



HENLEY-IN-ARDEN
SCHOOL
Achieving Excellence Together



Headteacher's Corner

It's always a lovely moment when the fortnightly newsletter appears on my desk, with just one small blank corner for my thoughts. It's lovely because, once again, I get to see very many wonderful students enjoying wonderful opportunities provided by wonderful staff.

Often (like this time) so much has happened that there's barely enough space left for me. I'm very glad, however, that there's always just enough to space to say one important thing: thank you. Thank you to parents for their support of the school; thank you to pupils for the energy, enthusiasm and fun they bring to every day. And thank you to the teachers and support staff who work so tirelessly to make all this possible. My sincere thanks to you all!

Students in Year 11 recently attended an energy-filled performance of their GCSE text, 'Blood Brothers', at the Birmingham Hippodrome with Mr McCulley and Mrs McGhie. Seeing the text live in performance is always important, but as this is a musical play there's no better way to experience it – just as the playwright, Willy Russell, intended. One student remarked, 'It was the best play I've



seen since I've been at Henley – I was in tears at the end!' Thank you to Johnsons Coaches for getting us there safely on a very rainy evening and to all the students for their

impeccable conduct, which was commented upon as impressive by members of the public.

Mr McCulley

Congratulations to Millie and Daisy Bythell who have both recently been dancing at "Can you dance" at the Super Convention in Liverpool.

Millie Bythell will be starring in Snow White at the



Royal Spa Centre/ Theatre in Leamington Spa. It was a tough audition with over 125 dancers there and they only wanted 24 so she was amazed to be picked and make it into team "Crumble". This is the third year running for Millie to have been in a professional pantomime.

Daisy will be starring in Cinderella at the Palace Theatre in Redditch, which was also a tough audition but Daisy made it through to be one of just 21 dancers selected. This is the second year running for Daisy in professional pantomimes.



HENLEY-IN-ARDEN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday 25 October 2019

Forthcoming Dates:

October Half Term

Monday 28th October - Friday 1 November 2019

Year 10 & 11 Revision Seminar (for parents)

Thursday 7 November 2019 at 6.30pm

Year 11 Parents' Evening

Thursday 14 November 2019

www.henleyschool.com

Twitter: @HenleySchool

Trip to the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Last week Year 11 Design and Technology students went to the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. Here they took part in a workshop where the students were fortunate enough to visit 3 different areas of the museum: fashion, furniture and the 20th century gallery with a working designer. They learnt how to take inspiration from a range of objects and completed timed drawing and design tasks throughout the day. It was great to see that students also recognised some of the key pieces that we have looked at when doing designer research tasks in lesson, asking "Miss, is that the actual chair?" The students were very responsive and produced some fabulous work. They also got the chance to visit the Mary Quant exhibition where they saw a wide range of products on display from fashion and lingerie to make up and footwear.

The museums are definitely worth a visit over the October half term if you are able to. Both the V&A and Science Museum have a wide range of artefacts and objects that can inspire and inform; they are also free to enter!

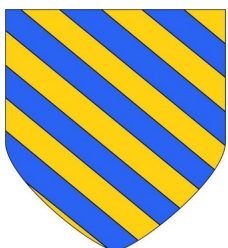
Miss Devine



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HENLEY-IN-ARDEN SCHOOL

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Equestrian News

On 12th October, two students from Henley represented the school at the Beachborough Eventer Challenge at Aston le Walls Equestrian Centre. This tricky competition requires the horse and rider to complete a course of show jumps first, immediately followed by a course of cross country style fences. Show jumps are typically brightly coloured poles and fillers, whereas cross country jumps are designed to look like natural obstacles such as logs and ditches. This particular course also had the added difficulty of a water complex which competitors had to ride through between the two arenas. To win, riders must complete both courses of jumps with no course



penalties (which are earned for knocking poles and refusing jumps) and also within the optimum time. Mia Jarrett was first in the ring with her young pony, Backfox Jack, in the 70cm class. Libby Swallow was entered in the 80cm class with her pony, Dewicwrt Hercules. Both



partnerships are relatively new and the girls have spent the summer working hard to develop their relationships with their horses. Despite their best efforts, no rosettes were won, but both Mia and Libby left the event with lots of positives and some small things to work on. I am excited to see these partnerships continue to progress as they compete for the school throughout the academic year.

