



HENLEY-IN-ARDEN  
SCHOOL  
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### **Dear Parents, Carers and our community,**

It's been a glorious half term at Henley - literally - as the weather has enabled our students to enjoy the green spaces on offer at Henley in Arden School. We are now underway with our GCSE examinations - our year 11s have been brilliantly prepared for them by our staff and thank you to our parents and carers who I know are supporting every way they can at home. They will soon have their end of term celebrations to look forward to.

As we enter our final half term for this academic year, our students will be busy completing their final assessments; year 10s have their first wave of mocks and year 9 will soon be receiving their option choice outcomes as they venture into KS4. We have also had the pleasure of appointing our Senior Students, including our new Head Girl and Boy and will announce these after half term.

We are soon to welcome our new year 7s into school - and this year we have our biggest ever waiting list of families wanting to join Henley in Arden school - we cannot wait to help them settle into our school family.

I look forward to welcoming our students back on Monday June 1<sup>st</sup> at our usual time of 8:40.

**Mr Roper**  
**Associate Headteacher**

### **Year 11 Report**

As we reach the final weeks of the summer term, I would like to say a huge well done to all students on their BTEC courses. All students have made a brilliant start to their exam period, demonstrating focus, resilience and commitment, and are well on their way towards their final moments with us at Henley.

As students continue through their remaining exams, we wish them the very best of luck and encourage them to keep up the excellent effort they have shown so far.

A reminder as well that the Year 11 Prom will take place on the 8<sup>th</sup> July as a well-earned celebration which we are very much looking forward to sharing with them.

**Mr J Pittaway**  
**Head of Year 11**

### **Year 10 Report**

#### **Head of year 10**

Hello, I'm Mr Parmar, I have taken over from Miss Betts as the new Head of Year following her new role as SENCO in the school. I have enjoyed working with the year group, forming many new relationships and developing those with students I already knew. They have had a productive Summer Term 1, demonstrating a proactive approach to work experience and an exemplary attitude towards their upcoming mock exams. They continue to advocate for themselves and contribute positively both inside and outside of school. I am particularly impressed with the number of applications received for Head Girl/Boy and other student leadership roles. I will continue to help, support and guide them until the end of summer term as I have high aspirations and want them to be the very best version of themselves they can be as they end their year.

**Mr S. Parmar**  
**Head of Year 10**

### **Year 9 Report**

The final half term in year 9 has come around so quickly.

Year nine continue to work hard. They are eagerly awaiting to hear their options for next year as they gear up for the move to KS4.

**Miss S Campton Head of year 9**



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### Year 8 Report

It has been fantastic to share the 8Qual certificates this term and we will be handing out badges for Bronze, Silver and Gold awards before the summer holidays so please keep meeting those expectations Year 8! We are adding in attendance as a focus so make sure the alarm is set and you are ready for action everyday you can be. Learning awaits, so later earning can take place!

The Ardeche adventure trip will soon be here and it looks awesome! The team and I can't wait to have a week on rivers, in canyons and zipping through the scenery with a great group of pupils. En Avant!

Well done to so many of you on Year 8, for so many achievements - let's make it a great finish to a great year!

**Mr S Eagles**

**Head of Year 8**

### Year 7 Report

As Head of Year 7, I am incredibly proud of what this year group has achieved so far. Since September, Year 7 students have earned nearly 80,000 positive points! Some students have truly challenged themselves, setting a goal of reaching 1,000 positive points by the end of the year. Many are already well past 800 points and are firmly on track to achieve this milestone. The question now is: who else will join the 1,000 Club before the end of Year 7?

Next half term brings exciting opportunities. Our PGL trip promises to be a brilliant adventure, full of challenge, teamwork, and unforgettable experiences. For those not attending PGL, there will be lots of exciting opportunities in school, ensuring everyone has something to look forward to and enjoy. Year 7 have been a wonderful year group, and their engagement with the Set Up for Success programme has shown just how ready they are for the transition into year 8

in only a few months' time.

This half term, students will be recognised with certificates and prizes celebrating their hard work and progress, with even more rewards to come with their very first end-of-year PRIDE Awards. I can't wait to see what they achieve in the final half term of Year 7, but for now they truly deserve a huge well done for everything they have accomplished so far—and to enjoy the celebrations still to come.

**Mrs S Grant**

**Head of Year 7**

### PQA

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

### Music Tuition

Is available for

Piano	woodwind	guitar	violin
	drums	vocal	

Please contact [slewis@henleyschool.com](mailto:slewis@henleyschool.com) for more information.

For any urgent safeguarding concerns where a child's welfare and safety is at risk, please email [safeguardingconcern@henleyschool.com](mailto:safeguardingconcern@henleyschool.com)



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## Performing Arts

### Drama and Acting

Please see the review of Twelfth Night performed back in March at the MAC in Birmingham. It's great to see a professional Director recognise Henley Pupils achievements on stage. Well done once again to all involved.

