



HENLEY-IN-ARDEN  
SCHOOL

*Achieving Excellence Together*



## Headteacher's Welcome

Another year comes to a (very warm) end at Henley in Arden School. May I wish all our students, families, community and staff a well-deserved restful summer. This half term has felt like a real return to 'normality'.

We have welcomed over 350 parents in across the last few weeks for a variety of school events.

These have included our school show, Mary Poppins, which was an utter delight for all involved. A huge thank you to all the staff that gave their time to develop this show and well done to all our students who performed so confidently each night. Our Gold Pride event, where parents and carers gathered to see their children receive our most prestigious award. Our Welcome to Year 9 evening, where we discussed what to expect when students begin their options.

Our students have ended the term enhancing their curriculum through Sports Day, Work Experience, and a wide range of enrichment activities to take their learning and understanding further.

I cannot wait to see what next year brings as we return to our usual enrichment programme and resume our lessons. But until then, have a lovely August.

Mr Roper

## Teaching and Learning

As I write this we are in the middle of a heat wave, which is well timed as Year 10 have been learning about extreme weather in geography. Other than geography the pupils will tell you my other first love is for words, which got me to thinking about the word wave. Wave, if you look it up in the dictionary, is a verb and a noun. As a verb we are waving goodbye to a Year 11 who have sat the first set of exams since the pandemic, teaching colleagues Mrs Hart, Mr Insley, Mr McMinn and Miss Adams & our Attendance Officer Mrs Perkins; we wish them all every success for the future and hope that their next steps are happy ones.

As a noun a wave is defined as "a sudden occurrence of, or increase in, a phenomenon, feeling, or emotion". This week in particular has brought about a wave of pride. I have been so proud of the amazing comments we have received about Year 10 and their Work Experience placements; I have been proud of Year 7 and how much they have got out of their PGL residential; I have been proud of the way that all pupils took part in the range of Enrichment Activities on offer- everything from forensic science to podcasting about women's rights; the list could be endless! A big thank you to all the staff for enabling these activities to happen.

Back to Geography though, for lots of us waves are the things at the beach and the beach means holidays! A massive well done to all the pupils for a really enjoyable year. Enjoy the holidays, enjoy the time with your favourite people and we look forward to waving you back in September.

Miss Price  
Assistant Head

## HENLEY-IN-ARDEN SCHOOL **NEWSLETTER**

Friday 22nd July 2022

**Forthcoming dates**

**[www.henleyschool.com](http://www.henleyschool.com)**

**Twitter:** @HenleySchool

Wednesday 7th September 2022  
School re-opens for all years

Tuesday 13th September 2022  
School Photographs  
Years 7, 9 and 11

Tuesday 20th September 2022  
Open Evening 6.30pm-9.00pm

## June and July Library Highlights

### Waterstones Bookshop Visit

In recognition of their hard work and dedication throughout the past academic year, our student librarians were recently invited to visit Waterstones Birmingham to choose new books for the library. The visit was funded thanks to the generosity of members of Henley's community who attended a Burn's Night dinner organised by our Chair of Governors, Sue Westmacott.

The student librarians and I are hugely grateful for this funding and had a wonderful time choosing the books, which are now on display along the top of every bookcase throughout the library.



A huge thankyou to Mr Dudley, who drove us to Birmingham and to Mr Roper too, who joined us on the trip and treated everyone to

refreshments from the onsite café.

### Pride month

In September 2021, a parent visiting the library during our Open Evening, asked how diverse the library collection was. This parental enquiry around diversity has been a focus throughout the academic year, not just for Pride month. However, in June we celebrated Pride month with a highlighted and updated list of LGBTQ+ friendly fiction for our students to choose from. We've also given out Pride themed book marks and provided a safe space for students to join in with Pride themed



mindfulness colouring. Our students can now access more diverse fiction and non-fiction in the library than ever before.

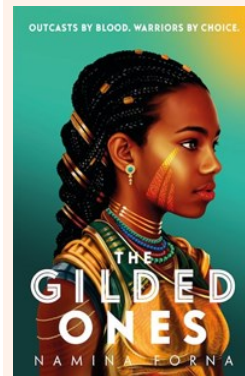
## Transition Day



New Year 7 students (currently Year 6) were recently welcomed to the school on their transition day and, as part of that welcome, were presented with a few gifts to take home with them.