Language/Cultural Trip to Paris

Wednesday 9th to Sunday 13th October

We were very tired but excited when we met at Warwick Parkway at 5am on Wednesday 9th October...and that was just Mrs Wootton and Mr McCulley! Leo scrambled in 5 minutes before the train was due to depart – apparently he'd forgotten his Paris language workbook so he had had to go back home to get it! Talk about cutting it fine!

Arriving in London Marylebone with the sunrise, we crossed London to check in at London St Pancras (beautiful train station) to take the Eurostar to Paris Gare du Nord. After dropping off our luggage at the hotel we then went straight into the centre of Paris for a boat cruise on the Seine river where we saw the sights of Paris, including the cathedral of Notre Dame (minus the ancient spire) which was undergoing intense renovation – flying buttresses made of brand-new wood were already firmly installed. The students were taking hundreds of photos, thrilled to be gliding past so many famous landmarks of the French capital. Unfortunately, the Paris skyline was starting to look a little glum and the last 5 minutes of the boat trip were spent undercover below deck.

Next tourist stop was the Arc de Triomphe: we climbed to the top and had great views of the Champs Elysées and much of the inner city. We were privileged to witness the daily commemoration of the tomb of the Unknown Soldier while we were there, where there is an eternal flame honouring the Resistance of the war and the freedom of the country.

After our first French evening meal at Restaurant Monte Carlo we shot off at full speed to be able to catch sight of the Eiffel Tower illuminations at the Trocadero where there was a lot of hubbub with many souvenir sellers and Instagram fans making the most



of the moment.

Day 2 was no less hectic, but also huge fun. At the Bastille market, the students were sent off on a mission in groups of 3 or 4 to buy their collective lunch from market stallholders, under strict instructions to practise their French language skills. Then off to the catacombs where we saw the remains (well “bones” actually) of approximately 6 million people which “decorated” the walls and alcoves of the underground caverns of this immense Parisian ossuary (place where bones are stored). Creepy but fascinating! Our next stop was at an old-fashioned cinema where we watched a really interesting 50 minute film about the history of Paris after which the students were quizzed in French about what they had remembered from the film.

Our final tourist stop was to make the long slow climb up to the Sacré Coeur and then to wander through the streets of Montmartre where many artists currently reside and ply their trade. Some of the students got their portraits drawn; Amelia's, in particular, was a remarkable likeness.

Hungry to say the least, we dined at Chez Gigi that evening before returning to the hotel to complete some of the Paris Workbook.

Day 3 was Friday, which was no less packed than the previous two days. After taking the double-decker train from Paris out to Versailles we visited the most amazing and opulent stately home that I think any of us had ever seen before. Everything seemed to be gold covered or jewel encrusted – a truly magnificent display of sheer wealth and extravagance. The students were left in no doubt as to what helped to incite the starving and disgruntled French people to revolt against their monarchy back in 1789.

After exploring the seemingly hundreds of rooms in the château, we went into the elegant and very extensive gardens where there was stately classical music playing. We ate our packed lunch sitting on the grand steps leading

down to the fountains and some worked on our language books whilst Mrs Wootton was doing a mini workshop with a small group on nature and garden-related vocabulary.

After returning to Paris city centre, we made our way to the Eiffel Tower where most of us climbed to the 2nd level via hundreds of steps, with lots of puffing and panting. However, our efforts were well rewarded as the views were truly stunning. In the distance we spotted the 200m high *Tour Montparnasse* situated almost opposite the Eiffel Tower. Later that evening after dinner we were to go to the very top of the Montparnasse Tower – all 59 floors in a lift which took only 38 seconds to get to the top. By the time we had reached the top,



the sun had just finished setting, but luckily, on the turning of the hour we were treated royally to the sight of a sparkling and illuminated Eiffel Tower. It was incredibly breathtaking and sparkled like an elongated

bejewelled crown of Paris.

