support the children's mental health charity 'Place2Be'. A charity close to all our hearts it is wonderful to be able to support this cause for the second year running through our festive celebrations.



The Hinckley School Christmas Bazaar is a long standing tradition, organised by students in our sixth form, the event sees our younger year groups enjoy a variety of food and drink stalls, games and activities to mark the end of term. It is always a highlight of the year and we cannot wait to share photos of the event on our website in the new year.

We hope all our students enjoy this wonderful community event.



HENNA STALL AT CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

A message from Miss Owen's form:

Our stall for the Bazaar will be hand henna. Henna is a cosmetic hair dye used to create designs on the skin. It can last for up to 1 week.

If you do not wish for your child to have henna on their hands, or have any further questions, please get in touch with Mr Toor or Ms Whittingham before the Bazaar on Friday (22/12).



YEAR 10 SCIENTISTS INVESTIGATE THE STRUCTURE OF THE HEART

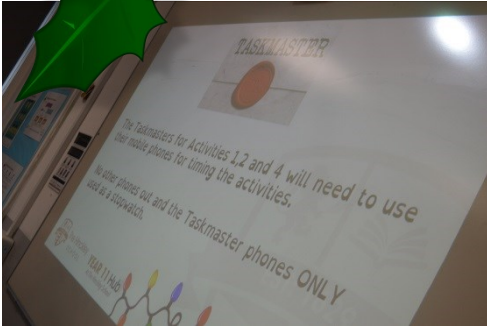


Students remained engaged in lessons this week as normal learning continued alongside our programme of festive Celebration Assemblies, rewards events, trips and performances, and we are delighted to celebrate the engagement of our Year 10 scientists...

Mr Taylor's Year 10 students are currently learning about the structure of the heart and blood vessels including arteries, veins and capillaries and were trying to identify the main chambers of the heart and the different arteries and veins leading to and from it during their Science lesson on Monday. Students have been praised for their engagement and independence during the lesson.



TASKMASTER GAMES WITH YEAR 11



Students in Year 11 enjoyed taking part in 'Taskmaster' style games on Thursday afternoon in their Tutor Groups.



The challenges saw students test their skills against their friends in a range of different activities testing their memory, reaction times, luck, speed and accuracy.

There was lots of laughter, teamwork and competitiveness on show and we hope students all enjoyed taking part!

YEAR 11 Hub
At The Hinckley School



THANK YOU SECRET SANTA



Thank you to our Secret Santa who has donated an amazing electric piano to our music department.

Now located in one of our music practice rooms, the piano is an incredible addition to the school. Students are already looking forward to playing it and using it to enhance their skills.

We can't wait for them to get started!

Thank You!



SPRING 1 ENRICHMENT

When we return in January a brand new enrichment timetable will be available for students to enjoy! Please take a look through the afterschool and lunchtime timetables on the following pages to see the amazing new opportunities students can look forward to!

Enrichment – Afterschool

Monday

Matilda Rehearsals	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	PA Dept	Main Hall
Netball	3:00-4:15pm	Years 7, 8 and 9	S. Cheney	PE
Senior Rugby	3:00-4:15pm	Years 10-13	J. Elvidge	PE
Robot Wars Design	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-11	C. Holmes	D1
Sewing Project	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-11 (sign up)	L. Wills	D12

Tuesday

Sixth Form Book Club (2)	3:00-4:00pm	Years 12-13	R. Crisp	Library
Rock School	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-11 <u>invite only</u>	D. Riley	MU1
Robot Wars Construction	3:00-4:00pm	Year 7-11	P. Harrison	D1
D of E Bronze	5.30-7.00pm	Year 10	A. Fennell	A9
D of E Silver	5.15-7.30pm	Year 11	A. Fennell	Cube

Wednesday

Programming Challenge	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	C. Holmes	D14
Netball	3:00-4:15pm	10, 11 & 6th Form	S. Cheney	PE
D of E Gold	5.15-7.30pm	Year 12 and 13	A. Fennell	A9
Matilda Rehearsals	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	PA Dept	Main Hall

Thursday

Boys Football	3:00-4:15pm	Year 8	C. Froome	PE
Girls Football	3:00-4:15pm	Years 7-11	F. Nichols	PE
KS3 Rugby	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-9	M. Stocks	PE
Music & Music Tech	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Artist Retreat	3:00-4:00pm	Year 11	K. Webster	D7
Read outside the box	3:00-4:00pm	Years 7-13	E. Rayson	Library

Enrichment Awards

To celebrate your engagement with enrichment you will be presented with a Ruby, Sapphire and Diamond award in your termly celebration assemblies. As we enter 2024 why not try something new!