Each student received a book by award-winning author, Kate DiCamillo, to read over the summer and a Henley bookmark to help keep track of their progress. They were asked to write a brief review of the book and return it to the library in September in the first week back. All returned reviews will be used to create a display in the library.

### Mrs Marsh's Young Adult Book of the Month: The Gilded Ones by Namina Forna



In this fierce and unflinching fantasy, sixteen-year-old Deka lives in Otera, a deeply patriarchal ancient kingdom, where a woman's worth is tied to her purity, and she must bleed to prove it. But when Deka bleeds gold – the colour of impurity, of a demon – she faces a consequence worse

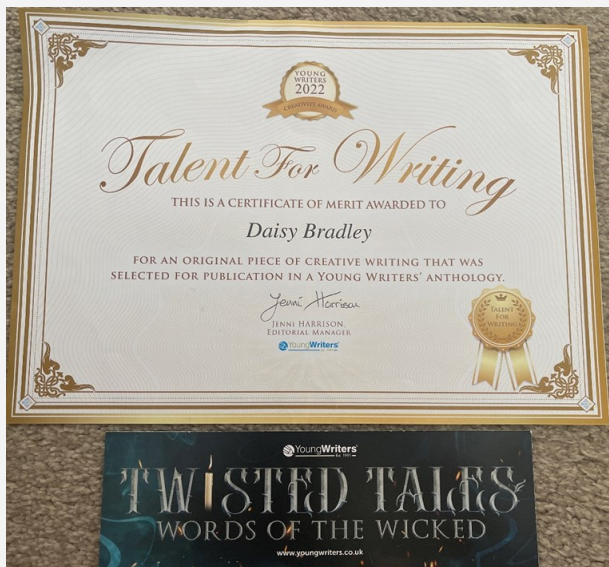
than death. She is saved by a mysterious woman who tells Deka of her true nature: she is an Alaki, a near-immortal with exceptional gifts. The stranger offers her a choice: fight for the Emperor with others just like her, or be destroyed. Set in a West African-inspired world, girls are outcasts by blood and warriors by choice. This book is perfect for fans of Children of Blood and Bone and Black Panther. Forna creates a captivating world that completely absorbs the reader, leaving them inspired, ambitious and in awe.

**Mrs Marsh**  
School Librarian



## English

### Young Writer 'Twisted Tales' Competition Winner 2022



Daisy Bradley, a Year 8 student, won the Young Writers' 2022 competition entitled *Twisted Tales: Words of the Wicked* which asked students to create their own 'twist' on a story, to tell a story from the perspective of a villain.

Daisy was a winner of the competition and therefore is now an officially published writer!

Daisy said:

*'I was so excited and surprised when I found out that I had won. It felt amazing to know I was going to be in the book!'*

Congratulations Daisy!

#### THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS

I knew what this could mean for him, but I knew what it meant for me too.  
Two candidates. Two best friends. One job, two outcomes—Heaven or Hell. We both wanted the same outcome for each other; Heaven.  
The interview test started. I looked across; he had every answer wrong. I had every answer right. He needed this more than me. He could never deal with the second outcome. I was strong enough to deal with it.  
So, guess what? I swapped our papers! My fate was sealed. Time to embrace my new role. The Devil, in Hell.

Could you be the next published writer? Look out for the upcoming competitions in September!

Miss Hemming

## The Great British Bard Off

As part of their English lessons, class 9.1 took part in the 'Great British Bard Off', translating ideas from 'Romeo and Juliet' into culinary masterpieces. Our lead judge, Ms Price, awarded the following positions:

First place: Alice England and Grace Reilly (dagger cake)

Second place: Lead Dudley and Jess Hubbard (minion cake)

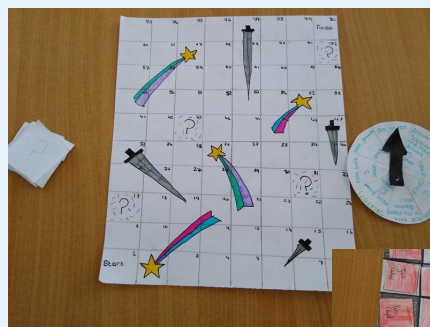
Third place: Alfie Hall, Ebi Khan, Teddy Robbins and Vlad Lovha (star canopy cake)

A HUGE congratulations to all winners and to everyone for taking part. They should be extremely proud of their literary interpretations from page to cake!

