



HENLEY-IN-ARDEN
SCHOOL

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Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

The summer term is an incredibly busy time for staff and students at Henley in Arden School as we prepare for the next academic year and run a series of events to see out this year. In the last few weeks we have had our outstanding year 11 prom, where we celebrated the hard work and achievement of our year 11s. This was attended by lots of members of our community who enjoyed some original prom arrivals! We have also had in over 300 parents to celebrate our Learning Pride awards - with more awards given this year than ever. We have had our fantastic sports day - including Henley's first colour run. We are currently enjoying our Enrichment week which means that lots of students are out attending a range of activities whilst year 10 take part in their work experience. Above all - it has been a pleasure to visit lots of lessons to see all the year's learning coming together thanks to our fantastic teaching staff.

I wish you and your families a restful summer break - please look out for communication coming your way regarding our return to school including uniform expectations for September 2025. We look forward to welcoming our students back to school on Wednesday the 3rd of September ready to start learning at 9am! Have a fantastic Summer.

Mr J Roper

Associate Headteacher

Year 11 Report

As the Year 11 journey comes to a close, we want to take this opportunity to say a heartfelt farewell to an incredible year group. It's been a pleasure to watch you grow both academically and personally, and we are so proud of all you've achieved during your time at Henley-in-Arden School.

Whether you're moving on to **college, sixth form, or an apprenticeship**, we know you are taking

ambition that will carry you far. The future is yours, and we can't wait to see the paths you carve for yourselves.

We ended the year with a final farewell to remember—**Prom Night**. The arrivals were spectacular, with students pulling out all the stops in true Henley fashion. It was an evening full of laughter, music, dancing, and some well-deserved celebration. A range of fun awards were handed out, recognising everything from best dressed to most likely to be famous. The night was a perfect send-off, filled with smiles, memories, and the strong sense of community that makes this year group so special.

To all our Year 11 students,

Thank you for the contribution you've made to our school. We hope you leave with fond memories, lasting friendships, and a belief in what you are capable of. You will always be part of our school family, and we wish you the very best in everything to come.

Mr J Pittaway

Head of Year 11

Year 10 Report

As we approach the end of the academic year, we'd like to take a moment to celebrate the incredible journey our Year 10 students have been on. From academic milestones to leadership development and unforgettable experiences beyond the classroom, this year has been nothing short of exceptional.

One of the highlights has been the appointment of our new **Student Leadership Team**, made up of individuals who have already shown themselves to be outstanding role models. Their enthusiasm, maturity, and commitment to the school community are already making a positive impact, and we look forward to seeing their leadership grow further in Year 11.

Year 10 students have also enjoyed a variety of trips and enrichment opportunities this year, including valuable work experience placements.



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These real world insights have hopefully helped students explore future pathways, build confidence, and develop key employability skills.

Academically, the year group has taken a major step forward by completing their first set of mock exams. These assessments were an important milestone, and the resilience and ambition shown across the cohort were impressive. Students approached the exams with focus and determination, setting a strong foundation for the final year ahead. We would also like to take this opportunity to celebrate the fantastic news that Albert has been crowned **Midlands Box Cup Champion** in his age and weight category following his latest fight at the weekend.

This is a huge achievement and a testament to Albert's dedication, discipline, and hard work. His success reflects not only his sporting talent but also the determination and resilience he brings to every challenge. Well done Albert, your school community is cheering you on every step of the way!

As we now head into the summer break, we encourage all Year 10s to take time to rest, recharge, and reflect but also to use the weeks ahead productively. The final year is an exciting and important one, and we can't wait to see what they achieve next.

Well done, Year 10 we're proud of all you've accomplished so far!

Mr Pittaway

Miss Fish

Year 9 Report

Well....what a year we have had in year 9! Every newsletter makes me even prouder with the achievements of our students both inside and outside of school. This half-term we have had students representing the school and missing their PRIDE assembly; we have had students

support the local primary colour run; we have had several year 9 grace the stage of the school production; we have waited with baited breath for our option letters; we have supported the memory cafe and we have had our end of year trip to Liverpool!

Year 9 are such a supportive and giving year group who like to be involved within the school community. This is evident in our kindness ambassadors that support Mr Lowdon; in our 40 students who are completing their Bronze DofE; in the 55 students who applied to be mentors for year 7 in September!