Ruby 30-49 sessions

Sapphire 50-69 sessions

Diamond 70+ sessions

Enrichment - Lunchtime

Monday

Zines Crafting	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	R. Crisp	Library
Music Club		Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Maths Challenge		Years 7&8	M. Swann	G3
Football		Years 7, 8, 11	I. Ratheram	Astroturf
Bridge Wildlife Club (WK 2)		Year 7	K. Mason	Cambridge
Working Lunch		Y10&11 Art/Textiles	Art and Design	D7&D12
Latin for Beginners		Year 10-13	H. Foers	H6

Tuesday

LGBTQI+	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	G. Lewis	MPR
Music		Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Strategy Board Games		Years 7-11	R. Crisp	Library
Football		Years 8,9,10	I. Ratheram	Astroturf
Boys Basketball		Year 8	M. Pallett	PE
Girls Football		Years 7-11	I. Ratheram	Astroturf
Geology & Palaeontology		Years 7-11	A. Gadsby	L1
Origami		Years 7-13	N. Vora	D10
Working Lunch		Y10&11 Art/Textiles	Art and Design	D7&D12
Sustainability Council (1)		Years 7-11 <i>invite only</i>	G. Malin	L2

Wednesday

Music	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
KS3 Electronics Club		Years 7-9	P. Harrison	
Chess Club		Years 7-11	R. Crisp	Library
Football		Years 7, 9, 11	I. Ratheram	Astroturf
KS3 Film Club		Years 7, 8 & 9	M. Smith	H6
Creative Writing		Years 7-11	A. Hale	TBC
Working Lunch		Y10&11 Art/Textiles	Art and Design	D7&D12

Thursday

Music	Lunchtime	Years 7-13	D. Riley	MU1
Strategy Card Games		Years 7-11	R. Crisp	Library
Football		Years 7, 10, 11	I. Ratheram	Astroturf
X-Box		Year 8	R. Byrne	G2
Crochet for Beginners		Year 7-13	L. Wills	D12
Working Lunch		Y10&11 Art/Textiles	Art and Design	D7&D12

Friday

Music	Lunchtime	Years 7-11	D. Riley	MU1
Scrabble		Years 7-11	R. Crisp	Library
Football		Years 8, 9, 10	I. Ratheram	Astroturf
X-Box		Year 9	R. Byrne	G2
KS4 Film Club		Years 10 and 11	Z. Owen	H6
Working Lunch		Y10&11 Art/Textiles	Art and Design	D7&D12



The Hinckley
SCHOOL

Engage with Enrichment – Spring 1

SPRING 1 ENRICHMENT– SPOTLIGHTS

With so many new clubs and activities on offer from January, we wanted to share a little more information about some of them to help students decide what they would like to take part in. We can't wait to see what students learn and create next term!

SPRING TERM – TEXTILES ENRICHMENT

Make Your Own Reading Pillow

Learn how to follow a pattern, use the sewing machine, and make your own reading pillow to get cozy with and store your favourite book

- OPEN TO ALL KS3
- MONDAYS - 3PM-4PM
- D12 IN ADT BUILDING
- 5 WEEK COURSE

Places Are Limited!

Maximum 10 pupils per course!

Students need to pre register with Ms Mills

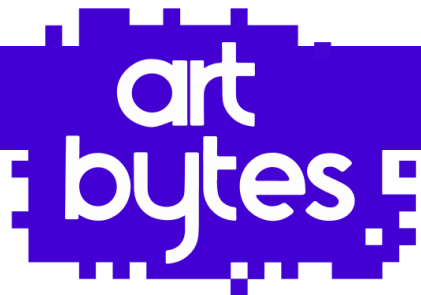
Pupils who do not secure a place for Spring 1 term will be placed on a waiting list.

Pupils are welcome to bring their own fabric if they wish. All equipment is supplied.



Geology and Palaeontology	Location	Day and Time	Lead Staff Member	Year Groups
Geology and Palaeontology - looking at and analysing rocks and fossils to discover what they are and how they formed. Watching documentaries on this topic.	L1	Tuesday lunchtime	Mr Gadsby	All

Electronics Club	Location	Day and Time	Lead Staff Member	Year Groups
Build some gadgets! Learn some simple circuits. Explore the tech that drives your world! Students will explore lighting/sound effects, micro controlled robots, clocks, counters and more!	TBC	Wednesday lunchtime	Mr Harrison	KS3



YEAR 9 ART COMPETITION

This academic year, The Hinckley School will be entering and competing in the Art Bytes competition; Raising aspirations for better futures by championing the creativity of the nation's next generation, using art and virtual technology. Art Bytes is a national EdTech programme that utilises a bespoke, immersive, virtual gallery incorporating augmented reality elements, to give young participants the opportunity

to see their art exhibited online and engage with new technology from the safety and convenience of their own home or school. After a shortlisting panel and an online public vote, the winning artist from each school sees their work displayed in our virtual gallery. Art Bytes culminates every June with a celebration event at a high-profile cultural venue in each of the nine regions of England, which is also available to schools to stream in the classroom or assembly. Regional winners are announced, certificates and prizes are presented, and the virtual gallery goes live. Miss Webster is looking for submissions of artwork from 30 of our fantastical-ly creative and innovative students to enter into the national competition. The deadline is February half-term 2024.

When submitting work, key things to note:

- **Artwork created by Year 9 students in this academic year, whether at home or in school, is eligible.**
- **One entry per student.**
- **No set theme, allowing students to express themselves as they wish through their artwork**
- **Artwork in any fine art medium or technique is acceptable, rather than textiles/design.**
- **2D or 3D artwork (please note all 3D work entries will be exhibited as a photograph).**
- **Artworks created at home should be made without parents or guardians help.**

We will of course keep you up to date with entries submitted (with photographs of artwork in our newsletter) and will provide information regarding the vote once the submission window is closed. For further information please speak to Miss Webster.