Ms Hart



Mrs Jones' Year 9 English group has been making board games based on 'Romeo and Juliet'. Everyone had great fun making and playing the games.



Mrs Jones

## Creating a book with Tamsin Rosewell

As part of enrichment week, our students in Year 7 and Year 8 explored the process of creating a book.

They began their day with a Zoom meeting with local illustrator and bookseller, Tamsin Rosewell (Kenilworth Books), who shared her experiences of the publishing world, working with writers and illustrating her own book.

Students were shown original artwork from James Dixon's latest story, *The Billow Maiden*, which Tamsin was the illustrator for, as well as the rough work which led to the final piece.



Tamsin talked to our students about the various roles involved in bringing a book to life and how an illustration is informed by the

narrative and intended audience.

Tamsin used the finished painting that she created for the front cover of 'The Billow Maiden' to inspire students in their own writing and enthuse them about the joy of illustrating and writing.

Afterwards, students broke out into smaller groups to generate ideas for their own book. They were given a menu of tasks to choose from: appetizers such as mood boards and character profiles, main courses included a blurb or opening page and finally, desserts, in which students created accompanying playlists and snacks for their books.

The session culminated in a spectacular showcase of their original ideas and book tokens were awarded to students for the best work to spend in our pop-up book shop.

The English Department



Well Done to Matthew Calitz (Year 7) on his winning of the Home Learning hamper. Who will be next? Teachers give raffle tickets weekly for outstanding homework. These are

entered into a draw for your chance to win a hamper every half term. Good Luck!

## Star Learners of History



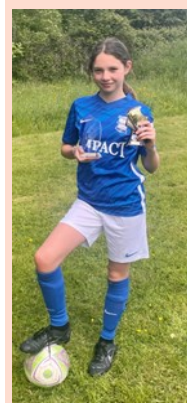
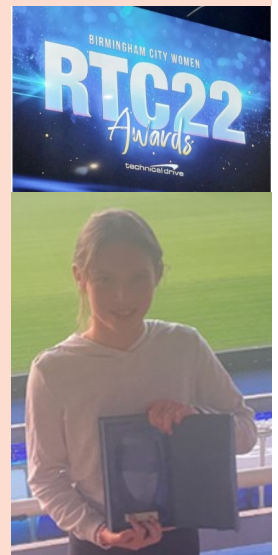
Well Done Connie Sedgwick (Yr9) and Jacob Batchelor (Yr10). You are the Star Learners of History. Both learners have shown outstanding effort and resilience. Wear your badges with pride!

Mrs Shipley  
Head of History

## Hermione Rapley-Sporting Success

Hermione Rapley, Yr7, was awarded the Birmingham City FC Award at the BCFC Women's RTC Awards Ceremony to mark the end of the 2021/22 season.

Her award recognised both her performance and her attitude. Her coaches' comments included: 'She is a natural leader given her calmness on the pitch and she reads the game better than anyone. She tracks back with incredible speed and links with perfection every time'.



Not only was Hermione retained and offered a new contract for the forthcoming season, her coach has recommended her for the U14s squad, which would see her stretched up an age group.

She is a firm favourite with the coaching team, her teammates (receiving multiple player's player votes), and also with the parents.

Congratulations Hermione!



## Performing Arts

### Drama

The Year 11 BTEC Acting Company presented their final pieces just before going on Exam leave. Responding to the theme of Better Together, in three small theatre companies, the group created inventive plays that used satire, dystopian visions, The Wizard of Oz, the current situation in the Ukraine, and The Greatest Showman as stimuli to showcase their talents as young theatre makers and performers. The results were three excellent and original pieces of theatre which our audience responded to with feedback to help the actors evaluate the piece as the final section of this exam work. Well done to all involved and those of you who joined us as an audience.

Well done also to Year 9 BTEC Actors who presented scenes from The Crucible for assessment. The standard of performance from the young actors in a classic contemporary text was outstanding.

Mr Eagles

### Dance

On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June I had the pleasure of taking Cara Servante and Jamie Taylor to the Great Big Dance Off National Final, following their success at the regionals placing them 3<sup>rd</sup> in KS4/5 heat back in March.

We made our way to Cheltenham Town Hall for our rehearsal slot where the girls quickly adapted to a new setting adding in the use of stairs to their performance. After time for a spot of lunch we headed back to watch the rest of the rehearsals from schools across the country.