Outside of school, Alex Langford achieving his first cap with the England Youth Fly Fishing Team. Albert Grant came third in Javelin at both UK Youth Development League Athletics Competition in Tamworth AND Heart of England Athletics Competition in Redditch. Albert also won the Warwickshire Scouts Annual Shooting Competition. Lily Newson has obtained a prestigious guiding award, and is the first Guide in her unit to achieve her Gold Award, and she has been selected to attend an International trip to Denmark!

Year 9 continually amaze me with their endeavour for greatness and what they want their lasting legacy to be. I am looking forward to continuing our journey of greatness into year 10. Have a restful and relaxing holiday and come back ready to take on the world in key stage 4!

Miss Betts

Head of Year 9

The staff wish you all a happy, relaxed and peaceful summer break.

We look forward to welcoming you back refreshed and ready to learn in September



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Year 8 Report

As the academic year draws to a close, the Year 8 tutor team and I want to take a moment to thank you for your continued support and partnership throughout what has been a busy, enriching, and memorable year. It has been wonderful to celebrate their amazing achievements over the past few weeks with Subject, Character, Head of Year and Headteacher awards winners as well as achieving 82 Gold PRIDE awards and 23 achieving Silver PRIDE awards: I'm sure they enjoyed their reward day on the inflatables on July 11th and the excitements of a rewards trip for GOLD winners in the Autumn term. It was also a privilege to watch the school's production of Matilda Jr. It was awesome to see so many year 8 students excelling in this field too. Just after half term we launched with Year 8 a push to focus on Kindness. We looked in forms at ways to show kindness and examples such as holding the door open for others, helping a friend, showing good manners, kind words or No words were given and focused on. It has been great to see how pupils have responded and at time of writing there are over 367 times where kindness has been noted for Year 8 pupils since the launch. This is on top of all the kindness shown by individuals and forms coming together to raise money for the Year 8 charity - WELL DONE YEAR 8!

To all parents and carers – your encouragement, involvement, and communications make a big difference. Whether it was helping with homework, attending events, or simply checking in, your support helps our students thrive. As our students prepare for Year 9, we're excited to see how they will continue to grow and take on new challenges. I look forward to continuing our journey together at Henley.

Ms Campton

Head of Year 8

Year 7 Report

So, Farewell then
Beginners
Not 7s any longer
Did you make memories?
And friends?
Does it feel like an ending?
You have been amazing
Honestly
I really mean that
I really mean this too
Stay amazing
Please, if that would be okay
Stay you
In every way
(get even better if you want)
We won't ever have that year again
So keep it somewhere
Inside
As if
Folded, printed
Safe.
See you in year 8

Mr Eagles

Head of Year 7

Pauline Quirke Academy

PQA is a weekend performing arts Academy providing tuition for children and young people from 4-18 years. Students spend three hours with us, rotating through hour-long sessions in Comedy & Drama, Musical Theatre and Film & Television. Students are split into groups according to their age and are taught by specialist expert teachers.



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Teaching and Learning at Henley: Our Journey This Year

This year has been a significant one for teaching and learning at Henley-In-Arden School. We've been on a journey to improve the consistency of classroom routines and practices, so that every student can get down to learning quickly, feel confident in their progress, and know exactly what is expected of them. To support this, we've introduced several whole-school strategies that ensure students experience the same high standards across all subjects. One key change is the introduction of **silent retrieval quizzes at the start of every lesson**. These short, quiet tasks help students to settle quickly and recall what they've learned previously, strengthening memory and building confidence.

We've also placed a strong focus on **live marking and verbal feedback** during lessons. This means teachers can give students timely, tailored advice while they are working, helping them to make immediate improvements and stay on track. In addition, we regularly use **hinge-point questions**: key checks for understanding at crucial points in the lesson. This helps teachers to identify and correct misconceptions early, before students move on to the next stage of learning.

Another area we've worked hard on is ensuring that students are not only receiving feedback but truly **understanding their progress**. Across the school, we've prioritised helping students to **articulate their next steps**, so they know what to do to improve and feel ownership of their learning journey.

These consistent approaches are making a real difference. Classrooms are calm, learning is more focused, and students are increasingly confident in talking about what they know and how to get better.

We're proud of the progress so far, and we're excited to continue building on this momentum together.