### "BE NOT AFRAID OF GREATNESS"

Twelfth Night  
by Henley in Arden School  
at MAC Birmingham, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026  
appraised by Cassia Thakkar

It is an absolute delight, in our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, to be celebrating with Henley in Arden School and to be marking this milestone with their wonderful production of Twelfth Night as part of Shakespeare Schools Theatre Festival's Spring season. Here are some of my highlights from the performance at MAC Birmingham.

The company used acappella singing very skillfully throughout the play. Kicking the performance off with the whole cast singing 'Sk8er Bo!' by Avril Lavigne effectively created the skate park setting and let the audience know they were in for a fun-filled performance.

The cast never left the stage and were excellent at creating bustling scenes where every actor was engaged with the action. The comedy was heightened with some great dramatic gasps, groans and 'damms' from the whole company. This was used to excellent effect in the conversation between Viola and Olivia and in reaction to the drunken singing of 'Country Road' and 'What is Love' making the storytelling really clear and humorous. This constant motion and interaction kept the play moving at all times and made for a truly engaging show!

The setting of Twelfth Night in a skate park was a truly brilliant idea and made consistent throughout by so many creative choices. The cast showed brilliant creativity in using their skateboards to make everything from weapons, to scrolls for Orsino to sign, to hedgerows for the cast to hide behind! The big finale where a skatepark ramp was created and Sir Toby was flung off the stage was a comedic masterstroke.

Teamwork! There were many group scenes that required a huge level of team work and collaboration to perfectly create images such as a skate ramp made of ten cast members very quickly. A special shout out must go to the Student Director who made sure throughout the tech and dress that everyone was projecting, which ensured a clear and engaging performance in the evening!

Performances like this show us that Shakespeare can live on, in the hands of young people, in fresh, exciting and reimagined ways. We hope to welcome you back to Shakespeare Schools Theatre Festival for another 25 years - and beyond!

**THIS COHISVE, HILARIOUS, AND GRIPPING TWELFTH NIGHT WAS CONSTANTLY IN MOTION AND SO FULL OF FUN!**



HENLEY IN ARDEN SCHOOL

**Congratulations** too, to Year 11 BTEC actors who performed world premieres of their Component 3 devised work - Mr Chips and The Island. Both pieces met the brief of showing Joint Effort and utilised a range of theatrical skills and techniques to bring the two very different pieces to life.

It has been a joy teaching this group and I wish you all the best for your future's.

We are currently blocking the Acting sections of

Alice in Wonderland and hope we are not late in bringing you a fantastic range of characters in July as we invite you to join Alice in Dandernlow...I think the craziness of the place might be rubbing off on me!!

**Mr S Eagles**  
**Head of Drama**

### Performing Arts Showcase

On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April many of our talented musicians and dancers performed in our April showcase, keeping us highly entertained.

We opened the show with swansong performance from our Year 11 dancers based upon showing the common ground of helping us through our mental health. Our force Dance Company then changed the tone of the evening with an upbeat Dua Lipa street dance. Scarlett Bayton then expressed a beautiful solo followed by strong dynamics from Lily Hart and a duet from Tory Davis- Musabayna and Millie Howe Henderson. We then had a debut performance from our Henley Voices of the song, A Million Dreams, with a solo dancer Coral Eades. Henley Voices then guided us to follow our dreams with 'Don't stop Belivin'.

Tilly Parker, Amelia Webb and Ruby Parsons showcased an energy street trio followed by a captivating solo from Genevive Stead who showed urgency with her clock countdown. Faith Sohal-Johnson smiling and jazzing her way through Diamonds are a Girls Best Friend followed by a contemporary solo from Nancy Curtis showcasing her elegant lines. Next we were taken to the drama of swan lake with Carabosse, Ruby Wakefield Clarke and the white swan Maisie Davies and Our KS3 Force dancers performed the struggle. Our Year 10 BTEC class performed a street dance version of 'The Mad Hatters Tea Party' inspired by



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Zonation's choreography based on mental health disorders; presenting many solos and duets and 'funk it up' to finish, where they all show how they've learnt being different is okay. Our finale presented our talented Rock School band first performing Another One Bites the Dust as a collaborative work with our fantastic Inspire Dance Company and then Dakota to end the evening.

A special thanks to Hywel Bond for assisting Mr Vernon on the technical aspects of the show. And of course Mia Marston for leading our choir and Pete Hurst for leading our Rock band.

We are incredibly proud of all our performers and know the audience had a fantastic evening.



### **Exam Success**

Well done to our Year 10 BTEC dance class who have all successfully completed their component 1 exam and secured 30% of their course already. We are now onto our component 2 work learning difficult repertoire from the Strictly come dancing professionals.