After some delays in the performance (due to a medical emergency) the girls performed their contemporary stunning duet raising awareness of mental health.

The girls ended up with a score of 174 and came 8<sup>th</sup> overall after competing at such a high standard of performance.

This is a fantastic achievement as they were competing against large groups consisting of KS5 students from colleges of students who study dance full time.

I am so proud of their achievement and was

honoured to watch them perform their last school duet as Jamie continues her studies next year at Stratford College, studying A level dance as well continuing at her dance school.

Mrs Monk  
Head of Dance





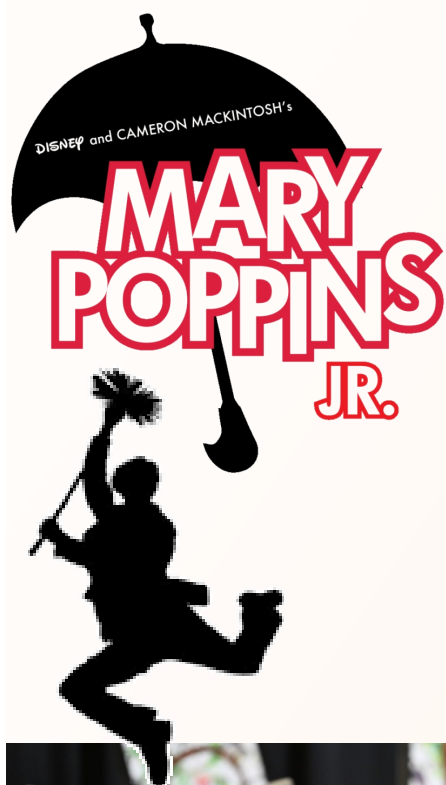
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Well done and congratulations to the outstanding cast of Mary Poppins Jr.

It was a brilliant run of shows over the week (28th-30th June) demonstrating the talent we are so lucky to have at Henley.

The whole cast were nothing less than 'practically perfect, in every way'.

Our next show will be announced in the new year...watch this space!

Miss Blyth, Mr Eagles and Mrs Monk



## A visit from Mindu Hornick



On 14<sup>th</sup> July, Year 8 and GCSE students had the privilege to welcome Mindu Hornick, an Auschwitz and Holocaust survivor, to Henley in Arden School. This was the final part of their learning about the Holocaust.

Mindu at the age of just 13, was sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau with her mother, sister, and two younger brothers.

On their arrival, a Polish prisoner bravely told the girls to lie about their age and to say that they were seamstresses. Taking this advice, Mindu and her sister were separated from their family and sent on ahead, initially to sort prisoners' confiscated clothing, they would never see their father, mother or brothers again.

Mindu shared her memories of the daily existence in Auschwitz, eating turnip soup, the stench of the camp, poor sanitation and the lack of any hope of escape. She told students of spotting the infamous Josef Mengele who would signal, with a wave of his white gloves, those who would die.

Mindu recalls the support of her Aunt also incarcerated in the same block as she and her sister.

After nine months they were transferred to Neondamar Concentration Camp, close to Hamburg, where they were to work in a munitions factory. Mindu recalls that if this hadn't happened she would not have survived Auschwitz.

After the liberation of the camp in 1945, Mindu and her sister returned to Prague, but it was not long before they had to leave their home country due to the Soviet occupation and the regime's hostility to Jews.

Mindu came to the UK to live with a family member in Birmingham.

It was an honour for Mindu to come and share her story with us. In the face of such hatred she shared with the students the importance of respect, and that respect should always be shown to everyone no matter their perceived differences.

Mindu was very warm and students remained in the hall to informally chat with her afterwards which she welcomed.

Students had the opportunity to write letters to Mindu which were posted out by Mrs Shipley. The letters were all very moving and below is an anonymous example of how moving the experience truly was for our students.

Dear Miss Hornick

14th July 2022

I would first like to thank you for re-living these horrific experiences to share your story with us. It is a very important thing to ensure that these terrible events never happen again. Your story was moving and touching and I really appreciate being able to hear it.

Your testimony has been enlightening for me and many other students and has shown us a deeper insight into the atrocities which made up the holocaust, and the fact that you have taken time and effort to come and speak to us after you have experienced these terrible events is truly brave and touching.