Mr N Lunn

Drama

Thanks to all the performers and creators in the season 24/25

1984, The Worst Christmas Movie Ever, King Lear, Snow White and the Seven Avengers, Scooby Doo/Annihilation Exam showcase, Matilda and Thirsfield at Henley Arts 4 All! Not a bad year's work, none of which would be possible without the incredible talent we have at Henley. I can't wait to see what next year brings...But for now, You Have Been Watching...

Thanks,

On Tuesday 1st-Thursday 3rd July we held our annual school production, which this year was Matilda. Our wonderful cast worked so hard on learning their lines, singing and learning dance moves since back in the depths of cold January, committing to two rehearsals a week. A production covering all year groups has certainly seen so many of our students grow in confidence and skill level. It has been lovely to see them blossom. Not only were they a cast committed to their roles but to one another as there was a really sense of teamwork throughout which built our Matilda family.

There are too many highlights from the process and show to cover but here are a few:

Throughout rehearsals the magic of the cast remembering their scenes week to week, and also reminding me (Mrs Monk) which arm of the choreography we did, thanks to Olivia Greenway

Trying on costumes, seeing the magic of our characters transform, which this year involved a padded bra for one of our characters, I wonder if you can guess who? The backstage mayhem, props going missing, blazer gate; the weightlifting of blocks (Roxanna I am in awe) and Darth Vader microphones. Many magical moments on stage; woaaaahhh from Toby Blundell when everything goes quiet; Maisie Davies as Matilda;



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the innocence of the school children singing 'when I grow up' and the energy of Revolting Children; Miss Honey's grace and caring nature throughout; the regular Wormwood family stupidity and hair dye for men; Toby Vanderson.

Sadly, we say goodbye to four of our year 11 students, three of which have been involved in many productions in their time at Henley. We will miss having you as part of our cast; Josh Newbold, otherwise known as Trunchbull, Oliver Campbell, samba dancing Rudolpho, Ewan Sparrow, with his green hair, Mr Wormwood and Jack Jordan, backstage master of the blocks. We wish you all the best in your future endeavours.

We thank you for all of the support from parents being taxis, the hard-working cast, staff support in school and the Henley team effort to create such lasting memories. Well done to all involved, what a fantastic show. It's this time now we start thinking ahead of what next year's show could be. Speak to one of the Performing Arts team of any show you are burning to do, and we will add it to our list of considerations.

Mrs Monk

Miss Blyth

Mr Eagles

Performing Arts Department



Josh Newbold, Oliver Cambell and Ewan Sparrow

Images from Matilda





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Year 11 Prom



Prom King and Queen

Stefan Pelteitz and Maisie Medford



What a well-turned out group they are.

The Year 11 prom was a wonderful evening of celebration. There were some spectacular entrances.

A big thank you to Mrs Banks, Mrs Jones and Mr Pittaway who organised the year 11 prom and all the staff who came to celebrate an all-round fantastic year group. The entrances were magical as usual and all had a good and successfully sensible time!

Library News

It has been a busy half term in the library with new student librarians signing up and starting their training. Isabelle Millar has taken over as senior student librarian and has been mentoring the younger members of the team.

We welcomed the new intake on Transition day and gave them all a book to take home for the summer as part of our ongoing drive to promote reading for pleasure. Losing yourself in a book is so good for your mental health and we have some wonderful titles on offer in the library.

The student librarians have put together two displays of their recommended reads. If you like a good murder mystery then Robin Stevens is very popular.



For older readers the librarians have made some great choices, including the wonderful Song of Achilles by Madeleine Miller.



We had a very successful workshop with internationally acclaimed performance poet Sophie Thakur. Some of the year 7's spent time reflecting on their first year at Henley and all the achievements they had to celebrate. They also thought about where they wished to be ten years from now. What would their dream life look like. We had some very interesting results.



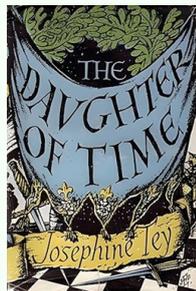
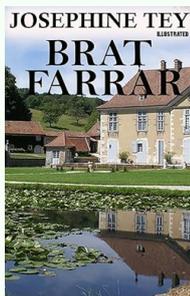
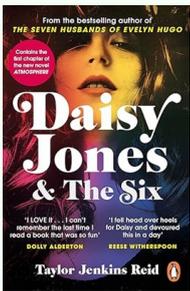
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I put on my author hat and led a year 7 workshop based around my novel, *The Treasure Thief*. The students cracked some codes, wrote secret messages in invisible ink and wrote some cave stories.