Finally a congratulations to our Year 11 BTEC dance class who have completed their dance course. They have all worked so hard over the past 2 years in dance and I am proud of you all. Well done to Darcey Clemons, Ellie Key, Sophie May Wuerth, Libby Stanton, Isabelle Lewis, Ruby Parsons and Emily Smith.

**Ms L Monk**

**Head of Dance**

### **History Club**

#### ○ Henley Historians: A Cracking Half Term! ○

Last half term, Henley's finest young historians truly beat the competition with their eggs-traordinary creativity! Armed with chocolate eggs, icing, determination, and an egg-streme sense of humour, they have crafted an entire timeline of history—one shell at a time.

We've seen:

A Roman noble who was truly eggs-ceptional,  
A Victorian governess who kept all the eggs in line,

A brave WWI nurse keeping every yolk in good health,

A mighty king (long may he crack!),

A peaceful nun who took a vow of shell-ence,  
A steadfast Tommy soldier holding the front line,

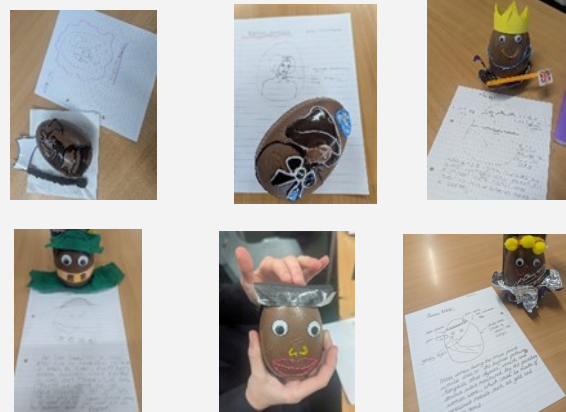
And a court jester who was absolutely cracking jokes and shells alike!

Their hard work has truly scrambled the boundaries between history and creativity.

Well done, Henley Historians—you've poached the perfect blend of fun, imagination, and learning. We're egg-stremely proud of you all!

**Mrs Mullen**

**Head of History**





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### KS3 Mock Trial - Debate Club

A strong showing from our KS3 Mock Trial team made Saturday 21st March a standout day at Coventry Magistrates Court. As the youngest team competing, they impressed everyone with their confidence, teamwork, and clear understanding of courtroom procedure. Their professionalism drew praise from organisers and legal professionals, and their preparation shone through in every role they took on. Two students received special recognition. **Aryaan** was awarded *Best Supporting Role* for his excellent work as both Legal Advisor and Usher, guiding the team with calm focus. **Holly** earned *Best Magistrate*, demonstrating thoughtful judgement and a mature grasp of the responsibilities of the bench. The experience gave students a valuable insight into the justice system, and their success reflects their hard work and enthusiasm. Well done to all involved!

### Miss Hemming & Miss Goldson



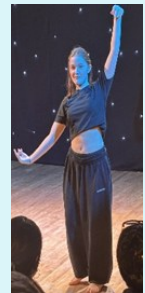
### Student Achievements

I've been doing dancing, singing and acting since I was 4 years old with my dance company Stardust and musical theatre company Stagecoach. With those companies I go to a lot of new places to perform such as London at Regency Park or the West End, Blackpool Tower, Disneyland Paris, Birmingham and many more.



Amelia Webb

Receiving my dance medal.

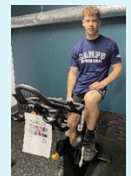


### Fund raising

In the Easter holidays Tobias completed a 24-hour bike ride to raise funds for his Camp International trip to Africa this summer. It was a huge personal challenge, and we're incredibly proud of his commitment and determination throughout. So far, he has raised £1,400 from the bike ride alone, which is an amazing achievement at this stage. If there is anyone within school who may be interested in supporting him further, we would be very grateful if you could help spread the word.

Thank you for your continued support.

<https://gofund.me/777c35ca2>



Grace Lessard has done a fundraising trek for Parkinson's UK. Her Grandad has recently been diagnosed with Parkinson's and so Grace, her brother Sam and cousin Tilly did a trek (with parents) in March to do something positive and support this amazing charity.

I have included a link to the Justgiving page below if you are able to donate.

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/gracesamtillytrek?>



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## Library News

We have had a busy time in the library since the end of last term. The Spring term ended with me, Mrs Ellis-Brook and 13 students going to The Warwickshire Secondary Book Awards at The Bridgehouse Theatre in Warwick. The authors Anne Fine, Liz Hyder, Dan Smith and Jenny Pearson were there and talked to us about their writing life. The winner was announced and everyone was very pleased when Jenny's book *Shrapnel Boys* won the award. After the presentation the authors met the students from all the schools that attended. We all had a fabulous time and the students wanted to sign up again to read next year's shortlist when it is announced.



announced.