Your inspiring story has shown to us students the importance of hope, and how even in the most dire circumstances which you have been through, you seem to keep that attitude of hope and optimism, and that is truly extraordinary and inspiring. These experiences are the worst things anyone has and ever could fathom, but you telling your story and making it so it can live on is something that is unforgettable and priceless, and I am truly grateful for you telling it to us and many other people.

Yours sincerely

Miss Shipley  
Head of History



## Sports Day

The sun was shining on Henley-in-Arden School for their Sports Day this year, despite being cancelled two weeks before for torrential rain.

It was 3 years since we had been able to run a full Sports Day due to restrictions in place so we were thankful for the opportunity to put on a full series of events once again.

Pupils competed in inter-form team activities that ranged from rounders, cricket, track relays and even tug o war! There were cheers and smiles all round whilst athletes competed in the fun events.

The afternoon culminated to see the whole school lining the 100m track to watch finals of the tug o war and track events. There was music blaring and Mr Eagles drumming up the crowd whilst announcing events.

Scores were collated and the following day saw presentations to the form groups who triumphed. The winners received trophies for each event along with overall form winners for Sports Day.

Thank you to all involved. Check out a video of the day on the PE YouTube Channel. <https://youtu.be/FSdhfBwkNG8>

## PE Department





## **A message from the Henley Senior Leadership Team...**

Dear Parents

It has been such a pleasure to see so many parents at the many celebrations for rewards, shows and parent meetings over this last half term. As we turn our attention towards the new academic year we continue to want this positivity to drive the energy for learning and high expectations we have for the young people in our community.

With this in mind I would ask you to ensure you have the Classcharts app on your phone so that you are able to support your child with their learning as well as to receive daily messages about their day. Classcharts will show you their timetable, homework, behaviour notifications and it also offers the opportunity to communicate your child's wellbeing.

In preparation for September, we would also like to communicate some changes to the behaviour system. D3s which are the sanction that generate a detention after school will now generate that detention on the consecutive day. For example, a D3 in Maths on a Tuesday will result in a detention on the Wednesday. In addition where a child does not attend a Head Teachers detention on a Friday they will be LOST (Loss of Social Time) for the next week. Whilst students receiving these sanctions are minimal, we do ask for your support in this regard. Sanctions offer an opportunity for patterns of behaviour to be prevented from becoming embedded and as such we hope them to have a positive impact on behaviour and progress.

Staff work hard to plan fun and progressive lessons where a focus on pace is vital to secure good opportunity for progress for all. Students who disrupt learning place their own progress at risk as well as that of their peers and this is not acceptable at Henley In Arden School.

We would also therefore remind you that a teacher's judgement should be respected and supported.

Finally, can we appeal for all uniform to be updated over the summer to cater for growth spurts such that trainers are not worn to school and that skirts are at the correct length.

We do want to focus on the Reward system we have in place and once again can we congratulate the 83% of students who have achieved their PRIDE award this year – a record for the school.

Please ensure they wear their colours with PRIDE as they enter the 2022-23 academic year which, with a bit of luck, may well be a year of normality.

Yours sincerely  
Henley Senior Leadership Team

## **Cotswold Wildlife Park**

A few weeks ago the Science department took 76 pupils from Year 8 on a trip to the Cotswold Wildlife Park.

'We had educational talks from the park keepers about otters and penguins and saw an array of animals from anacondas to zebras. We strolled around the park discovering many of their 260 different species in 160 acres of beautiful parkland and stunning gardens. The recent weather has been challenging but on the day it was beautiful and there was a lovely blue sky for pictures of students and selfies with the animals'.



Mr Willard  
Science department

## A message from the Chair of Governors...

On behalf of the Governors, I would like to thank the AMAT Trust, Mr Roper and **all our staff** for their hard work and dedication throughout this difficult year.

They have had to cope with all that Covid threw at them, which at times, changed daily. Always acting professionally, despite what was happening in their own private lives, always being there for our pupils and always being mindful of the mental stress that Covid placed on their young lives.

However, we are now returning to 'normal' school activities. Exams have now returned, so that pupils and teachers know exactly what they are working towards. No more CAGS and the stress that they entailed.