As you settle into your summer break pick up a book or a magazine, settle back and relax. I will be delving into the life of Daisy Jones and the Six and some murder mysteries by the crime writer Josephine Tey.



Wishing you all a relaxing summer.

Mrs Daneshyar
Librarian

Henley-in-Arden Launches New Online Library & Summer Reading Challenge!

We're thrilled to introduce our exciting new digital reading initiative—just in time for summer! Henley-in-Arden School has officially launched its online library through ePlatform by Wheelers, offering students free access to thousands of eBooks and audiobooks—anytime, anywhere.

What Is ePlatform?

ePlatform is a student-friendly digital library packed with fiction, non-fiction, and audiobooks tailored for secondary learners. Whether it's for academic support or pure reading pleasure, this platform makes books more accessible than ever.

How to Get Started

Click 'forgot password' and a link will be sent via school email.

Browse, borrow, and dive in! You can also download the ePlatform by Wheelers app for offline reading.

🕒 Summer Reading for Pleasure Competition To celebrate our library launch—and in support of Education Secretary Bridget Phillipson's 'Best Start in Life' reading campaign and the National Literacy Trust's 2026 Year of Reading—Henley-in-Arden is running a Summer Reading Challenge:

Read at least one book on ePlatform this summer and you will:

- Be awarded a P4 merit on your first day back in school.
- Be entered into a tombola prize draw for exciting rewards!

No need to report your reading—ePlatform tracks everything automatically.

Why Reading Matters

Despite the joy of stories, a recent study by the National Literacy Trust found that only 1 in 3 students aged 8–18 regularly enjoy reading in their free time.

Yet reading for pleasure has powerful benefits:

- It's a stronger predictor of academic success than family income or education level.
- It improves mental health, reducing anxiety and hyperactivity.
- It's linked to greater lifetime earnings—especially for disadvantaged students. Just 10 minutes of daily reading boosts vocabulary, focus, empathy, and learning.

Supporting Every Student's Reading Journey

When school resumes in September, our English teachers will review students' ePlatform reading activity to:

- Understand individual reading interests



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- Recommend books and personalised guidance

Encourage students as they build their own reading path

Henley-in-Arden is proud to support the National Year of Reading 2026, and we're excited to watch our students grow through their reading experiences—this summer and beyond.

If you need help logging in or have questions, don't hesitate to reach out at itsupport@henleyschool.com.

Let's work together to nurture confident, curious, and joyful readers.

Warm wishes,

Miss Robbins Head of English & Literacy Lead

Year 8 Visit

On the morning of Tuesday 8th July year 8 made their last visit to their friends at Canning Court, Bupa care home. On arrival, we were told many were still asleep or eating their breakfast, so students gathered around the table to do some art for their favourite resident artist Shirley! Harry and Yousef went to do some watering guided by Jeff, who was overwhelmed on our first visit but was sad to see us leave today! A game of cards was had, a domino set up was made and the students took it upon themselves to make a colourful card, with a lovely message of appreciation, for everyone at the home. Another humbling experience where the students thrived in a very different environment! Thank you Bupa, see you in September

Miss Betts



Sports News

A special shoutout to our Year 7 & 8 girls' Tennis team, who finished 3rd out of 9 schools in the South Warwickshire Schools Tournament—an impressive achievement and a testament to their hard work and determination.



Our U14 rounders team took part in the South Warwickshire tournament. There was a great improvement in their batting technique and teamwork. Their effort, attitude and resilience was fantastic.



Alcester Grammar came to us for two exciting rounders matches against our year 9 and 10's. There were moments of outstanding fielding on display backed up by some strong hitting.



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Equestrian

Cricket

A dominant performance from our U13 cricket team secured a convincing victory over St Benedict's. We made the most of 12 overs, showing great form with both bat and ball. Brilliant teamwork, sharp skills and top energy throughout. A fantastic effort from the whole squad.



It has a busy time for the Equestrian girls. The following students competed for us...