Grace Lessard with the winning author Jenny Pearson.

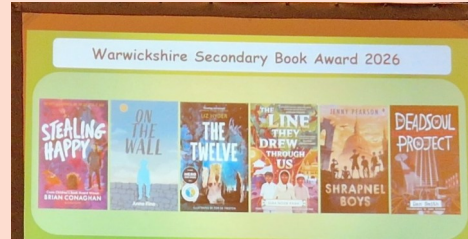
This half term has seen more of the student librarians moving up a level as they take on more responsibilities including curating displays in the library.



With mocks and GCSE's coming up we have added lots of study guides to the library.

Mrs Nurit has also kindly donated some books for our collection.

**Mrs Daneshyar**  
**Librarian**



Our book recommendations

## YOUNG WRITERS' DESIGN A BOOKMARK COMPETITION

### DESIGN A BOOKMARK ON THE THEME OF READING OR WRITING!

You can be inspired by your favourite story or character, your love of reading, your library, your favourite author or illustrator or even where you love to write!




### THE PRIZES

**AWARDED IN EACH CATEGORY UNDER 11S AND 11+**

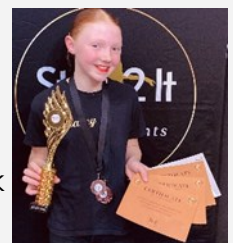
Each winner from the age category (two winners in total) will receive a goody bag PLUS their design will be made into a real bookmark given away to thousands of pupils!

Design your bookmark within the space provided here

**CLOSING DATE:**  
**31st August 2026**

 [www.youngwriters.co.uk](http://www.youngwriters.co.uk)

Over the weekend of the 16<sup>th</sup> May, Nancy Curtis was thrilled to receive the 'endeavour trophy' at a big dance competition she took part in.





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Dates for your diary

Half Term Monday 24th-Friday 29th May

Tuesday 9th June Year 8 PGL parent meeting 6pm

Thursday 18th June Year 7 PGL parents evening.

Monday 22nd June year 6 induction evening 6pm

Tuesday 23rd June year 7 parents evening 4-7pm

Wednesday 24th June Concertina day 1pm finish

Tuesday 30th June-Thursday 2nd July School Show 7pm in the hall.

Wednesday 8th July Year 7 Induction Day

Monday 13th July year 10 work experience begins.

Friday 17th July Term ends

### Reporting an absence

If you need to report your child's absence please either send a message via School comms system or please call the school **attendance line on 01564 792364 option 1.**

### Attendance

Attendance continues to be a real strength across the school this year, and we would like to thank families and students for their commitment to being *All In, All the Time*. Daily attendance builds strong routines, supports learning and helps students feel connected and confident in school. A special **congratulations** goes to Year 7, who have led the way this term with an outstanding 96% attendance. This is an incredible achievement and reflects the excellent habits they have established so early in their secondary school journey. Their punctuality, resilience and consistency are something to be genuinely proud of and set a brilliant example for the rest of the school.

We look forward to celebrating even more positive attendance milestones as the year continues.

**Mr Pittaway**

### Donations

If anyone has any surplus toiletries or unwanted gifts, please can you consider donating them so that we can re-gift throughout the year on our kindness mission, or to support with our charity fundraising. Please send to:

**Miss Betts in Pastoral.**

### Uniform Swap

As summer approaches we are sure that some of our young people have now outgrown their current uniform; we have a large stock of donated uniform that is available to swap for this outgrown uniform (where possible).

**Email : [ebetts@henleyschool.com](mailto:ebetts@henleyschool.com) if you are interested.**


**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June**  
7pm

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July**  
7pm

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July**  
7pm


Henley in Arden School presents  
Disney  
**Alice in Wonderland JR**  
HENLEY-IN-ARDEN SCHOOL

Scan the QR code to book tickets:



Disney's Alice in Wonderland JR. is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized materials are supplied by Music Theatre International mtishows.co.uk

Based on the 1951 Disney film Alice in Wonderland and the novels The Adventures of Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking-Glass by Lewis Carroll



## LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

### UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wright 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The law states a leave of absence may only be granted by a school if an application is made in advance and if it considers there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. Schools must judge each application individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind each request.

A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school's discretion. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.

Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days a pupil can be absent from school.

When making an application for Leave of Absence parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. The school may also request further information on the application and supporting documentation where appropriate.

It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is the parents' responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent [ie the parent with whom the child normally resides](#).

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child is expected to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence.

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'.

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council. Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices and in the first instance, as an alternative to prosecution proceedings.

**The law relating to Penalty Notices changed with effect from 19 August 2024. Therefore, Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absence taken from September 2024 will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation**

Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices – 4 in total).

First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.

Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount.

Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted. Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.

Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): A penalty notices will be not be issued and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.

**Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.**