Saturday was Day 4 of our trip and the one that the students seemed to be most looking forward to – the Champs Elysees. They had a couple of hours shopping in the high-end shops, some of them spending lots of their pocket money, some just trying to buy a Parisian “Maccies”. We made our way to the Tuileries Gardens where there was a peaceful Extinction Rebellion protest. Lots of armed police surrounded the gardens which prevented us from doing our planned treasure hunt in the gardens but instead we just had our lunch by the Louvre instead, soaking up the atmosphere and the beauty of the surrounding buildings. Then... the Louvre... WOW! This was initially built in 1190 as a fortress and then it was extended, gentrified and beautified in the 16th century to become the main residence and palace of the Kings of France before being turned into a museum two centuries ago and today it is

the most popular museum in the world displaying over 35,000 works of art. Yes, we did catch a glimpse of the Mona Lisa (“La Jaconde”) but from a distance, as the room where it was on display had a snake of people queuing to see Leonardo’s elusive lady up close and personal. The final outing of the day before our visit to the creperie for dinner was another climb (albeit more moderate) up to Saint Genevieve’s mount where we visited the Pantheon, again with a lovely view down to the Latin quarter beneath.

On the final day, we visited a flea market before making our way with heavy hearts back to the Paris Gare du Nord for our return journey to London and then Warwick Parkway.

Some of the year 10 students described the trip as “educational”, “once in a lifetime experience”, “fantastique”, “eye-opening”, “life-changing”, “exhausting” (well, we did do 121,000 steps in 5 days) and “eye-opening”. Hopefully they speak for the whole group.

Mrs Wootton

An Inspector Calls

On the 17th of October, the English department took 44 Year 11 students to see the Touring National Theatre’s production of ‘An Inspector Calls.’ The performance has enjoyed sell out runs on each revival and we are extremely lucky to get tickets.

Students were able to see one of their GCSE texts live on stage, performed with gusto and some rather surprising fight scenes! It was lovely to see



them on the edge of their seats and discussing their exam text with such enthusiasm afterwards. Look out for further Literature opportunities from the English Department, soon!

Mrs Moon



FIREWORKS

Please consider livestock, horses and domesticated pets in your local area 

- If you are planning on setting off fireworks, inform your neighbours if they own livestock, horses and/or domesticated animals
- Fireworks should not be set off near to any fields/land where animals may reside
- Bangs, flashing lights and smells produced by fireworks are unnatural to animals and may cause them to be unsettled
- An animal that is frightened and anxious may react out of the ordinary. This could pose a threat to individuals and the animal itself

It is illegal for anyone under 18 to be in possession of fireworks in a public place

Private individuals cannot set off fireworks between 11pm and 7am






This is extended to:

- 1am on Chinese New Year
- 1am on Diwali
- 1am on New Years Eve
- Midnight on 5 November

Please think before you set off fireworks!



Have a safe Halloween

-  Adults should always accompany children when trick or treating. Young people should never go trick or treating alone.
-  Do not knock on the doors of strangers - only go to people you know. Never go into a stranger's house.
-  Always keep to well-lit areas. Wear bright clothing and always carry a torch. Remember road safety.
-  Unless pre-arranged, do not visit elderly members of the community. Be careful not to frighten vulnerable people.
-  Keep your tricks within the law - anything that results in damage is an offence and will be dealt with as such.



Please do not knock on doors where there is a 'No trick or treat sign'



Just add sparkle...

CELEBRATE THIS CHRISTMAS WITH A LUXURY NORDMAN CHRISTMAS TREE

DIRECT FROM FAMILY OWNED FARM,
CUT THE DAY BEFORE YOU COLLECT

- 4ft to 10ft trees with prices starting at £15
- Trees can be wrapped in polythene or netting for easy transportation
- Bases, Wreaths and Mistletoe available
- £1.50 will be donated to the school for every tree sold
- Require a tree before 1st December? Please let us know and we will gladly cut and deliver one to you: info@festive-forestry.co.uk

ON SALE IN THE CAR PARK OF HENLEY-IN-ARDEN SCHOOL

30th November, 1st, 7th, 8th, 14th & 15th December 2019
10am until 3.30pm

 **HENLEY-IN-ARDEN SCHOOL**
Achieving Excellence Together

 **FESTIVE FORESTRY**
TREE MANAGEMENT • MACHINERY • EQUIPMENT • PLANTS

Callum Tonks
former Henley-in-Arden pupil