Back came our very excellent school play, Mary Poppins, all the extra football and netball and other sports activities which our pupils have excelled at, the Pride Awards afternoon which was well attended by parents, the 'Prom' also made a comeback with one boy's mother telling me he couldn't remember what time he arrived home! Year 7 visited PGL on the first residential visit in 3 years and enrichment week returned. Next term our pupils can look forward to extra-curricular activities once again.

Throughout all this time the governors have held regular remote meetings to monitor the school's activities and progress. We too are happy to be returning into school, to see the amazing things that our pupils are achieving. Our Staff Governor, Mr John Insley, is leaving us for a career progression. We all wish him well in his new endeavours, and thank him for his time and service to our school and the governing body.

I would like to finish by wishing all our Year 11 students the best of luck in whatever adventures next await them, and hope that they remember with fondness, their time at Henley.

Happy Holiday to all our Staff, Parents, and Carers and thank you for your continued support.

Sue Westmacott  
Chair of Governors

## The Queen's Jubilee

Thank you to our community donor who enabled all our Students to receive a Jubilee mug to commemorate the event!



## Stratford Foodbank

Stratford Foodbank continue to appeal for donations.

Donations can be made direct to their warehouse which is open Monday and Wednesday 2-4pm or, alternatively, there are baskets available for drop-offs in all major supermarkets—Tesco, Morrisons, Waitrose, Aldi or Lidl.

Thank you.

## Music Tuition

Would your child like to learn to play a musical instrument?

We are taking applications for music tuition for the autumn term 2022.

- Vocal
- Guitar
- Violin/Cello/Viola
- Drums
- Piano
- Woodwind

If you would like further information please contact Ms Lewis on [slewis@henleyschool.com](mailto:slewis@henleyschool.com)

**Schoolgateway**



## Report from Year 7 Progress Leader

It has been a real pleasure to see the Year 7 through from January to July and I was really looking forward to the last adventure of the school year with a number of them at PGL in the final week.

They are a year group full of personality and potential, individuality and teamwork, as was seen (and heard!) in the support they gave their tutor groups on Sports Day.

I feel that I have just got around to knowing them fully and now it is time to move on, but I know Miss Fish will keep them making progress in Year 8.

All the best Year 7, may the force be with you!

Mr Eagles  
Progress Leader Year 7

## Report from Year 8 and 9 Progress Leader

How great it has been to have a year without a lockdown? After two interrupted years it's been a pleasure to support Y8 & Y9 in school.

There have been some great successes including the rising number of students achieving Gold, Silver and Bronze PRIDE awards, and the ECO Team are pushing on with their ECO vision. They are now looking to plant trees at school so please let us know if you have a sapling you don't want!

I wish Y9 the very best of luck continuing in to Y10 and getting 'exam ready', and I wish Y8 the very best of luck on their journey at Henley by starting their GCSEs.

I hope you all have a great summer!

Miss Smail  
Progress Leader Year 8 and 9

## Report from Year 10 and 11 Progress Leader

### Year 10

I hope you all have a very happy summer. I have heard the most amazing stories from your work experience visits, where you have all done yourselves proud. It is now the time to relax, ready for the upcoming Year 11, where I am confident you will shine.

Remember when you come back in September that the end goal that you have been working towards is now in sight, and the exams will come round, quickly, SO be

prepared and you will be great 😊.

It has been amazing to be your Head of Year and it is very sad for me that I will not be here to see you through but Mrs Evans and Mrs Banks will be amazing in support of you.

I wish you all the very best.

### Year 11

To all Year 11, I look forward to seeing you on results day, to celebrate your hard work with you. It has been a real pleasure to be your Head of Year and support you through some really challenging but also some really happy times.

It is an exciting chapter in all of your lives as you now venture on to pastures new, and I wish you all the success in your new setting.

We had an amazing Prom, and there are so many pictures that I could add in, but I have selected just a couple.

Go and be amazing, I know you can!

Mr Insley  
Progress Leader Year 10 and 11





Are you interested in  
advertising to our  
school community  
and the local area?

Please contact  
[slewis@henleyschool.com](mailto:slewis@henleyschool.com)  
if you would like to  
discuss advertising in  
our newsletter next  
year.

We would like to wish  
all pupils and parents  
a peaceful summer  
break



Henley Community  
Association present -

**CREAM TEA IN A  
MARQUEE!**

on Saturday, 30th July,  
3 - 5 pm. £7.50

Sue Dalby Catering will be  
making scones in the  
garden.

No need to book - just turn  
up and treat yourself.