Mollie Layton

Lois Freeman - first comp for us this weekend

Lilly Squire

Abi Wong (and her sister Sophie, who will be joining us in September)

Larae Hale

Bea Tubbs

Lola McCaffery - who fell off but got back on and completed the course.

Softball

Our Year 7's stepped up for their first softball fixture against Kineton High School and made us super proud with their energy and teamwork. Well done.



Pupil Achievements

Alex Langford has been picked for the England Youth Fly Fishing Team. He will be participating in an international competition against Scotland, Wales and Ireland from Monday 28th-Wednesday 30th July. We wish him every success.



Alexander Langford
1st Cap Reserve

I am 13 years old and have been enthusiastic about fishing since the age of 5. I was a coarse and sea angler but discovered fly fishing at the age of 8 at Manningford Trout Fishery. This experience ignited my love for fly fishing, which got me hooked ever since. My favourite still waters are Grafham and Chigborough. I have also been fortunate enough to fish for Salmon on the River Tay in Scotland. My favourite method is dry fly fishing, as it is always thrilling to see the take. This will be my first cap with the England Youth Fly Fishing Team.

Girl's Football

It's a wrap for the girl's football. What an incredible group; full of energy, enthusiasm and, undeniable talent. Keep an eye out for these rising stars. The future of Henley-in-Arden girl's football is looking bright.





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Gaelic Football

Michael Argue travelled to London recently to take part in the all Britain Gaelic Football finals playing with his club, John Mitchell's. They came home with the shield which is an amazing achievement as there were 100's of children taking part. Well done Michael and your team.



Student writing success

We are happy to share this lovely poem written by Lilly Squire in year 8. It has been chosen to be published in an anthology. Congratulations Lilly.

Anything is possible

Some people wish it would happen,
Some people want it to happen,
Some people make it happen,
A dream world can mean many things,
A favourite place,
A world in which they wish they could live in,
Some people say their dream world is impossible,
Impossible it may be,
If the mindset isn't to be.
Not every adventure is a walk in the park,
And finding bark,
Sometimes it is more,
Like finding a new life,
Working hard is rewarding,
Be on your way.

Lilly Squire Year 8

Child Exploitation Awareness for Parents 2024/25

Barnardos Warwickshire Base are running a series of virtual webinars for Parents to raise awareness of the many forms of exploitation including County Lines, CSE and Online Exploitation.

Have you heard of CSE? Do you know about County Lines? How to spot the signs and where to get help? Barnardos BASE Service are bringing you a 60 minute virtual guide to Child Exploitation. This is a perfect opportunity to increase your awareness, ask experienced professionals any burning questions and learn more about the support that is available in your area.

SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT...

Child Exploitation Awareness for Parents via MS Teams

- Thursday 12th December 2024 – 7pm – 8pm
- Wednesday 29th January 2025 - 7pm – 8pm
- Thursday 10th April 2025 - 7pm – 8pm
- Tuesday 3rd June 2025 - 7pm – 8pm

To book your **free** place please email Rebecca.hill@barnardos.org.uk or Natalie.turner@barnardos.org.uk and we will complete your booking

BARNARDOS

Child exploitation is happening in Warwickshire... don't ignore it. STOP IT.

For regular updates on our service and events please visit our Facebook and Instagram pages:

www.facebook.com/warwickshire [@warwickshire](https://www.instagram.com/warwickshire)

Henley School Dates for your diary

Wednesday 3rd September term starts.

Tuesday 16th September School Photographs

Wednesday 17th September Year 7 and 8 Literacy parents information evening.

Monday 22nd September Open Evening 6:30-9pm

Thursday 9th October Year 7 Settling in evening 4-7pm

Tuesday 14th October Camps International parent's presentation evening

Thursday 23rd & Friday 24th October Teacher Training days

Monday 27th-Friday 31st October Half term. #

Monday 3rd November term restarts.



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**BEAUDESERT & HENLEY CHRISTMAS
LIGHTS FUNDRAISING
ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY**

SATURDAY, 16TH AUGUST 2025 at 4pm.

**at Westmacott's, 95A High Street,
Henley in Arden**



**Tickets £40:
to include a glass of Fizz.
Three course meal. BAR & RAFFLE
Tickets from Sue 07523 106359 or
sue@westmacotts.co.uk**